



## Michael "Mike" Joseph Kelley

August 27, 1954 - March 16, 2016

Michael Joseph Kelley, 61, of St. Albans passed away March 16, 2016.

Born August 27, 1954 in South Charleston, he was a son of the late Justin Abraham Kelley and Anna Brown Kelley. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Justin Kelley Jr., and an aunt with whom he was especially close, Hazel Kelley of Dunbar.

"Mike" as he was known by family and friends was a 1972 graduate of St. Albans High School, a member of the Red Dragon Marching Band, and as a youth was a member of St. Luke United Methodist Church, St. Albans. He was a hard worker, who believed in doing the best possible job, an avid bike rider and a "Jack of all Trades" when it came to fixing anything. These skills were utilized throughout his work life, including during his employment of 15 years with John's Cyclery in St. Albans. He was well known for his keen wit and sense of humor, reflecting his Irish ancestors.

Mike is survived by his only child and his greatest pride and treasure in life, his son Joseph "Joey" Kelley of St. Albans; sister, Susan Kelley and her husband, and Mike's brother-in-law, Rick Franzblau, of Orlando, FL; niece, Dena Kelley of Eagle River, AK, and a number of cousins.

Mike's request was to be cremated, and there will be no services held at this

time.

Family and friends are encouraged to share stories of Mike on his tribute page at [www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com](http://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com)

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans is honored to serve the Kelley family.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Michael "Mike" Joseph Kelley*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *So sorry to learn of Mike's passing. We lived on the same street and Lynne Edington and I would stop by to visit with him often. I learned about rock music from Mike and his friends! Sending prayers and love to his family.*

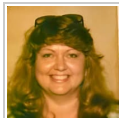
*Kim (White) Lee*

**Kim White Lee** - March 26, 2016 at 04:08 PM



“ *Mike lived a few houses up the street from us on Drew Street. I remember my friend, Kim White, and I would walk by on our way to Valley Bell at the top of the street and always look to see if he was sitting on his front porch! Or, we would look for him on his bicycle. My first kiss was from Mike. Memories from many years ago. Sending love and prayers to his family. Lynne Edington*

**Lynne Edington** - March 23, 2016 at 08:14 AM



*Lynne, thank you so much for sharing your kind memories of Mike, and your sympathies. Of course, Mike and I both knew your family, with Heather being in my class, and you were closer in age to Mike. I am glad you have such a sweet memory of your first kiss. He'd love that. Mike was, I think, very handsome, and had a kind heart. Best wishes to you and yours.*


**Susan Kelley** - March 24, 2016 at 11:49 AM



“ Mike was my little brother, though he surpassed me in height at age 5. He was a wonderful playmate as we roamed the hill behind our house on Tyler Mountain, with nothing to fear back in the 1950s, when kids could still roam freely. We were lucky to have a childhood with such freedom. Mike went on to have his own son, Joey, of whom he was very proud, as is his extended family. Mike is descended from a long line of western Virginia men since before statehood, arriving in Kanawha County in the early 1800s. He carried on many of their traditions, most importantly valuing doing a job well. He had a tremendous ability to fix nearly anything, inherited from those men, and great musical talent, also found in the family line. Most importantly, he had a kind heart, as many of his friends have shared with me. I will cherish my memories of good times with my little brother, always.

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**Susan Kelley** - March 20, 2016 at 02:18 PM

 Dena  
Kelley

“ Uncle Mike was my favorite Uncle. We lost touch after 1986 but I was in WV visiting in 2010 and got his address and dropped in to visit and we reconnected and exchanged phone numbers and email addresses. I was blessed to stay connected with him since then. When I was 15 and visited WV to see my grandparents, Uncle Mike built me a bike so that I would have transportation around town. I put a lot of miles on that bike those few weeks I was there. He also took me to see the fireworks that July 4th on the banks of the Kanawha River. When we reconnected in 2010, he invited me into his house like no time had passed, introduced me to my cousin Joey, and had me to dinner. We emailed frequently the past few years, with Uncle Mike often initiating them, and we'd often have circular emails between Uncle Mike, Aunt Susan and myself. He would send me jokes, videos, and letters telling me how he was doing and inquiring about how I was. He would occasionally give me a call on the telephone. He often spoke of Joey and how proud he was of Joey's shooting skill, his knife making, and his job as a machinist. He also would speak of one of his favorite hobbies- barbecuing- and I wish I'd had the chance to try my Uncle's ribs or his smoked bacon! I'm grateful for having reconnected and for having my Uncle Mike in my life these past few years. I'm going to miss him very much.

~Dena Kelley / Eagle River, Alaska  
denakelley@gci.net

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**Dena Kelley** - March 18, 2016 at 11:43 AM

PS

“ Susan I am so very sorry for your loss. I remember Mike so well and can see the two of you always together in my mind as children. Rest in Peace Mike!

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**Paula Street** - March 17, 2016 at 02:48 PM