



Mitchell J. Latka

December 9, 1924 - May 10, 2016

Mitchell J. Latka Veteran Navy WW II. Beloved Husband of Lorraine nee Herrero. Loving Father of Bonnie (Cory) Archie, Judy Latka and Nancy (late John) Zable. Proud Grandfather of Paige Ehlers, Max and Vivian Zable. Fond Brother of Frank Latka, the late Rose (late Jim) Buergermeier, late Joseph (late Sophie) Latka, late Ted (Stephanie) Latka, late Wanda (late Joseph) Silka and the late Virginia Latka. He will be missed by many nieces and nephews. Funeral Monday 11 AM from Foran Funeral Home 7300 W. Archer Ave. (55th St. just West of Harlem) to St. Daniel the Prophet Church. Mass 11:30 AM. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Visitation Sunday 3 PM to 9 PM. For information call 708-458-0208.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **15**. 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Foran Funeral Home - Summit
7300 West Archer Ave
Summit, IL 60501
(708) 458-0208
contactus@foranfuneralhome.com
<https://www.foranfuneralhome.com/>

Prayers

MAY **16**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Foran Funeral Home - Summit
7300 West Archer Ave
Summit, IL 60501
(708) 458-0208
contactus@foranfuneralhome.com
<https://www.foranfuneralhome.com/>

Mass

MAY **16**. 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Daniel the Prophet Church
5358 South Nashville
Chicago, IL 60638

Tribute Wall



“ *Foran Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mitchell J. Latka*



Foran Funeral Home - May 13, 2016 at 01:36 PM



“ *Lorraine Janet Herrero was added to the Family Tree.*

Lorraine Latka - June 03, 2016 at 01:19 PM



“ *Mary H Grabowski was added to the Family Tree.*

Lorraine Latka - June 03, 2016 at 01:18 PM



“ *Jan Latka was added to the Family Tree.*

Lorraine Latka - June 03, 2016 at 01:17 PM

BH

“ *Uncle Mike was my favorite Uncle. He always made me feel special, important, and loved. I was always excited when my dad would say Aunt Lorry and Uncle Mike were coming over (even as an adult when there was a function happening at my dads).*

I miss him. Big Hugs to the entire family! Oh, another note from Ellen, she said the Aunt Lorry and Uncle Mike were the first people in my family outside of my immediate family that made her feel welcome and part of the family. Thank you for that.

Love, Barbara

Barbara Hawk - May 24, 2016 at 01:23 AM

“ I had written a eulogy for my dad, but I never got a chance to share it at the funeral. It's below and I'm immensely proud to call him my dad.

Love you dad,
Nancy Zable

Matt, Mitch, Mike

Whatever name you called him, everyone knew my father. Some may not even have known him by name, but simply as “the guy at the hardware store”. That’s the kind of guy my dad was. Because of his stories, his advice and friendly and happy outlook on everything. Everyone remembered my dad.

Mike was a hard working man. He worked for Illinois Auto Electric for 40 years. When he decided to retire, mom was looking forward to doing some wood working crafts with him and selling them at craft shows. So when he came home the next week from visiting the local Ace Hardware store, and announced to my mom that he was going back to work, she was a little disappointed. But she waited, patiently, for him to retire again. Months turned into years, and mom realized that dad was doing what he loved. And he did it for another 26 years, retiring from that job just last November, at 90 years old.

He took tremendous pride in his work. If you ever came over to the house, he would proudly tell you about how he built the garage or dressers, or refurbished the old cabinets he had into a new computer desk. And he could fix most anything. He would go to work, then come home and work around the house or help someone fix their car or plumbing. He was our MacGyver, fixing anything with some scraps, a rubber band, paper clips and some duct tape. And if he couldn't fix it you could bet that you need to get a new one. If you had an issue with something, he was ready to help you. And I'm not talking about “let's fix it next Tuesday.” I mean “come on over. Let's take a look at it.” Even after my sisters moved

out of state, they would call dad with a mechanical issue, and he would try to talk them through its fix over the phone.

He cared. About everything. From his work, to his family, to everyone he knew. And it reflected in everything he did, and it was evident to everyone who knew him. That's why he was so well loved. You knew he genuinely cared. He freely gave advice, whether it be on how to fix your plumbing or your car, how to improve your bowling game, to making your life with your significant other better. He wanted to help make your life better, even if it was just to give you his happy greeting of "Heya guy, how you doing?" and he sincerely hoped that everything in your life was good.

He did it all. And it wasn't just the mechanical stuff either. He was "doctor" and "dentist" to my sisters and me. We would shudder at the thought of having to tell dad that we had a loose tooth or an open scrape, for fear that he would be doing home dentistry, or running after us with the Mercurochrome.

Mom and dad had three girls, but dad never believed that just because we were girls that had to wear dresses and cook and clean. Dad taught us how to throw a baseball and football, how to drive (mom was a little too nervous for that). He even taught us how to fix those cars. Dad never saw limits for us and believed that we could do anything, even if we didn't think we could. It's because of dad that my sisters and I have a hard work ethic and take pride in what we do.

People who met dad were amazed that he was 91. They would ask him what was his secret was for living so long and looking so good. He said always keep moving; don't ever stop moving. And my mom. He always said that coming home to my mom made everything worthwhile.

My dad had always said that he's lived a long good life, and when his time comes, he was ready. But we weren't. We wanted to learn more and hear more stories from him. Maybe that's why he had

three names. Because his spirit was way too large to be contained by only one person.

Mike, Matt, Mitch, you were a well loved man. God bless you and we will miss you.

Nancy Zable - May 17, 2016 at 04:30 AM

LD

“ *Will miss your smiling face at 6:30 am mass at St. Daniel every Sunday. Rest in peace.*

Larry Doranski

Larry Doranski - May 16, 2016 at 07:43 AM

SS

“ *Oh how you made everything fun for us kids, heck, how you made everything fun for us adults. I'm so glad my children got to meet you. Here's you and Eli on his 1st birthday and as always you have that huge unforgettable smile. We love you Mike, you will truly be missed. And to Lorry, Bonnie, Judy, Nancy and your families, cherish those wonderful memories.*



Shanon Sprague - May 15, 2016 at 11:34 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mitchell J. Latka.*



May 14, 2016 at 10:24 PM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Mitchell J. Latka.*



May 13, 2016 at 10:00 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mitchell J. Latka.*



May 13, 2016 at 09:50 PM



“ *Dearest Lorry, Words can't express how we feel about Mike, a truly good Christian man. Our prayers are with him as he enters the gates of Heaven and with you as you deal with your loss. Both of you were truly blessed to have each other. Please stay in touch and let us know if we can do anything for you. We send our love and prayers, Bob and Marian*

Robert Birk and Marian - May 13, 2016 at 01:38 PM



“ 119 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Foran Funeral Home - May 13, 2016 at 01:35 PM



“ *I will all miss you Uncle Mike. Thank you for ALWAYS greeting me with that beautiful big smile and your warm hugs, thank you for ALWAYS making me feel welcomed and like I belonged ever since I was a young girl.*

Sending hugs and prayers to Aunt Lorry and the rest of the family and so sorry for your loss.

Debbie Herrero

Debbie Herrero - May 12, 2016 at 08:22 PM

PE

“ Mom came back from Chicago and told me that you were showing all the pretty young nurses this picture of you and Skippy. Probably because Skippy is cute and not because you were a handsome young man with big muscles right? You'll be missed by so many grandpa. Now we'll have a strong guardian angel watching over us. Love you<3



Paige Ehlers - May 12, 2016 at 09:46 AM

JE

“ Miss you Dad, I know you're still watching out for all of us, too bad there's no lawn mowers in heaven! Love you!
Judy

Judy Ehlers - May 12, 2016 at 08:43 AM

SE

“ Some of my best childhood memories are with Uncle Mike. He always had a smile and a hug. Hugs to Aunt Lorry, Bonnie, Judy, Nancy and you children. Love, Susan

Suz Elder - May 12, 2016 at 07:50 AM