



## Harold Michael "Mike" McElwain

October 11, 1961 - April 20, 2025

Harold Michael "Mike" McElwain, of Gainesville, Georgia, passed away on April 20, 2025, at the age of 63. Born on October 11, 1961, in Columbia, Pennsylvania, Mike lived a life rich with music, history, and deep family connections.

Mike was the beloved husband of Karen Elizabeth McElwain. Together they built a life centered around love and shared experiences. He was a devoted father to Amanda Hacker; Nicole McElwain-Ort and her husband Justin Ort; and son Garrett McElwain. His legacy continues through his cherished grandchildren: Liam Hacker, Owen Ort, Alexandria Deisenroth, Michael Hacker, Nolan Ort, and Draven Ort.

He is also remembered by his sisters Judy Falconer, Leslie Hafner, Melissa Auman, and Lori Turner. Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Mary McElwain.

A gifted guitarist with a passion for performance, Mike brought joy to many through his music. He played with several bands over the years—including Whistle Pig, Hindsight, and Off the Cuff—leaving behind memories of countless performances filled with energy and heart.

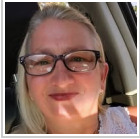
Beyond music, Mike had a deep appreciation for history. He was an avid

collector of military buttons and memorabilia and found great joy in exploring historical sites across the United States with his family. These trips often centered around battlefields where he could connect more deeply with the past he so admired. His love for history extended into his hobby of metal detecting—a pursuit that combined his curiosity with a sense of adventure as he searched for relics from the past.

Mike's life was marked by creativity, curiosity, and a strong connection to those he loved. Whether strumming a guitar on stage or walking historic grounds with his family by his side, he embraced each moment fully.

May his memory bring comfort to those who knew him and continue to inspire stories shared among family and friends for years to come.

# Tribute Wall



“ My deepest sympathy and prayers for the whole family. I will always remember how Mike would love to show his collection of buttons, coins, medals, whatever he had found or bought to add to the collection. He could talk your ear off on sharing the history and knowledge that he had on each item. I used to tease him about opening a small museum of his own. Sending love, hugs and kisses to Karen. 🥺💕💕💕💕🙏

Sandra Barshinger - April 25, 2025 at 01:23 PM

ME

Mike was more than just the kid around the corner ! He was good at heart and a great friend 🤝 He will be missed 😞

Michael Eberly - April 25, 2025 at 11:56 PM

ME

Mike was more than the kid around the corner, he was kind at heart and good friend 🤝 Many years ago I was Best man at his wedding and I saw a beautiful couple....sorry I had to see it come to an end...it didn't seem that long ago 💙  
oxoxox to Karen and the rest of the family ! I am 💔💔💔

Michael Eberly - April 26, 2025 at 12:17 AM

MC

I am so sorry to learn this. Mike was a great guy and excellent provider in EMS.

Marge Coffin - April 26, 2025 at 11:51 AM

GR

I had the pleasure to be Mike's partner in the field of EMS. He is experienced provider taught me a lot loved his passion for life and music and his family. My condolences to the family. You're in my heart and my prayers. Thank you for sharing. Such a wonderful person.

Grogan - April 26, 2025 at 02:54 PM

KS

*I really enjoyed working with Mike in the ER.  
He always had a good story to tell and was super kind.  
His love for history and collecting historical memorabilia was his  
passion that he enjoyed sharing with others.  
Sending condolences to his family.*

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**Karol Schaeffer** - April 27, 2025 at 08:09 AM