



## Mikel Eugene Hartness

October 21, 1969 - March 18, 2024

Mikel Eugene Hartness, son of Gregory Allen Hartness and Kathy Jo (Adkinson) Hartness, was born October 21, 1969, in Sycamore, Illinois.

Most of Mikel's early years were spent in Illinois and Arkansas before the family moved to Waynesville where he graduated from Waynesville High School with the Class of 1987.

Mikel had a serving attitude and was always willing to help people. That was very apparent in the fact that immediately after graduating from high school, he began working in emergency medical services and was part of one of the first EMT classes taught in Pulaski County. He furthered his education by earning a Paramedic Certification at the University of Missouri-Columbia and used his knowledge to serve Pulaski County with the Pulaski County Ambulance District for 32 years.

Not only did he serve with the ambulance district as a paramedic, but also served a tenure as Chief Administrator for several years. Mikel also served with the St. Robert Police Department's JETT (Joint Enforcement Tactical Team), volunteered with the Waynesville Rural Fire District, Deputy with Pulaski County Sheriff's Department with their Pulaski County Emergency Response Team, MO-TF1 (Missouri Task Force 1), and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Urban Search and Rescue Team. A few of

his most memorable experiences with FEMA included helping in New York City at Ground Zero during the aftermath of 9/11, in New Orleans during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and most recently in Joplin during the aftermath of the Joplin tornado.

Mikel not only brought comfort to people while serving with the different agencies he was a part of, but he always had a compassionate heart toward those who had lost loved ones during his time as Pulaski County Coroner.

Mikel was united in marriage to Donna Ann (Bennett) Hartness, and they were blessed with three children: Donald, Jennifer, and John before Donna preceded him in death in 2005.

Mikel was united in marriage to Dana (Wheadon) Armellino, and at the time of their union, two families were joined to consist of Donald, Jennifer, John, Devin, and Brandon. Their family was later blessed with Alexandria.

Mikel was united in marriage to Elissa Grace (Levy) Hartness on July 21, 2023, at one of Mikel's favorite places, Wrigley Field in Chicago, Illinois. They shared numerous adventures during their time together. Their future plans were intended to grant them many more memories.

In his spare time, Mikel enjoyed being outdoors, especially mowing his lawn, but you could find him playing a few rounds of golf with his buddies during the warmer days. He was an avid Chicago Cubs baseball fan and could tell you anything you wanted to know about the Cubs. He was also a Kansas City Chiefs football fan. Every weekend, when he was off, he enjoyed playing cards with "the guys". It was always a great time of trying to win, giving each other a hard time, and just getting to spend time with friends.

On Monday, March 18, 2024, Mikel passed away in the Mercy Hospital of

Springfield, Missouri having attained the age of 54 years. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him.

Mikel leaves to cherish his memory, his wife: Elissa Hartness; mother: Kathy Hartness; six children: Donald Hartness, Jennifer Garrett, John Hartness, Devin Lowe, Brandon Wheadon, and Alexandria Hartness; several grandchildren; two sisters: Angie George (Jerry) and Rachael Miller; paternal grandmother: Donna Hartness; mother-in-law: Donita Teel; father-in-law: Darren Levy; sister-in-law: Danielle Levy; several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Even though he is gone from our sight, Mikel's commitment to his community and serving attitude will live on in our hearts forever.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Mikel Hartness and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery

Highway 17 South  
Waynesville, MO 65583  
(573) 774-6111  
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 22. 1:00 PM.

Westside Baptist Church Of Waynesville

## Funeral Service

MAR 22. 3:00 PM.

Westside Baptist Church Of Waynesville

# Tribute Wall

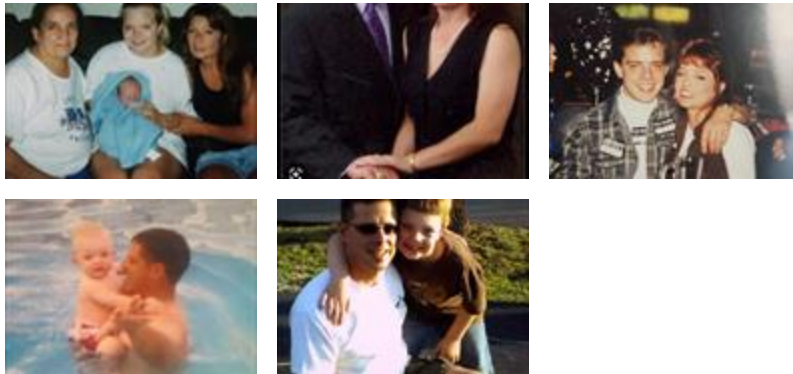
KN

“ *Mikel was a dedicated Pulaski County Coroner for many years! I enjoyed working with him! Keith Norton*

Keith N Norton - August 06, 2025 at 10:34 AM

JH

“ *9 files added to the tribute wall*



Jennifer Hartness/Garrett - May 17, 2024 at 04:46 PM

JW

“ *Judith Woody lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



Judith Woody - March 23, 2024 at 03:23 PM



“ Angie Gayer lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness



Angie Gayer - March 22, 2024 at 02:33 PM



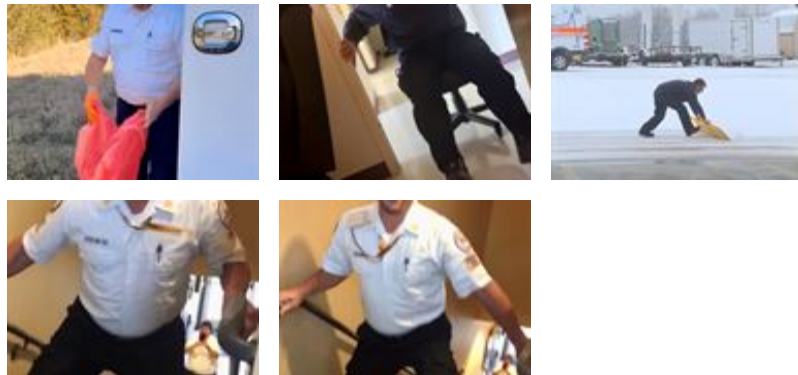
“ It was such an honor and a blessing to have worked with Mikel during his years of service on MO-TF1. He inspired and touched all of us through his dedication, selflessness, and quiet strength. Mikel was an incredible paramedic and an even better man with a huge heart. We will miss him greatly. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends for peace and comfort as they remember and celebrate his amazing life.



Stephen Liang - March 22, 2024 at 02:08 PM



“ 36 files added to the album Life Tributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - March 22, 2024 at 11:14 AM



“ 69 files added to the album Life Tributes



**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - March 22, 2024 at 08:30 AM

CD

“ *Cornelia & Robert Dodds lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



**Cornelia & Robert Dodds** - March 22, 2024 at 07:09 AM

CS

“ *I will never forget our FEMA deployment to Puerto Rico ! Mike was the best ! You will be missed my Brother ! Prayers to your family*

**Cathy Schiltz** - March 21, 2024 at 03:49 PM

LW

“ *Lorna West lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



**Lorna West** - March 21, 2024 at 03:22 PM

SH

“ Shirley Henry lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness



Shirley Henry - March 20, 2024 at 10:58 PM

BD

“ Bob Mable Davis lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness



Bob and Mable Davis - March 20, 2024 at 09:11 PM

DM

“ Debby Myers sent a virtual gift in memory of Mikel Hartness



Debby (Johnson) Myers - March 20, 2024 at 09:10 PM

BD

“ Bob, and Andrew Davis lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness



Bob, Mable and Andrew Davis - March 20, 2024 at 09:10 PM

SH

“ *My thoughts are with the Hartness family, may God comfort you at this time of sorrow and healing.*



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**Susan M Herron** - March 20, 2024 at 03:43 PM

LC

“ *Linda cole-schonbok sent a virtual gift in memory of Mikel Hartness*



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**Linda cole-schonbok** - March 20, 2024 at 12:49 PM

KV

“ *To a great man, a great pillar of our community...Mikel will be missed by all who knew him, and those who worked with him, My thoughts, prayers, and condolences, to his family and loved ones. Rest In Heaven, My Friend.. Your Memory Will Live Forever....Kat De Vido*

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**Kat De Vido** - March 20, 2024 at 11:43 AM



“ *Denny Fulton lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



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**Denny Fulton** - March 20, 2024 at 11:02 AM

EA

“ *Earl Michelle Arnold lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



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**Earl & Michelle Arnold** - March 20, 2024 at 10:11 AM

MS

“ *Marge Scott lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



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**Marge Scott** - March 20, 2024 at 10:02 AM

BM

“ *Bill Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



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**Bill Mitchell** - March 20, 2024 at 09:56 AM

PG

“ *Pulaski Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness*



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**Pulaski County Camp Gideons** - March 20, 2024 at 09:45 AM

LM

“ I was so sad to hear this news and am so incredibly sorry for your loss. I am keeping you all in my prayers.  
Lisa (O'Neill) MacDonald

Lisa MacDonald - March 20, 2024 at 07:51 AM

TS

“ My sincere condolences to all of his family & relatives, I knew mikel very well he was a great true friend of mine, I'll be praying for all of you . R.I.P Mikel,

Thomas R. Stokes - March 20, 2024 at 01:51 AM

KN

“ Dad Mike, you were always such a stand up man. A wonderful dad to my best friend, the kind of dad we looked up to. We all wanted a dad like you secretly. Even as an adult you were looking out for me. You were not only a great dad, but a great human. Serving your community, and comforting those around you. I remember when jennie k passed, you were the one in the funeral home who hugged me when i needed a dad hug. I know you and Mrs. Donna are dancing together up there in heaven. Don't worry I will keep an eye on your babygirl down here. You are gonna be missed.



Krystal Neal - March 19, 2024 at 11:53 PM

SA

“ Praying for the family, friends and coworkers of Mikel.  
A very special person who will be remembered.



Stacy and Shari Anderson - March 19, 2024 at 10:02 PM

MG

“ Dean and I would like to send our sincere sympathies to Ellie and the family of Mikel. We met Mikel at our son Alex and Danielle's wedding. He stood over a hot grill and fire cooking in 100 degree temps or more and never complained. He refused payment for his hard work stating that it was he and Ellies gift to the bride and groom. Believe me, we tried. Ellie and Mikel made a beautiful couple and were very happy. Our hearts break for Ellie for they were just newlyweds themselves. We pray for his children and extended family. Such a tragic loss. He will be dearly missed.

*Dean and Michelle Garber*

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**Michelle Garber** - March 19, 2024 at 08:38 PM

GL

“ Gudrun Landreth lit a candle in memory of Mikel Hartness



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**Gudrun Landreth** - March 19, 2024 at 08:29 PM

GL

“ We want to extend our deepest sympathy to Elissa and Family. Mike and my husband Jesse Landreth worked together as Paramedics for Pulaski County Ambulance. Not only were they colleagues, they were long time friends. Mike would come to the house and work on projects with Jesse like putting new shingles on the roof to reinforcing the foundation. Mike was here the night Jesse passed away and even brought out food the next day. We could count on Mike day or night. It was only a few weeks ago that I spoke with Mike and he said, "If you and Angela need anything...you let me know." Still looking out and wanting to help others. Mike was a special person and will be greatly missed. Thank you Mike for serving others for so many years.

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**Gudrun Landreth** - March 19, 2024 at 08:26 PM

FS

“ I will forever be grateful for Mikel Hartness. Ive worked side by side with him during my firefighting career with the St. Robert Fire Department. I knew that when i saw him in the arriving ambulance to any of our scenes that the patient was getting the best care. Im also grateful for Mikel of the care he gave my father in 2002. Even though my father didnt make it, it wasnt in Mikels care. He was able to bring him back at the ambulance base. Then transport him alive to GLWACH where later he passed. But Mikel, was a big blessing for my family. He cared about everyone and we all knew that. You will be missed my friend and it will take many to replace you. There is no one like you. My prayers to your family and to your family at PCAD. You will definitely be missed. Until we see each other again, rest easy brother.

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**Felton Shoemaker** - March 19, 2024 at 07:35 PM

PC

“ *Pamela Cox sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Mikel Hartness*



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**Pamela Cox** - March 19, 2024 at 07:15 PM