



James M. Michaelis

July 14, 1930 - March 8, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved father and grandfather, James M. Michaelis, who passed away on Saturday March 8th, 2025 at the age of 94.

Born on July 14, 1930 in Redbird, Nebraska to Arthur C. Michaelis and Anna Mauer- he was the youngest and last surviving child of five (Howard, Geneva, Margaret and Floyd). He lived a rich and full life, marked by his deep love for family, community, and his enduring kindness. His friends knew him as Mike, but to family, he was Papa. Regardless of how you knew him, he was always known for his wisdom, kindness, and unwavering strength. He worked for years in the maintenance department for Deschutes County. Prior to that, he co-owned a barbershop in downtown Bend, and cutting hair (along with a few nicked ears) was a skill that he continued to use on four generations of his family. Later in life, he honed his skills in woodworking and created countless treasures for family and friends.

He was a dedicated husband of 73 years to Virginia Michaelis, who passed away two short years ago. Papa will be greatly missed by family and friends. Survived by his daughter, Catherine (Pat) O'Keefe and son, James (Chris) Michaelis; his grandchildren, Cheryl Doyal, Mike (Audrey) Doyal, and Adam (Angie) Michaelis; 8 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren. Preceded in death by his son, David Michaelis, and grandson, Andrew Michaelis, and wife, Virginia. There is no doubt his legacy lives on through the family he built and the countless lives he touched with his love and guidance.

He was a man of integrity, humor, firm handshake, and always put others before himself.

Papa cherished his family above all else and found great joy in spending time with them. You could always count on him being there with his trademark glasses and infectious smile, whether it was family vacations, hunting for arrowheads, or attending his grandchildren's events.

Per his request, the family will not hold a service or celebration of life. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made in his memory to Meals on Wheels, an organization he volunteered with for many years.

Rest in peace, Papa. Your love and presence will forever be in our hearts.

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home of Bend , was honored to serve the family