



## Mike Ruddy

June 19, 1949 - April 3, 2017

Glendive lost a very kind and generous man on Tuesday, April 3, 2017 when Mike Ruddy passed away at his home. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 8, 2017 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Glendive, with Father Francis Schreiber officiating. Interment with military honors will be held in Dawson County Cemetery. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Mike was born on June 19, 1949 in Glendive to parents Cliff and Cecelia (Brunelle) Ruddy. He was raised and educated in Glendive, and went to elementary school at Sacred Heart Catholic School. During high school, he worked at Midland Lumber Company. He graduated Dawson County High School with the class of 1967. After high school he enlisted in the United States Marines and saw action in Vietnam. He served from 1968 to 1970, and was honorably discharged. He then enrolled in Northern Montana College in Havre from 1972 until 1974, and majored in technical engineering. In 1975, Mike hired out with Burlington Northern Railroad as a rail detector operator. He was based out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. His work took him all over the rail system. Mike enjoyed this work and he loved going to different places, meeting people and taking in the culture and natural beauty of the area. Later, the railroad moved him to Fort Worth, Texas, where he finished his career after 25 years of service. He then moved to Austin, Texas where he worked as a track engineer specialist for Hamilton Associates. In 2005, he retired completely and moved back home to Glendive.

Mike was first and foremost a proud Democrat. He was the vice chairman of the Democratic Party. In 2016, he ran for the Montana House of Representatives for the counties of Dawson and Wibaux. In this calling, Mike was the voice of the people who work hard for a living. Mike believed everyone deserved a chance at a better life. He was never judgmental and always willing to help in any way he could. He was a big supporter of small businesses in Glendive.

Mike enjoyed world travel together with his good pal Ken Kubesh. They enjoyed taking cruises, and loved taking in the culture and diversity of the many countries they visited. They especially loved the food! When Ken sailed his own boat around the world, Mike met him in Italy, and together they sailed around the Mediterranean Sea.

Mike was a lifetime member of the Friends of Makoshika and at the time of his death he

was working tirelessly to try to get water into the park. Mike served as a trustee on the Dawson Community College board, and was a member of the Kiwanis, VFW Post 1125, and The American Legion Post 28.

To the people who loved him the most, he was simply 'Uncle Mike'. He loved spending time with his nephews and nieces. He was especially close to his sister Susie's children. In 1993, Susie and her family moved to Minneapolis and lived close to Mike. Some of the most fun and memorable times came when Mike would come home to Minneapolis on Fridays. Mike, Derek, Jason, and Kelsi took in many Vikings and Twins games at the Metrodome. During the week, while on the detector car, he would find all of the tourist traps around Minnesota. On the weekends they would go fishing, boating, river rafting, or anything else that was fun and exciting. If the weather didn't cooperate, there was always something around the Minneapolis area to do. Joining them on many of their adventures was Buster, the family basset hound. Mike was a dog lover but was unable to have one of his own due to his life on the railroad taking him away all week. Buster fit the bill for Mike. When Mike showed up, Buster was the first to jump into his car and would not take no for an answer. Mike insisted that Buster come along for the fun.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents Cliff and Cecelia Ruddy; and his brother Dan Ruddy.

Mike is survived by his sisters Anne Ruddy of Portland, Oregon, and Susie (Les) Frank of Glendive; sister-in-law Kris Ruddy of Glendive; 3 nephews; and five nieces, including Kelsi Frank, who Mike was very close too. Family and Friends knew who Mike was talking about when he would refer to her as "Bestest".

Memorials in Mike's name are suggested to the Dawson County Food Bank, 112 W Benham, Glendive, MT 59330.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at:

[www.silhafuneralhome.com](http://www.silhafuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery

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## Dawson County Cemetery

Corner of North Sargent Ave. and East  
Allard Street  
Glendive, MT, 59330

# Events

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<b>APR</b>	<b>Memorial Service</b>	02:00PM
<b>8</b>	<hr/>	
	Sacred Heart Catholic Church 316 West Benham Street, Glendive, MT, US, 59330	

# Comments

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“ I have many good memories of Mike. I met him at Havre while we were going to NMC.  
We used to connect at Glendive once in a while. Hadn't seen him in years, will miss him.

**Lance Chandler** - February 10, 2020 at 09:58 PM

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“ Mike was a most helpful member of the model railroad club in Sidney. All of us here will miss him immensely.

**Ron Gebhardt** - April 08, 2017 at 04:43 PM

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“ Mike will be missed in our community! Thoughts and prayers to his family.

**Penny and Don Zimmerman** - April 07, 2017 at 09:30 PM

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“ Pete And Deb Vogel lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Pete and Deb Vogel** - April 07, 2017 at 04:31 PM

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“ Karen Ballentine lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Karen Ballentine** - April 07, 2017 at 11:40 AM



“ Mike-you will be missed! You had a big heart and gave back whenever you could to the community-Rest in Peace....

**Karen** - April 07, 2017 at 11:41 AM

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“ I am so very sorry to hear of Mike's passing. I enjoyed visiting with him and forever grateful for his friendship with Ken.  
Elaine Kubesh Salisbury

**Elaine Salisbury** - April 07, 2017 at 04:48 AM

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“ Denise Stoddart lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Denise Stoddart** - April 07, 2017 at 12:40 AM

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“ Susie~ I'm so sorry for your loss of Mike. Cherish your memories as you will always have them. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Tammy Dey

**Tammy Dey** - April 06, 2017 at 09:00 PM

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“ Mary Anne and Susie, with Mike's passing you are now without a brother. Both Mike and Dan were a big part of Glendive and the Community. We are a better place to live because of both of them. I will miss Mike's advice on what the city needed, how to make it better and how much he loved it. I will miss him. Jerry Jimison

**Jerry Jimison** - April 06, 2017 at 05:39 PM

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“ Susie, I am so sorry to hear about Mike's passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers.



**Jeanne Loberg** - April 06, 2017 at 04:34 PM

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“ I really liked Mike, and I talked with him about his Faith several times. I know the great friendship he shared with his big buddy Ken Kubesh and memories they made together. When Mike believed in something, he supported it , and I admired his commitment and courage to do so. He had a funny, realistic way of looking at life and all that it through at him. I will miss visiting with him, but I know he is in a better place, as Christians we believe.

**kevin mcgovern** - April 06, 2017 at 08:54 AM

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“ Frank And Janette Legato lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Frank and Janette Legato** - April 05, 2017 at 11:17 PM

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“ I hope you and Ken are catching up on all the world happenings. We are definitely going to miss you here! Our condolences to Mike's family.

**Frank and Janette Legato** - April 05, 2017 at 11:23 PM

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“ Carol Hanson lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Carol Hanson** - April 05, 2017 at 05:45 PM

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“ Our sympathies to all of Mike's family.



**Gene Micheletto** - April 05, 2017 at 05:41 PM

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“ Eula Langton lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Eula Langton** - April 05, 2017 at 04:16 PM

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“ Ed And Noreen Turnquist lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Ed and Noreen Turnquist** - April 05, 2017 at 02:08 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mike Ruddy.



April 05, 2017 at 01:37 PM

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“ My condolences to the family. He will be missed by many. Laura Grzanic

**Laura Grzanic** - April 05, 2017 at 10:42 AM

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“ Patty Callaghan lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Patty Callaghan** - April 04, 2017 at 11:28 PM

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“ Teresa Hathaway lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Teresa Hathaway** - April 04, 2017 at 10:59 PM

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“ Norman And Joann Goosen lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Norman and Joann Goosen** - April 04, 2017 at 05:05 PM

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“ Heather Frank lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



Heather Frank - April 04, 2017 at 02:32 PM

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“ Cindy Gregory lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



Cindy Gregory - April 04, 2017 at 01:39 PM

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“ Ali Moulton is following this tribute.

Ali Moulton - April 04, 2017 at 12:22 PM

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“ Mike you were a great Democrat and citizen. THANK you for being a very nice neighbor and mentoring my boys. I will miss your comments on facebook defending RJ's shenanigans. Peace.

Ali Moulton - April 04, 2017 at 12:09 PM

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“ Cheryl Haggerty lit a candle in memory of Mike Ruddy



**Cheryl Haggerty** - April 04, 2017 at 12:03 PM