



## Michel Marcel Léveillard

January 7, 1933 - June 15, 2025

Michel Marcel Léveillard passed away peacefully at his home in his home office, affectionately known as his "Bunker," on Sunday, June 15, 2025 at the age of 92 surrounded by his family. Michel was born in Rouen, France on January 7, 1933.

He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Patricia Ann Léveillard (Henkel). Michel is lovingly remembered by his children, Michael (Donna) Léveillard of Gay, GA, Monique Davis of Newnan, GA, and Marcelle (Benjie) Shoemake of Newnan, GA; his grandchildren, Chance (Alyson) Léveillard, Lauren (Tim) Fenner, Rachel Shoemake, Ava Shoemake, Elizabeth Davis, and Elise Davis; and his great-grandchildren, Blakely Léveillard, Sutton Léveillard, Addison Fenner, and Emory Fenner.

Michel grew up in Rouen, in Normandy, France with his mother, Rachel Léveillard (Ollivier) and his father, Marcel Léveillard, enduring the bombing of Rouen during his preteen years. At age 20, he made his trans-Atlantic passage on the Queen Mary to pursue his dream of becoming an airline pilot in America. In 1963, his dream of becoming a pilot came true, and he began his 33-year career with Eastern Airlines where he met and married Patricia Ann Henkel, a flight attendant. As he advanced in his career, he also earned his nickname "Captain Mike" and became a self-taught equivalent of an aeronautical engineer proposing methods of flight for the Boeing 727 that

yielded immense fuel conservation.

After moving from Virginia to Georgia, the couple settled in Brooks, Georgia to raise their children. Michel enjoyed flying jets and enjoyed teaching others (over 1000 students) to fly in general aviation, including gliders and aerobatic training. A true historian, he assisted many with his shared experiences and stories during World War II as a youth for publications such as "From Rouen to Hiroshima" by Paul Le Trevier. His adventures have been captured in a biography "Cap'tain Mike: Les tribulations d'un pilote français mélomane en Amérique" by Jean-Noël Violette, with whom he shared his adventures on a platform called Aérostories.

Beyond airplanes, WWII, and war planes, Michel's passion was culinary. He was renowned for his masterful French cuisine, barbecue, and smoked salmon. He will be deeply missed by his family.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2025 at the Brooks Christian Church, 969 Highway 85 Connector, Brooks, GA 30205. Burial will follow in the Brooks Memorial Cemetery, 147 Price Road, Brooks, GA 30205.

The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude for the love, prayers, and support of family and friends, as well as the professional help from Brightmoor Hospice.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory, 770-253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 19. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Brooks Christian Church  
969 Hwy. 85 Connector  
Brooks, GA 30205

## Graveside Service

JUN 19. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Brooks Memorial Gardens  
147 Price Road  
Brooks, GA 30205

# Tribute Wall

RG

“ I knew Mike through email correspondence after offering his condolences when my late father, Ross Guerrero, passed away in 2016. Mike was Dad’s flight instructor at Hull Airport in Sugar Land, Texas in the late 1950’s - early 60’s. Mike shared stories and even sent some old photos of my parents from then. I am very grateful. Mike was a true Aviator and I appreciated his friendship. My condolences to all the Leveillard family - Rick Guerrero, Rosenberg, Texas.

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**Rick Guerrero** - July 22, 2025 at 08:25 PM

HD

“ Dear family  
I experienced a close friendship with Michel Leveillard, as we exchanged a lot of messages over the course of the last five years. He told me all about his experiences as a pilot on different planes, and I was very interested. My godfather was a pilot in the same company in USA.  
His passing is a great loss. All my condolences to his family  
Danielle Hecquet-Klein, FRANCE

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**Hecquet Klein Danielle** - July 07, 2025 at 10:39 AM

LH

“ Sending my sincere condolences to all of the family. Lisa Henderson

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**Lisa Henderson** - June 19, 2025 at 01:41 PM

VK

“ Mike, Donna, Chance, Lauren, and all of the family - We are praying for you and love you all so much. Glenn and Vicki Kenobbie

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**Vicki Kenobbie** - June 18, 2025 at 06:03 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



June 18, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michel Marcel Leveillard.

June 18, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ *Pierre-Francois Mary purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



**Pierre-Francois Mary** - June 18, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ *The Lariseys purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



**The Lariseys** - June 18, 2025 at 02:03 PM

TL

“ *The Lariseys planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*

**The Lariseys** - June 18, 2025 at 02:03 PM

TF

“ *The Weatherup family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



**The Weatherup family** - June 18, 2025 at 10:00 AM

HT

“ *Heather & Harborview AR Leadership Team purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



**Heather & Harborview AR Leadership Team** - June 18, 2025 at 09:27 AM

SD

“ *Senoia Police Department purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



**Senoia Police Department** - June 18, 2025 at 07:36 AM

FO

“ From Candela, Attali, Ollivier purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



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**From Candela, Attali, Ollivier** - June 18, 2025 at 07:24 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michel Marcel Leveillard.

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June 17, 2025 at 08:15 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



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June 17, 2025 at 08:15 PM

JF

“ Jim and Susie Henkel family purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



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**Jim and Susie Henkel family** - June 17, 2025 at 06:44 PM

HF

“ Harborview Thomaston Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



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**Harborview Thomaston Family** - June 17, 2025 at 03:29 PM

LF

“ Love Edwina and Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



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**Love Edwina and Family** - June 17, 2025 at 01:53 PM

TF

“ The Power Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michel Marcel Leveillard.

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**The Power Family** - June 17, 2025 at 12:30 PM

TF

“ The Power Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



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**The Power Family** - June 17, 2025 at 12:30 PM

TA

“ Terry & Janice Thompkins, Bob Abernathy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michel Marcel Leveillard.

Terry & Janice Thompkins, Bob Abernathy - June 17, 2025 at 09:21 AM

TA

“ Terry & Janice Thompkins, Bob Abernathy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



Terry & Janice Thompkins, Bob Abernathy - June 17, 2025 at 09:21 AM

JF

“ Jim & Cathie Threlkeld & family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.



Jim & Cathie Threlkeld & family - June 17, 2025 at 08:13 AM

TD

“ Another star in the Eastern sky. Fly high Capt Mike.

Tim Durden  
Eastern Airlines  
1970-1989

Tim Durden - June 17, 2025 at 08:07 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Michel Marcel Leveillard.*



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June 17, 2025 at 07:37 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michel Marcel Leveillard.

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June 17, 2025 at 07:37 AM

EW

“ My wife Jo and I move to Brooks in 1963, and shortly thereafter Mike and Pat move to Brooks.  
Mike flew for Eastern and I flew Delta, together in 1967 we bought an old acrobatic trainer that had been used to train World War II pilots in England.  
I had an acrobatic airplane and Mike helped me improve my proficiency as he had been an acrobatic instructor.  
Our wives would take our children to the airport to watch Mike and I do our tricks in the sky our family has been very close ever since those days.  
Mike taught two of my children, Monty and Beth how to fly and helped Monty get ready for his private aircraft license.  
When we were tired from the airlines Mike and Pat along with Joanne myself spent a couple of weeks in France together where he showed us around and introduced us to people he knew and a couple of relatives he had.  
Mike was a special guy a special aviator quite skilled in acrobatic flying. He was also very instrumental in saving Eastern Airlines a lot of money by developing flight profiles for the pilots to follow in order to save fuel.  
He will be missed.

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**E M Weatherup** - June 16, 2025 at 08:05 PM