



Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike"

September 15, 1944 - July 17, 2020

Scott M. Eukel - "Scottie Mike" - age 75, of Concord, passed away at home Friday, July 17, 2020 surrounded by his family. He was born September 15, 1944 in Crookston, MN.

Mr. Eukel's professional life spanned various occupations. He retired as a school bus driver and previously was an OTR truck driver. He also worked in the defense contracting industry.

Scott was a proud US Navy Veteran of 20 years.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Scott gave his time and volunteered to a local hospital, was a frequent blood donor, sang in the choir at his church, was a Boy Scout leader and held a private pilot's license.

He was most happy and fulfilled being around his family, building (and crashing) model airplanes, taking too many shots on the golf course and donating too many lost golf balls, sharing his sarcastic sense of humor, and looking for his lost glasses which were always on the top of his head.

He will be remembered as the most caring, kind, funny, sweet and gentle man.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years: Cathy M. (Tennant) Eukel; children:

Todd (Christina) Eukel, and Miranda (Anthony) Despenes; grandchildren: Brandon and Ella Despenes and brother: Larry Eukel.

Preceding Scott in death are his parents: Stanley and Lillian Eukel.

The family will receive friends 1-2 pm, Friday, July 24, 2020 at First Church Congregational, 22 Liberty St. Painesville, OH. 44077. Per the Church's order, masks are mandatory and must be worn, and social distancing must be followed.

A memorial service will be 2:00 pm, Friday, July 24, 2020 with US Navy Military Honors at the church.

A Private family entombment will take place at Concord Twp., Cemetery.

The family suggests contributions may be made to American Lung Association of Ohio 5755 Granger Rd Ste 905, Independence, OH 44131 or First Church Congregational 22 Liberty St. Painesville, OH. 44077 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Arrangements entrusted to Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave. Mentor, OH, 44060.

Offer condolences at www.brunners.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **24.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

First Church Congregational
22 Liberty Street
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 357-7518

Funeral Service

JUL **24.** 2:00 PM (ET)

First Church Congregational
22 Liberty Street
Painesville, OH 44077
(440) 357-7518

Tribute Wall

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“ From Scotts friends at M.A.R.C.S. club (Mentor) purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike".



From Scotts friends at M.A.R.C.S. club (Mentor) - July 23, 2020 at 09:01 PM

AK

“ Anna Marie Fisher, Rich Wood, and the Fisher Kids purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike".



Anna Marie Fisher, Rich Wood, and the Fisher Kids - July 23, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike".



July 23, 2020 at 09:57 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike".



July 22, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike".



July 22, 2020 at 09:45 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Scott M. Eukel "Scottie Mike".



July 22, 2020 at 08:45 AM

DL

“ There was a gang of us in Antioch, California in the early 60's. Scott, Gary Sledge, Tony Poveda, Craig Pridgen and me. We did everything together. We would go over to Craig's house to go swimming or play ping pong. Playing penny ante poker in the Congregational Church in Antioch (Scott had access - so we'd sneak in evenings and play). I had a 62 VW bug. One time 5 of us piled into it with Scott's friend Rick Kinnear in the well in the back and drove over to Orinda to see Dr. No at the theater there. Coming home, I think the conversation was about Ursula Andress. Scott and I would ride together to Diablo Valley College (JC) in Pleasant Hill in my VW. Coming home one time in the late summer, we turned the heat up full blast and closed the windows, just to see how hot we could stand it. Stupid stuff.

We had heard that there was a new exchange student coming to spend a year at Antioch HS. We decided we'd go over and check her out. We went over to around the corner from Dr. Stotler's house - Stotler's were the host family. We stayed in the car, trying to get a glimpse of her. Someone started laughing at the ridiculousness of it and all of a sudden everybody was laughing uncontrollably. I don't think I've ever laughed so hard. We didn't end up seeing her.

My friend Ann Burbank's father had purchased a snooker table. We would go over to her place and play snooker. Her little sister, Christine got pretty good at the game and would beat all of us. Scott and Ann became good friends. Both are gone now.

Scott was always riffing on his mom, Lillian. She was one of the nicest moms. She was a big lady and Scott would always kid about how she battled the Jap army in WWII. Scott was always kidding around, he was a funny guy.

The gang separated after high school - Tony got his PhD, Gary became Reverend Gary, Craig became a lawyer, and I went into the computer field. Scott went into the Navy.

In 1967, I went to Europe. Came back from the continent to London a few days before my return flight, so I hopped on a train and went out to Holy Loch in Scotland to say hi to Scotty who was stationed on a sub tender there. I saw him for about a half an hour, spent the night and hitch-hiked back to London. Scotland was cold, but it was worth it to see him.

I saw him a couple of times after. Mostly we lost contact, but reestablished it on Facebook some time later. In my retirement, I have taken up photography as a hobby and would post lots of my pictures on FB. Scott liked a lot of them, which thrilled me.

Scott was a good friend.

I'll miss him.

David Lipton - July 21, 2020 at 02:13 PM

MD

Thank for sharing the wonderful memories. Most of the names sound familiar, so my dad told many stories about you guys.

miranda despenes - July 21, 2020 at 07:00 PM

GS

58 years ago Scott had the lead in Antioch High School's senior class play, Thornton Wilder's "Our Town." He portrayed the Stage Manager, the character who sets the scenes, tells and foretells the action and expounds on the themes of birth, family life, marriage and death as portrayed in the small New Hampshire town of Grovers Corners. Scott was amazingly good.

The friend I knew as a sort of sweet and goofy guy who blew a baritone horn in the high school band, longed to own a motorcycle, loved to water ski in the San Joaquin River Delta and played Indian poker (badly) was also capable of profound emotion and eloquent expression. He showed himself more fully as an example of what Wilder said the Stage Manager should be: relaxed, low key, wise, a solid citizen. I began to recognize that Scott had a poetic spirit, and a sentimental streak. He had a habit of exuberant outbursts at scenes of beauty (mostly girls) and at adventurous possibilities. (I once convinced him to climb the north side of Mt. Diablo, a Sierra Club graded climb, during which we both got dehydrated, were issued a warning by a park ranger and ended up covered with poison ivy).

Antioch was not unlike Grovers Corners in those days. Much of the action in the play takes place around the First Congregational Church, and the same was true for Scott and our gang. We were members of the youth group, studied and went on trips together and found our first teenage crushes there.

It's a common experience that growing up often draws friends apart. Yet distance didn't really separate us. He visited me and my wife Linda in New York City while on leave from the Navy. We drove a 500 miles to Ohio to see him wed Cathy. We got together in Hawaii where he was stationed not long after Todd was born. Later we gathered at the house of our old friend Dave Lipton in Clayton, CA. Scott, Cathy and kids stayed with us once we settled in Pleasantville, NY. These are the ordinary events that knit lives together.

One of the themes of Our Town is is how often we fail to notice the wonder of the world around us and the worthy attention we owe to the people we love. I know that Scott didn't overlook them. He told me in emails how he cherished his wife and family. Once, while driving a big rig on a long haul, he came down out of the mountains in Tennessee to witness the dazzling splendor of the sun rising out of a milky valley of fog. His old poetic spirit never deserted him. Scott took the Stage Manager's advice and looked for the beauty in the moment and for the spark of the eternal in those he loved. Gary Sledge

Gary Sledge - July 23, 2020 at 03:28 PM

GE

When uncle Stan and aunt Pete (Lillian) moved to California I recall them and their boys staying with us in Walnut Creek. Scott was a funny playful youngster who had the patience and kindness to hang around with his cousins who were 10 years younger. Later, his practical attitude and easy smile made visits to their home a treat for me. And man, his mother was the sweetest lady. The only dispute I recall with Scott was over who got the last of his mom's deviled eggs.
Geoff Eukel

Geoffrey Eukel - July 25, 2020 at 04:49 PM