



Mr. Michael J. Collins

September 28, 1952 - June 19, 2026

Michael J. Collins, 73, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts passed away peacefully at his home on June 19, 2026, surrounded by family and friends.

Born on September 28, 1952 to the late Joseph Collins and Jane Barscz Collins he was raised his entire life and educated in Pittsfield schools where he graduated from St Joseph's High School with the class of 1970.

After graduation Michael enlisted in the United States Army where he proudly served his country from 1972 until his honorable discharge in 1978. He attained the rank of Specialist 4 and carried the values of service, dedication, and loyalty throughout his life.

During this time of Michael's life he met and married Barbara Janas Collins whom he spent 47 years with and who is the mother of his children.

Following his military service, Michael built a successful career as a Journeyman Pipefitter for the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 151 Pittsfield Massachusetts and later for Local 104 in Chicopee Mass. He worked much of his career at M & W Heating in Pittsfield. Known for his skill, craftsmanship, and strong work ethic, he dedicated many years to the company before retiring.

Outside of work, Michael enjoyed many of life's simple pleasures. He loved spending time on the golf course, preparing meals for family and friends, and creating woodworking projects. A lifelong sports fan, he faithfully followed the Boston Red Sox and the New York Giants throughout all of their highs and lows. Michael was also a proud member of the Polish Falcons of America, Nest 580. An avid dog lover, he shared a special bond with his Golden Retrievers, Maggie and Mandy, who brought him years of joy and companionship.

Nothing brought more joy to his life than being "Papa" to his grandchildren. Each of them held a special place in his heart, and he cherished every opportunity to spend time with them. Whether sharing stories, teaching life lessons, cheering them on in their activities, or simply enjoying their company. Michael took great pride in watching them grow. His love for his grandchildren was unconditional, and the memories they created together will remain treasured by them forever.

Besides his former wife, Michael is survived by his children Jason Collins (Carrie Gangell), Douglas Collins (Beckie), and Jena Rodriguez (Ralph); and his beloved grandchildren Douglas Jr. and Edriana Collins, and Annalisia and Kade Rodriguez.

Michael is also survived by his loving companion, Linda Kavey and her children, Alisha Zink-Kavey (Rachel), Kate Davis (Randy) and their children, all of whom held a special place in his heart.

He also leaves his siblings John Collins (Darlene), Richard Tarbell, Melissa Collins LaPierre, Marie Collins Tchorz, Sharon Collins Newton (Forrest), and many nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents Michael was predeceased by his sister Debbie Kurtyka

(John).

Michael will be remembered for his loyalty to his family and friends, his sense of humor, and his appreciation for life. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Funeral Notice:

There will be a celebration of Michael's life on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 1pm at the Polish Falcon Club, 32 Bel Air Ave, Pittsfield MA. To all of his friends and family who would like to join us in honoring a life well-lived, please RSVP to John Collins at jdcollns@roadrunner.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Michael's memory to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute or Soldier On, in care of Dwyer Funeral Home.

Upcoming Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 7. 1:00 PM (ET)

Polish Falcon Club
32 Bel Air Ave
Pittsfield, MA 01201