



Michael Edgar Varney

May 14, 1938 - May 3, 2023

On Wednesday, May 3rd , 2023, MICHAEL EDGAR VARNEY, loving husband, father and grandfather passed away at age 84. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 AM Saturday, May 6, 2023 at St. Rose Catholic Church in Torrington with Father Ray Moss officiating. Memorials may be given to the EWC Foundation, The Goshen County Library Foundation or Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Viewing and a Rosary will be held at St. Rose on Friday, May 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM. Arrangements are under the direction of the Colyer Funeral Home. To send flowers, condolences or a memorial gift, please visit the Sympathy Store at www.colyerfuneralhome.com

Mike was born in Norfolk, Nebraska on May 14 th , 1938, to Edgar and Dorothy (Welte) Varney and grew up in Broken Bow, Nebraska. He graduated from Chadron State Teacher's College in 1960, where he met his first wife, Mary (Lowry) Varney. The two were married December 28 th , 1959, and raised three children.

Mike began his teaching career in Torrington, Wyoming, in the fall of 1960 at Torrington High School, where he also coached basketball. This was the beginning of a lifelong career in education as a teacher and basketball coach. Mike coached and taught at North Platte Junior College and then returned to Eastern Wyoming College where he taught history and geography. As the Lancer basketball coach Mike led the men's basketball team to their first ever

NJCAA Region IX Basketball Championship. Mike then became the Transportation Director for the Goshen County Unified School District from which he retired. Mike also served the city of Torrington for over 40 years as a councilman, as well as mayor.

After the death of his first wife, Mike married Joy (Wunder) Fuss in 1994. The two enjoyed many years of traveling and spending time with their children and grandchildren. Mike had many interests and hobbies including trains and railroad memorabilia, as well as antique cars and fire trucks. He enjoyed officiating football and basketball at the high school and college levels for many decades and was inducted into the Wyoming Sports Official Association Hall of Fame. He also served on the Eastern Wyoming College Board of Trustees and the Goshen County Conservation District. He was a member of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and a member of The Knights of Columbus.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, his twin brother, Ransom, brother, Tim, and his first wife, Mary. He is survived by: his wife Joy Varney; his brother Matthew (Nancy) Varney; his children, Marc (Shiela) Varney, Cathy (Jeff) Marsh, Sheri (Jeff) Prince; his grandchildren, Erika (Cody) Shoop, Michael Matthew, and Emily Varney, Britt (Brenna) Marsh, Blakeley (Nicholas) Lamp, Allison (Logan) Barker, Delaney, Brooklyn, and Gannon Prince; his great grandchildren, Finley and McCafferty Marsh, Baylor and Beckham Lamp, and Briar Barker. He is also survived by Joy's children, Jeff (Lora) Fuss, Lori (Tom) Andrew; her grandchildren, Brennan and Nicole Fuss, Thomas (Dakota) Andrew, and Callie Andrew.

Cemetery Details

Valley View Cemetery

30th Avenue
Torrington, WY 82240

Previous Events

Rosary

MAY 5. 7:00 PM - 7:30 PM (MT)

St Rose Catholic Church
605 E 22nd Ave
Torrington, WY 82240-2527
(307) 532-5556

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (MT)

St Rose Catholic Church
605 E 22nd Ave
Torrington, WY 82240-2527
(307) 532-5556

Tribute Wall

WK

“ Warren Kearns lit a candle in memory of Michael Varney



Warren Kearns - May 11, 2023 at 09:30 AM

KP

“ Sending my condolences and prayers of comfort during this sad time. I remember your dad from the time our houses backed up to each other on West A st and B street. He always kept us laughing and smiling. He will be missed by many.
Kim (Brown) Parrott

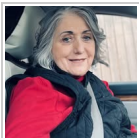
Kim Parrott - May 09, 2023 at 12:30 AM

LC

“ Our Deepest deepest condolences. Mike was always so caring and such a joy to talk to. I'll never forget his love of cars too and everything he did for the community. May he Rest In Peace now.



Lisa and Brian Collar - May 08, 2023 at 09:37 PM



“ What a gift to all who knew him. Our condolences. Mike was a really good man that was selfless in service to his community.

Mindy & Bryan Petersen

Mindy Petersen - May 07, 2023 at 10:58 AM

KE

“ Mike and our family had many years of wonderful times together while working in education. Later, one of our sons worked with Mike when he was Mayor. I (Karin) did my student teaching under his first wife Mary who was very supportive & devoted to teaching. Howard (naturally) the sport scene as they attended to their educational duties.

It has been our privilege to have guided several of his grandchildren through their various grade levels in education.

*To all of Mikes wonderful family, we send our Sincere Condolences..
Howard & Karin Eisenhauer*

Karin Eisenhauer - May 06, 2023 at 04:20 PM

KE

“ Karin Eisenhauer lit a candle in memory of Michael Varney



Karin Eisenhauer - May 06, 2023 at 03:59 PM

PJ

“ Sad news. Mike always had a positive attitude and truly cared about the people around him.

I remember meeting Mike his first year teaching at Torrington High School. I was in the eighth grade. He was truly one of the "good guys" and positively impacted more lives than he could ever know.

The world was a better place with Mike in it.

Paul Johnston

Paul Johnston - May 06, 2023 at 11:56 AM

RB

“ *R Baros lit a candle in memory of Michael Varney*



R Baros - May 05, 2023 at 05:58 PM

AG

“ *Adrianna Gmeiner lit a candle in memory of Michael Varney*



Adrianna Gmeiner - May 05, 2023 at 04:32 PM

CA

“ *Cathy, and Families so sorry to se of your Dad's passing. Send Love and Prayers to you all. Connie Kepler-Deal*



Connie Kepler -Deal. Sierra Vista. AZ - May 05, 2023 at 03:39 PM

DY

“ *Darin Yates lit a candle in memory of Michael Edgar Varney*



Darin Yates - May 05, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Edgar Varney.*



May 05, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ *Kristi Rodekohr lit a candle in memory of Michael Varney*



Kristi (Brown) Rodekohr - May 05, 2023 at 10:22 AM



“ *Mike, was a friend, mentor, teacher, and coach. He gave EWC basketball a rebirth in 1968 when he returned to Torrington. He truly loved his players and tried to guide them in life as well as team play, family life, and social matters. I know without his guidance I would not have become a Major in the United States Air Force. Mike truly touched my life.*

Louis Russ - May 05, 2023 at 05:47 AM



“ *Carol Peterson lit a candle in memory of Michael Edgar Varney*



Carol Peterson - May 04, 2023 at 05:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Michael Edgar Varney.



May 04, 2023 at 05:52 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Michael Edgar Varney.



May 04, 2023 at 04:44 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Michael Edgar Varney.



May 04, 2023 at 04:01 PM



“ *Jodene Leach* lit a candle in memory of Michael Edgar Varney



Jodene Leach - May 04, 2023 at 02:24 PM

HK

“ Harvey & Sharon Knaub lit a candle in memory of Michael Edgar Varney



Harvey & Sharon Knaub - May 04, 2023 at 02:11 PM

BB

“ My heart is broken. Mr. Varney was my world history teacher in high school and will always be my favorite. We have been friends for over 50 years. Mrs. Varney and family - please accept my heart felt condolences. Barbara Bonds

Barbara Bonds - May 04, 2023 at 12:52 PM

RS

“ I worked with Mike at the City of Torrington. Mike had a great sense of humor and was extremely passionate about education, sports, his wife, children, grandchildren. Mike could get me interested in any subject. I will miss you.

Rebecca Steinmetz - May 04, 2023 at 09:49 AM

RN

“ Royce & Carolyn Nelson lit a candle in memory of Michael Edgar Varney



Royce & Carolyn Nelson - May 04, 2023 at 07:34 AM

PB

“ *Patricia Brown lit a candle in memory of
Michael Edgar Varney*



Patricia Brown - May 03, 2023 at 09:00 PM