



## Michael Jerome Pate

November 19, 1947 - September 1, 2016

Friends and family of Michael Jerome Pate that rejoice in having known a good man whose life was well-lived will be saddened by the news that he lost his courageous battle with cancer. Mike passed away in the company of Paula, his loving wife of 33 years, at their home in Newnan, GA on Thursday September 1, 2016.

Born in Sylacauga, AL on November 19, 1947, Mike moved to Georgia at age 11, beginning the 6th Grade at Avondale Elementary School and graduating from Avondale High in 1966.

Mike stood up for and protected others, but he never initiated quarrels. Anyone that needed a friend; Mike was there. As John Prine said, "He was level on the level". He was steadfast and determined. If he said he would; he did. For all these qualities, Mike earned the love and respect of all that knew him.

Mike was known for his athleticism and love of cars. His classmates remember his burgundy 1964 Chevrolet 409 Impala SS with 340 horsepower and four-speed transmission and every option available. Everyone knew Mike could drive it!

After college, Mike adventured as first mate on a fishing charter in Key West before moving to the Fraser Valley in the CO high country where he was renowned for his fast, no-turns, skiing technique at the Winter Park ski area. Later, he honed his skills as a self-taught sculptor, painter and photographer, displaying remarkable talent.

Mike already has a head start on being missed. He was profound even in passing and leaves a legacy of love and lasting friendships. He was preceded in death by his parents,

James and Mable Pate, and is survived by his wife Paula and family in AL, AZ, CO, FL, GA, MI and VA. A celebration of Michael's life is October 16, 2016 at 1:00 PM at The Lake House at Avondale, 59 Lakeshore Drive, Avondale Estates, GA 30002. Following the service there will be a BBQ. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com).

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 38 Jackson Street Newnan GA 30263 770-253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Previous Events

## Service

OCT 16. 1:00 PM (ET)

The Lake House at Avondale  
59 Lakeshore Drive  
Avondale Estates, GA 30002

# Tribute Wall

AD

“ *This is from Gwen and AL Dees. Our remember is from Paula and Michael's Visit with us at loco Vare Rd in the summer of 2015, They had plan to come back in the fall to see the leafs turn to the mixed colors. We were looking forward to there visit.*

*A note to Paula, you are welcome any time, we think of you two as our own.*

*We love you both  
Al & Gwen.*

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**Al Dees & Gwen Dees** - September 15, 2016 at 04:34 PM



“ *so sorry to hear this. everybody at the reunion that took place right before his passing was extremely upset. mike was one of the most popular people in our class. always smiling. wonderful to be around. you will be sorely missed Mike. sending love to you and condolences and peace to your family.*  
*susan dyer*

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**Susan Dyer** - September 07, 2016 at 12:55 PM

JG

“ *I really can't speak of Mike in the present as so many have. Mike and I were highschool sweethearts so I can really only speak of those times.  
Mike was strong willed and had a real zest for life. Sometimes living a little too on the edge. He would drop me off from our dates and then go drag race that 409 Chevy! I would get so angry because I didn't want him to get hurt. His mom once told me, you keep him under control because we can't!  
Mike was a big influence on how I lived my teenage years and that was a good thing. We had some wonderful times together.  
Mike told me once he would live to be 100.....I was sad to hear that was not to be.  
My deepest sympathy to Paula for her loss.  
Sincerely,  
Judy Fay Gipe*

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**Judy Gipe** - September 07, 2016 at 11:45 AM

LC

“ Mike, we all will miss you. I remember my first ride in your 64' Chevy 409, WOW- what a thrill. I know you are probably driving it now. Thanks for the memories Mike.  
I'm out there !!

Larry Crays

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Larry Crays - September 07, 2016 at 09:41 AM

YW

“ I have wonderful memories of my friend, Mike. He was very special to me from years of elementary school through high school. We had a lot of laughs and good times together! My condolences go to Paula and his family. He will definitely be missed.  
Yippey Kutsche White

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Yippey Kutsche White - September 06, 2016 at 09:17 PM

NG

“ Michael was a strong man in many ways and a man of many talents, his work in sculpture unfortunately never becoming widely recognized, a great loss to the world of art. Perhaps Michael's greatest and most rewarding accomplishment was earning the love and loyalty of Paula, his beloved wife of their 33 years together. May he rest in peace and may Paula endure and thrive in her memories of their times together.

Nick Ganaway

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Nick Ganaway - September 06, 2016 at 09:47 AM

FH

“ Loyalty. Understated strength. We shared adventures and laughs since high school. You were lucky to have Michael as a friend.

-FH (as Michael called me)

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Forrest Haller - September 06, 2016 at 08:18 AM

PS

“ Mike was a good man who had the gift of making others better. Our friendship began in 1960 and continued, sometimes at a distance, but never interrupted until his passing. I will miss his laugh most of all.

*Philip L Spackman*

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**Philip Spackman** - September 05, 2016 at 06:45 PM

MR

“ Sending our love and prayers on the loss of Uncle Michael! I know he was loved right up to the very end by his devoted Paula! He will be greatly missedz

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**Matt & Caroline Rehm** - September 05, 2016 at 05:50 PM