



## Gary Michael "Mike" Blankenship

July 23, 1956 - April 14, 2019

Michael "Mike" Blankenship Redmond Oregon Surrounded by the love and support of family and dear friends, Gary Michael "Mike" Blankenship reached heaven on Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019 from complications following a heart attack. Born July 23, 1956 to Dean and Helen Blankenship in Sweet Home Oregon, he joined sisters Deanna, Lenora, and Darlene. His early childhood was spent in Sweet Home with an extended family of uncles, aunts, and cousins. When Mike was nine his family moved to Bend, Oregon. He graduated from Bend High School in 1974. On September 8, 1979 he married Nancy Rooper. They resided in Bend and Redmond throughout their married life. Mike was a craftsman, working as a tile setter for 30 years, creating beautiful spaces and developing friendships with customers, contractors and suppliers. Mike was found most Thursday evenings at church, rehearsing with a close group of musicians and singers for Sunday morning worship. He loved to sing, play his guitar and to hang out with his team members sharing life, songs and being Uncle Mikey to their kids. He always had candy in his pocket for the kids he adored. He liked to be outdoors-water skiing, jet skiing, snow skiing, hunting, fishing, camping or taking their dog Casey for a walk. He and Nancy had dreamed of spending more time camping and traveling. Mike is survived by his wife Nancy, mother Helen Blankenship; sisters Deanna (George) Metcalf, Lenora Vargas and Darlene (Mark) Skinner; and Barbara and Jim Martin, Joe and Rose Rooper, Elaine Martin and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded by his father Dean Blankenship. A

celebration of Mike's life will be held Saturday, May 11, 2019, at 1 pm at the Redmond Assembly of God Church, Redmond Oregon. Donations may be made to Redmond Assembly of God Youth Ministries or to Hospice of Redmond Oregon.

Funeral Home:

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home

105 NW Irving Ave

Bend, OR

US 97701

# Tribute Wall

ML

“ Nancy: I just heard about Mike, I'm so sorry to hear this terrible news. You are such a wonderful person I hate this sadness for you. If I can help in any way please don't hesitate to call me. May you find some peace. Your friend Martha Lewis

---

**Martha Lewis** - June 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

K(

“ Many fond childhood memories of Mike and his family! My deepest condolences to Nancy and family.

---

**Karen (Wyatt)Tompkins** - May 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Thinking of you and sending Good Thoughts and Prayers your way

---

**Donna (Line) Grudt** - May 08, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ My heartfelt condolences and prayers to his family and friends.

---

**Julie Bennett** - May 08, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ We are so sorry for your loss! May the memories of the good times help relieve some of your grief. Hugs and prayers for peace for all!

---

**Kathie & Willie Weaver** - May 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Nancy, we pray you feel our love and thoughts in our continued prayers being sent out to you and your family during this difficult time. But we are excited in knowing and trusting in Gods word that we will see Mike again!!

---

**Al J & Susan** - May 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ So sorry for your loss Nancy. You are in our thoughts as you go through this difficult time. Love from the Schiel clan

---

**Brian Schiel** - May 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM