



Mikel Don Stapleton

April 20, 1968 - December 21, 2014

Mikel Don Stapleton, who also answered to Junior, El Burro, Guero, Little Buddy, Mr. Smee and Uncle Skunky, died suddenly December 21, 2014 at his home in South Austin. He was 46. A seventh generation Texas and lifelong resident of Austin, Mikel loved his friends, barbecue, fishing, college football, biscuits and gravy, his friends, being southern, fishing, vintage audio equipment, his Uncle Roky Erickson's gigs, Dr. Pepper, animals, arguing, fishing, his friends, photography, the art of sound, righting wrongs, fishing, and Big Red. And his friends. Not necessarily in that order.

Mikel never met a stranger, which could explain why ATEX Service Company calls often ran longer than expected. It wasn't that Mike (owner of ATEX) couldn't fix your heating or AC system quickly, it was that he had to stop to play with the dogs, fix the broken garbage disposal you made a passing mention of in conversation (and make that repair at no charge), share his thoughts on a new CD (or five), give you directions to that new barbeque joint everyone is talking about (with a review, along with the names of the pit master and everyone working the dinner shift) and discuss the fine art of sushi before writing up your ticket.

He hated phonies and found great pleasure in things that were raw and real: nature, good music and when the little guy beat "the man." A former Board member of the Recreational Fishing Alliance, Mikel worked hard to make

Texas a better place for fish and fishermen (though a quick look at his Facebook page filled with photos of Mikel and friends on his boat with huge catch after catch could lead one to believe that things have worked out a bit better for the fishermen than the fish).

Mikel was also on the Board of the Recovery Alliance of Austin and was passionate about helping people who were starting out in recovery and those needing a little help maintaining their sobriety. He loved helping people get better.

But not as much as he loved his two children, Cody Daniel and Elise Brooke Stapleton, his wife Ginny Stapleton, and his three beloved rescue pitties: Phoebe, Finley, and Fiona, all of South Austin. Mikel (Or Uncle Skunky to niece and nephew Emily and Matthew Clearman) is also survived by his two fathers, Steve Stapleton and Mikel Erickson; brothers Jason (Stacy) Erickson, Will Erickson, Jesse Erickson, and Jacob Erickson, Joe Smith, and Brian Stapleton; a sister, Andrea Erickson Lee, and brother-in-law Joey (Angela) Clearman.

A memorial gathering will be held on Monday, December 29th at 6:30pm at Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal Lane, Austin, TX 78704. Cody will be starting classes at Texas State next month and the family is requesting that, in lieu of flowers, you make a donation to the Stapleton College fund for Cody and Elise. A GoFundMe account has been set up in his honor: <http://www.gofundme.com/j8m3iw>

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC **29**. 6:30 PM (CT)

Mercury Hall
615 Cardinal Ln.
Austn, TX 78704

Tribute Wall



“ *Mikel Don Stapleton* ”

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *Mikel Don Stapleton* ”

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *Mikel Don Stapleton* ”

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *Gloria Lopez Fenech, Jr Lopez & Mrs. Lop lit a candle in memory of Mikel Don Stapleton* ”



Gloria Lopez Fenech, Jr Lopez & Mrs. Lop - February 12, 2016 at 08:49 PM

GL

We just heard of our dear friends' passing. Our hearts are hurting deeply. Our condolences to the family. May our Lord bring you PEACE & COMFORT while you heal.

Mike & Brian lived across the street from the Lopez family. The boys were best of friends with my little brother Jr. We loved them like our own family. The boys, especially Mike, always had a prank up their sleeves. They loved phone pranks. Lol. When our family moved away, we took the Stapleton family with us in our hearts. I tried many times to look for Mikel and Brian, but unfortunately had no success. So Brian if you're reading this please look me up (Gloria Fenech) on fb, my photo is an Angel with a blue background.

The photos that are shared here are so beautiful. Mikel looks exactly the same as he did as a 6-7 year old kid. I would love to see photos of his beautiful family.

We pray the family is doing well. I know the pain is still fresh in your hearts. May you feel love and peace in his memories.

Love,

The Lopez Family <3

Gloria Lopez Fenech, Jr Lopez & Mrs. Lop - February 12, 2016 at 10:02 PM

LW

“ *Linda Wolf lit a candle in memory of Mikel Don Stapleton*



Linda Wolf - December 31, 2014 at 07:27 AM

JE

“ *Janice Erickson lit a candle in memory of Mikel Don Stapleton*



janice erickson - December 29, 2014 at 03:25 PM

SA

“ *Sandy lit a candle in memory of Mikel Don Stapleton*



Sandy - December 29, 2014 at 01:36 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mikel Don Stapleton.*



December 29, 2014 at 11:23 AM



“ *Mikel Stapleton was always an example to me of the way friends were supposed to treat each other. He is near and dear to my heart and will always be. I am humbled by his acts of kindness and compassion. I will use this opportunity to become more awakened to the way I treat my fellows.*

Abe Hernandez - December 29, 2014 at 10:25 AM


Jonathan
Wells

“ Jonathan Wells lit a candle in memory of
Mikel Don Stapleton



Jonathan Wells - December 29, 2014 at 09:42 AM

LS

“ Thinking of you Ginny. Leann Shea

Leann Shea - December 28, 2014 at 05:32 PM

CD

“ Chris Duvall lit a candle in memory of Mikel
Don Stapleton



Chris Duvall - December 28, 2014 at 04:28 PM

CD

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you

Chris Duvall - December 28, 2014 at 04:27 PM

RK

“ Sending wishes for peace to Ginny and Mikel's family. Keep Mikel in
your hearts. -- Rosalie G. Keszler

Rosalie Keszler - December 28, 2014 at 04:14 PM



“ *I've only known Mikel for a short period of time. What a wonderful genuine man. My prayers are with his family. Jeff Kloster*

Jeff Kloster - December 24, 2014 at 12:15 PM



“ *You were one great fellow, Mikel.*

Shannon - December 23, 2014 at 07:39 AM



“ *Thank you for being a part of my life. I regret we did not spend more time together, getting to grow our relationship. What a blessing that your brothers Jacob and Jesse had time with you fishing 3 weeks ago. I guess we both thought we would have more time to grow ours. I am deeply sorry for that. Thank you Ginny for the love you gave him that he truly deserved. He loved you so much and always will. Wonderful father that always put his kids first. You are truly loved and will be never be forgotten in my heart. Rest in peace always my beloved son. Peace and healing to all.*

mikel erickson - December 23, 2014 at 07:35 AM



“ *3 files added to the album Mikel*



Robert Falcon - December 22, 2014 at 07:14 AM