



Michael "Mick" B. Burk

October 26, 1944 - April 28, 2026

Michael "Mick" B. Burk, age 81, of Moundsville, WV passed away Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at WVU- Wheeling Hospital, Wheeling, WV.

He was born October 26, 1944, in Akron, OH, the son of the late Harold and Genelea Neff Burk.

Mick graduated from West Liberty State College in 1967 and began teaching in Marshall County, WV that same year. He began his lifelong career in education as a science teacher at Moundsville Junior High School where he would also begin his duties in school administration in 1979 as an assistant principal. He would serve as principal at Union Jr. High and Sherrard Jr. High from where he retired after 33 years in the Junior High School environment. Mick's High School yearbook ambition stated, "to be a Wildlife Manager", he would joke that after 33 years in junior high school he achieved his ambition. After retirement Mick would occupy his spare time by researching history, especially the Grave Creek Mound at the Delf Norona Museum and would write two books on the topic with many presentations to follow.

He would be a bus tour guide all over Marshall County from the Moundsville Penitentiary, Marx Toy Musuem, the Mound and to the Palace of Gold. He often would stop at Quality Bakery and buy "Mad Dogs" and split them in half to give to each person on the tour. A true historian, Mick could never soak up enough knowledge, always researching and studying away on his computer. A fifty-year member of Calvary United Methodist Church in Moundsville where he taught a Non-Traditional Adult Sunday School Class. Mick studied all types

of religion, reading not just the Bible, but the Book of Mormon and the Bhagavad Gita, among many. He enjoyed meeting and talking to people of many faiths and considered them all to be his friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Sonya Burk Whaley.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Susan Wilson Burk; a daughter, Amy (Marcus Daniels) Burk of Richmond, VA; a son, Matt (Paige) Burk of Dallas, TX; and two grandchildren, Marcus and John Burk.

Family will receive friends on Tuesday, May 5th from 2pm until the time of the Memorial Service at 6pm at Grisells Funeral Home & Crematory, 400 Jefferson Avenue, Moundsville, WV with Pastor Kara Rowe officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Marshall County Animal Rescue League PO Box 13, Glen Dale, WV 26038.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 5. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home - Moundsville
400 Jefferson Ave
Moundsville, WV 26041
(304) 845-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

MAY 5. 6:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home - Moundsville
400 Jefferson Ave
Moundsville, WV 26041
(304) 845-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Grisell Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael "Mick" B. Burk*



Grisell Funeral Homes - May 03 at 01:30 PM

JW

This is a beautiful photo collage! I'll miss Uncle Mick very much. I was so lucky to have him as an uncle. My love to Aunt Sue and my first cousins, Amy and Matt. Thinking of my grandparents, Genelea and Harold Burk, as well. And of my mother, Sonya Lee Burk Whaley. All beloved stardust now.

Julie Lynn Whaley - May 04 at 10:29 PM

JW

A beautiful memory of a life well lived. I am glad I knew him.

Jeanie Whaley - May 05 at 05:34 PM

BH

“ *So sad. We were each other's first playmates, about 1948 - 53. We had lots of fun in those alleys and vacant lots! Great memories. Thanks Mick.*

Bob Harler - June 09 at 03:30 PM

SP

“ Mick was one of the very best individuals I have had the opportunity to know. His brilliant mind, his ability to share his vast knowledge, and always be ready to listen and learn more was remarkable. I enjoyed his presentations, he was always so passionate about sharing his wisdom. Chatting with him about local issues and just catching up was delightful. Rest easy dear friend, our world is a little less bright without you.

Suzanne Park

Suzanne Park-Lewis\ \ \ \ - May 12 at 04:53 PM

JC

“ Really enjoyed having Mr. Burk as a teacher in Jr. High. Really calm demeanor compared to other teachers at that time. Pulling up every morning in his gold Buick Gran Sport. He even started a model car building contest that my friends and I would participate in. I reached out to him a few years ago to thank him for this and he also purchased a few T-shirts from the Hot Rod shop that I was working at. Him and his wife also made a contribution to one of our events which the money went to helping Veterans. Michael "Mick" Burk, one of a kind and will always be remembered.

jim cecil - May 07 at 11:27 AM

KC

“ I will miss our conversations about the mound and so many other historical things. These moments will always be remembered.

Kevin Cuichta - May 05 at 02:43 PM



“ 146 files added to the album LifeTributes



Grisell Funeral Homes - May 03 at 01:09 PM

WS

“ With love from Eric and Jenny Shipley purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Michael "Mick" B. Burk.



With love from Eric and Jenny Shipley - May 03 at 11:31 AM

WS

“ With love from Eric and Jenny Shipley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael "Mick" B. Burk.

With love from Eric and Jenny Shipley - May 03 at 11:31 AM

KC

“ Kevin C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael "Mick" B. Burk.

Kevin C. - May 02 at 01:39 PM



“ Susan, Amy and Matt it has been a pleasure being a part of the family and knowing Mick. I always enjoyed our visits and conversations. Lisa and I sent a grove of memorial trees in honor of Mick. Know we love you and are always there for you in whatever you need.

Lois HEAD - May 02 at 01:18 PM



“ A grove of 3 </store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>>Memorial Trees was planted in honor of Michael "Mick" B. Burk.

May 02 at 01:07 PM

GC

“ I can honestly say that ‘Mick’ (Mr. Burke as I first came to know him) was the most likable and enjoyable teacher/mentor that I had throughout all my school years. His passion and zeal for teaching earth sciences was evident to me even at my young age. Years later it turns out I followed Mick’s footsteps in that I forged a career of my own in the field of science and physics, and I owe a great deal of my own success to Mick for making the subject matter interesting to a young teenager. We met up again over a half century later and after I had retired from my own career (just before the pandemic segregated us all and I lost touch). But when we met up in those later years we had become not only peers in our respective fields, but we established a solid friendship and it was as if we were merely picking up the pieces from the Jr. High days. I enjoyed our conversations about science, religion, Eastern philosophy, extraterrestrial possibilities, and of course, the mound. Even though we could then have much more meaningful and informed conversations on a higher level, I still viewed Mick as my mentor and I revered him as such. Recently (just a few short weeks before receiving the news) I had been thinking of Mick and thought I would try to re-establish our connection. I fell short on doing so and I now feel the full regret and impact of having not made that call. I’m going to miss you Mick (Mr. Burke), but I promise to never forget you. You were one of the best.

Gregg Crow

Gregg Crow - May 01 at 09:30 PM

GD

“ He was so smart, funny, kind and unpretentious. Renowned teacher, administrator, author. Super person.

Gino Delbert - May 01 at 02:53 PM

JW

“ Sue, Amy, Matt and family, I just want to send my sincere condolences in the passing of Mick. I always enjoyed the opportunities we had to visit and especially the wonderful two week visit in California a few years ago. Mick was a wonderful accepting person and I enjoyed being a part of his family. Much love to you all.

Jeanie Whaley - May 01 at 01:12 PM

JW

“ Jeanine W. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael "Mick" B. Burk.

Jeanine W. - May 01 at 01:07 PM

JC

“ Jenn C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael "Mick" B. Burk.

Jenn C. - May 01 at 11:00 AM

JC

“ Sue, Amy and Matt, we are thinking of you all out here in Northern California!
We often reminisce about our wonderful visit with you two years ago. Mick was such an interesting and well educated person. He will be greatly missed. We wish him a peaceful transition.

Jenn Cantacuzene - May 01 at 10:57 AM

DA

“ Judy and I want to share our deepest sympathy for your loss. Mick and I were always closest friends along with our other Moundsville buddies during our High School years and beyond. I was especially excited when you visit us at our California home and always seeing you during class lunch visits when we were home. While only seeing you during these visits, you and Mick remained very special friends. Please accept our prayers at this time of great sorrow. Rest in Peace dear friend.

Dale and Judy Allen

Dale and Judy Allen - May 01 at 08:29 AM

RG

“ He was one of the nicest teachers and people I ever met! He was so kind and supportive of us youngsters at MJHS! I will never forget him! Condolences to his family and many friends.



Robin "Church" Gump - April 30 at 10:18 PM

DG

“ Susan, Amy, Matt & families,
Sincere sympathy to all of you in "Mick's" passing. He truly was a special person & will be missed by all who's lives he touches. I remember 1st time working at MJHS - oh boy, he & I hit every computer trying to input attendance but none of the computer were cooperating. He never wavered, we just kept trudging on, he was so patient. Prayers for strength, comfort and healing for all. Hugs
Dave & Mae Gill

Dave & Mae Gill - April 30 at 09:42 PM

TS

“ So sorry for your loss he was the assistant Principal at moundsville Jr high when I went there it was always fun when he was on lunch duty

Teresa summers - April 30 at 09:00 PM



“ Sue, I always held a special place for you and Mick as Sunday school teachers. You helped me become a stronger person and look for good and God in all things. He will be missed.

Sara Saffell - April 30 at 08:28 PM

PF

“ Sue and family,
Dick and I send our heartfelt sympathy to you! Mick was such a good man! People speak so highly of you both. We will never forget how kind you were to Billie Jo and Tom. You were such a help when Tom passed. God bless your family!

Peggy Fillmore - April 30 at 07:40 PM

DN

“ Mick was always a good leader from being the center for the Moundsville Trojan Basketball Team to being a leader in the Little Prince of Seraquse Lodge number 79 . Always very ethi al like his Father . Mick was my Brothers best friend for many years, Bill Nesbit . We we're always Blessed to have him among our Family. When my Brother passed away several years ago Mick drove all the way to Keyser W Va to be Pall Barer at Bill's Funeral. That's the kind of guy he was , R I P Mick , you will be missed . Love Dave .

David Nesbit - April 30 at 07:30 PM

RD

Nice post, brother, Dave. We all loved Mick and Sue. Great gift from God.

Rebecca Dugas - May 03 at 08:45 PM



“ *Sending sincere sympathy and condolences to the Burk family. He meant a great deal to our family. Mom and dad always held him in the highest regard and, for me, he was always kind and a person I respected and looked up to. Prayers as you go through this difficult time.*

Jamie Bickerton-Rozelle

Jamie Bickerton-Rozelle - April 30 at 07:21 PM

JW

“ *Mr Burk was my principal at Sherrard Jr High. He such a nice guy. My condolences to his family.*

Jessica (Oliver) Whitacre - April 30 at 07:05 PM

MM

“ *Sue and family, it is with deep sadness I say good bye to a fellow educator, friend, and tour guide. I did those bus tours with Mick and enjoyed those trips so much! You have my deepest sympathy at this sad time. Prayers for all of you.*

Mickey Massey - April 30 at 06:50 PM

HJ

“ Mick's Family,

He was a great educator and human being. We had many discussions and I appreciated his sense of humor and dedication to doing what was best for the youth. We all share in your loss and honor his memory.

H. Lawrence (Larry) Jones, Ed.D

H Lawrence Jones - April 30 at 06:28 PM

HW

“ We were blessed to count Mick as family. His life's journey enabled him to touch so many as an educator, a father, administrator, researcher, etc. My Dad and Mick worked on putting many resources into the Mound database. He will be greatly missed and remembered by family, friends and students. Our Sunday dinners were looked forward to as part of family time. Susan, Amy, Matt and families our prayers are with you. His light will continue to shine in each one of you. ❤️

Holly and Karen Woods - April 30 at 05:25 PM

PK

“ He was a great teacher to me. He was a fantastic principal to my two children! Great positive influence to those around him! Remembered the names of the kids after they grew up and always spoke to them and had interest in them and how they were doing. He will always stand out as one of the very best! Truly honored to have known him! Wish the best for the family! May God be with you! Pattie and Ted Kimpel (Cassie Kimpel Paugh, Brock Kimpel)

Pattie Kimpel - April 30 at 04:12 PM