



# Michael Jay Hershfelt

SEP 1, 1949 - APR 12, 2020



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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# Michael Jay Hershfelt

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**M**ichael Jay Hershfelt, 70, of Decatur, passed away Sunday, April 12, 2020, in his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Michael was born September 1, 1949, in Decatur, to Robert Walter and Kathryn Louise (Daly) Hershfelt. He was co-owner of United Automobile Electric Company until closed. Later, he was a driver and driver coordinator for Jackson-Ford-Buick in Decatur. He married Michelle “Shelly” Louise Farris on May 3, 2008 in Decatur, IL. Michael was an avid sports enthusiast and loved his hometown of Decatur.

He is survived by his wife, Shelly; his children, Adam (Sarah) Hershfelt, Alison (Freddie) Washington; Emily (Denise) Barnard, Shanna (Adam Grierson) Barnard, Tracy (Jess) Smithers and Randi (David) Howell; his grandchildren, Wilamina and Coulter Hershfelt, Drew, Maggie and Caleb Smithers, Arlow Howell and his furry grandson, Fritz Washington; and his brother, Jack (Marsha Spaulding) Hershfelt.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Honoring Mike’s wishes, cremation services will be provided by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Private family services will be held. Memorials may be directed to Life Foursquare Church 2954 W Ash Ave, Decatur, IL 62526 or Cancer Care Specialists 210 W McKinley Ave Suite 1, Decatur, IL 62526. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at [www.gracelandfairlawn.com](http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com).



## Events

**Michael Jay Hershfelt**

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### Cemetery Details

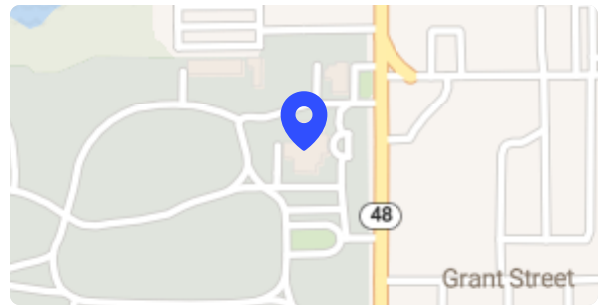


**Graceland Cemetery**

2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526



**(217) 615-0724**





# Tribute Wall

**Michael Jay Hershfelt**

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**Paul Carlton** posted:

Sending condolences to the Mike's family and friends. I knew him through Jackson Ford as he and I both drove for the dealership. He was a kind and caring person with a wonderful sense of humor. I can forgive him for being a Yankees fan and will miss his dry humor and wit. With sincerest sympathy. Paul Carlton

April 18 at 8:28 AM



**Christina Campbell & Scott Bicknell** lit a candle in honor of Michael.



April 17 at 6:10 PM




**Steve Briggs** shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.



April 17 at 9:55 AM

**SB Steve Briggs** April 19 at 6:45 AM  
Chicky, Crow, and Smokey. 3/4 of the Rat Pack

 **Paul Vorndam** April 20 at 8:37 AM  
Where's Bert, Sally and Chin?

**SH Shelly Hershfelt** April 17 at 7:14 PM  
He told me they babysat these little girls, but neglected to say the influence on them!!



**Steve Briggs** posted:

So sorry to hear about Mike's passing. My condolences to the entire family. We shared many good times at EHS. He will be missed.

April 17 at 9:38 AM



## Tribute Wall

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PP

**Paul Pickley** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

My condolences go out to the Hershfelt family - The Pickley Family

April 17 at 4:33 AM



LL

**Louie Lahr** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

April 17 at 3:14 AM



PR

**Paul & Verlyn Rosenberger** posted:

We were saddened to learn of Michael's passing.

April 17 at 2:51 AM

KA

**Karla Tho.As** posted:

We are so very sorry to hear of Mike's passing. Heartfelt thoughts and prayers for you Shelly & your family. Arla & Karla Thomas

April 16 at 11:34 AM

LD

**Linda Davis** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Harold and Linda Davis

April 16 at 3:25 AM





# Tribute Wall

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**Michael Neal** posted:

How Mike's death saddens me. We met in Eisenhower High School or on Buena Vista St. where he lived. From there it seemed like forever we were playing neighborhood basketball or baseball at Johns Hill. Mike, a.k.a. Chicky always greeted me to our last conversation with a warm & loud, "Weasel". From the first day I met him Mike was a snappy dresser, more slacks than Levi's, polished loafers and he loved "Gant" shirts. Mike and our group evolved into the Rat Pack. This was a fantastic group of outstanding young men. After I returned from Vietnam I roomed with Mike in his trailer while we attended college-thank the Lord no cell phones existed at that time! Mike loved to "pimp" people. He would play harmless (usually) pranks and giggle wildly when they fell victim. Time and distance separated us but anytime I drove thru Decatur I found myself stopping to see Mike or calling him to talk about his beloved Yankees, the Illini or his Chicago Bear's. Listening to Mike I heard his passion and love for his family, his love for his wife and his fight during his many illnesses. Mike was a fighter throughout. I loved Mike, his warm, genuine smile, his honesty and his sincerity. I, as many of us have lost a good friend yet God had gained a spectacular addition. Rest easy my fine friend.

April 16 at 2:38 AM



**Bob Strong** posted:

My most sincere condolences go out to the Hershfelt family 🧑🧑🧑

April 15 at 6:38 AM



**Karyn Wade-Propst** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

Shelly so sorry to hear about Mike, he was a very sweet person. Prayers going out to you and your family during this time. Hugs to you Shelly

April 15 at 4:24 AM



**Diane Wright** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

April 15 at 3:22 AM





## Tribute Wall

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CH

**Chris Hershfelt** posted:

Mike, my cousin, a good man. All were proud to know him. I am deeply sorry but relieved he has left pain behind. My love to his family. Chris Hershfelt

April 14 at 3:08 PM

PM

**Pat & Rayo Morrison** posted:

To Mike's family and Jack, Very sorry to hear this news. While growing up I got to know Mike & Jack from many hours of basketball games of horse and twenty-one in our back yard. You guys patiently included me even when I was still a kid and about 10 years your junior. The memories of all those games and the smell of your dad's grilled steaks coming from your back yard will always be with me. Mike and I talked for the first time in many years only a few months ago. We have not lived in Decatur for many years and didn't even know of Mike's battle. Peace to you and yours.

April 14 at 2:37 PM

RC

**Rick And Marsha Cordts** posted:

We are so sorry for your loss. Thinking of all of you, especially Adam, Sarah and family.

April 14 at 8:25 AM

GF

**Graceland Fairlawn** shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.



April 14 at 7:21 AM

**CH** **Chris Hershfelt** April 14 at 3:09 PM  
Quite normal!!!



**Anonymous** sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Hershfelt family.



April 14 at 5:03 AM





## Tribute Wall

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DL

**Don & Kim Larson** lit a candle in honor of Michael.

Bert, we are so sorry for your loss. Mike "Chickie" was a wonderful, caring person with a soft heart and a smile for everyone. He will be missed by all. You and your family are in our prayers. Love, Don & Kim Larson



April 14 at 4:53 AM

CO

**Connie Ogden** posted:

Shelly, Tim and I knew Mike for such a long time, and are happy we got to know you, too, at our annual gatherings with our guys. Mike was a good friend, a warm and caring gentleman, and was always humble and kind. You were a wonderful wife, and took such good care of him. He will be missed. Love, Tim and Connie Ogden

April 14 at 4:52 AM

RP

**Robert Pittenger** posted:

Sorry to hear that Mike has passed. He was a fun-loving person that always made people around him smile. He will surely be missed by his family and friends and may they be comforted knowing that he is in a better place.

April 14 at 3:46 AM

TS

**Terry Studebaker** posted:

Mike was a great guy...I've known him since the 60s...used to see him a lot in United and then always glad to run in to him around town...he always had a smile and a kind thought..RIP Mike..

April 14 at 3:21 AM



Steve Briggs shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

April 17 at 9:55 AM



Chicky, Crow, and Smokey with the young Ferry girls!



**Paul Vorndam** April 20 at 8:37 AM  
Where's Bert, Sally and Chin?



**Shelly Hershfelt** April 17 at 7:14 PM  
He told me they babysat these little girls, but neglected to say the influence on them!!



# Media

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April 14 at 7:21 AM



**Chris Hershfelt** April 14 at 3:09 PM  
Quite normal!!!



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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