



## Michael Joseph Abernethy

January 27, 1957 - December 9, 2020

Michael Joseph Abernethy, 63, of Little Elm, TX, passed away Wednesday, December 9, 2020 in Grandview, TX. Michael was born January 27, 1957 in Akron, OH to John E. and Marie (Macker) Abernethy. Michael married Lora Bennett on August 16, 1980 in Niceville, FL. Michael proudly served in the United States Air Force for 12 years and was part of the Desert Storm campaign.

Michael served as a Director of Purchasing/Procurement at multiple universities over the past 27 years. He enjoyed biking, hiking and jogging in his free time. Michael was most proud of his faith, and served as an elder and Sunday School teacher for many years.

Michael is survived by his wife, Lora of Little Elm, TX; son, Michael Abernethy and wife Jessica of Georgetown, TX; daughter, Lindsey Higgins and husband Holt of Grandview, TX; five grandchildren, Emma, James, Avery, Olivia, and Lyla; brothers, John Abernethy and wife Kathy of Palm Harbor, FL, and William Abernethy and wife Kathy of Lenoir City, TN; and sister, Adrienne Miller and husband Terry of Akron, OH.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents, John and Marie.

Visitation will be held 3:00PM-4:00PM, Thursday, December 17, 2020 at Slay

Memorial Chapel in Aubrey, TX. A funeral service will follow at 4:00PM with Robb Dean officiating. Interment will be 9:00AM on December 18, 2020 at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery in Dallas, TX. Online condolences may be shared at [www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 17. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey  
400 South Highway 377  
Aubrey, TX 76227  
info@slaymemorial.com  
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

DEC 17. 4:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey  
400 South Highway 377  
Aubrey, TX 76227  
info@slaymemorial.com  
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

## Burial

DEC 18. 9:00 AM (CT)

Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery  
2000 Mountain Creek Pkwy  
Dallas, TX 75211

# Tribute Wall

CV

“ *To the family of Michael Abernethy from Cindy Gonzales Villarreal, President of The Nick Gonzales Foundation for Brain Tumor Research in Carrollton, TX.*

*The Foundation has received several donations in memory of Michael and am very grateful to the following individuals for helping fund this year's research grant with Dr. Karen Fink of BaylorScott & White, downtown Dallas. Thank you so much for remembering the Foundation and supporting cutting edge research for GBMs and other brain tumors. GOD bless to all.*

*\* Barbara Amosson of E&I Cooperative Services*

*\* Amanda Vasquez of Richardson*

*\* Marilyn Newland of Denton*

*\* Sara Bennett of Garland*

*\* Malina Vasquez of McKinney*

*\* Ronald Downs of New Mexico*

*\* Bobby Stone of Kentucky*

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**Cindy D Villarreal** - December 28, 2020 at 09:50 PM

BF

“ *Went to school with Mike for 4 years peace and grace to his family*

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**Bill Fletcher** - December 18, 2020 at 10:22 PM

DR

“ Mike was a man of God all the time. He never waivered in his faith, and never hesitated to share his love of God. Being a cancer survivor myself, and having worked with Mike for several years we shared a lot. He blessed me, and was a blessing to all he encountered. He will be greatly missed this side of Heaven, however he now is in the presence of his God for all eternity. Go rest high on that mountain my friend.

*Donna Rains*

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**Donna Rains** - December 18, 2020 at 10:23 AM

LB

“ Lora and I went to high school together. We both got married and our lives went different directions. Her family doesn't know me like I know them. I learned about her babies early on. And Mike, couldn't ask for a better husband! What little I saw of him, I knew and sensed that they would make a great couple together and they did. I have never seen a more beautiful family. maybe one day, I will get to meet them all. As we live in a world that is changing and has changed as we know it, grab up your family hold them tight and tell them you love them. Lora, you did a wonderful job holding your family together and it was because of a sweet man like Mike. My sincerest condolences to the Abernathy family.

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**Lynn Basford** - December 17, 2020 at 10:37 PM

JM

“ Mike was an employee who later became a friend and confidant. His easy smile and positive outlook were contagious and very helpful to me at times! I know he will be missed by many - my thoughts and prayers for his family during this Christmas season.

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**James Mauldin** - December 17, 2020 at 12:24 PM

AL

“ Mike was a great person to work with at UNTS. He helped the institution become a better place. He was always someone you could go to for help through a problem and trust he was there for you. Mike will be missed.

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**Aaron LeMay** - December 17, 2020 at 09:51 AM

TC

“ My deepest condolences to Mike's family he will truly be missed. I worked with mike he was a kind man.

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**Tina Evans Coleman** - December 15, 2020 at 09:02 AM

AE

“ My condolences to Mike's family for your loss. I worked with Michael on occasion while he was the NMSU Purchasing Agent. However, my favorite memories of him are our chats while in the University Activity Center. He always greeted me with a smile and I am glad our paths crossed. Until we meet again, my friend.

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**Ancelmo Encinias** - December 15, 2020 at 08:30 AM

DB

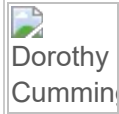
“ Mike was my brother in law. My sister couldn't have married a better man. He was an awesome guy. He always had a smile on his face. He was a great husband, father and grandfather. I was proud to call him my brother in law and friend. He will be greatly missed.

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**Duane Bennett** - December 15, 2020 at 02:09 AM



We're truly saddened by this news I worked for Mike at Nmsu and he came to our house to ride horses God has taken another angel home

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**Emilia Manning** - December 15, 2020 at 01:14 PM



Dorothy  
Cummin

*Truly sadden by the news. I always enjoyed talking with Mike, he had a way of sneaking in a humorous comment. He will be missed by all he encountered.*

*Dorothy Cummings*

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**Dorothy Cummings** - December 15, 2020 at 10:01 PM

PG

*Mike's passing is a huge loss. I had the honor of working with Mike on several occasions and he was such a genuinely kind hearted man. Whenever I needed help or had questions, I never felt like I was inconveniencing him- as he always made me feel comfortable to call on him for assistance. He could always be counted on to be incredibly helpful, and friendly. On behalf of myself and the UNT Housing dept, we send our deepest sympathies.*

*With great sadness,*

*Penny Gustafson*

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**Penny Gustafson** - December 16, 2020 at 04:55 PM

BH

“*My family and I knew Mike and his family when they lived in Las Cruces. He and his wife Lora were our neighbors for many year. We remember him for his friendliness and kindness toward others. He truly was a family man. Mike and his family are in our prayers. May he find eternal peace in the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.*

*With Love,*

*The Holguin Family*

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**Bianca Holguin** - December 14, 2020 at 07:17 PM

WR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

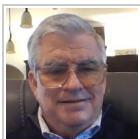


Wendy Rounsley - December 14, 2020 at 02:41 PM

WR

*Mike Abernethy was the finest man I have ever known. I will miss his advice, warm smile and candy. He always had candy for us. He always had a wonderful smile and always knew just what to say. God's love shined through him and anyone around him could feel it. He was definitely an angel sent from heaven and will be deeply missed. RIP Mike!*

Wendy Rounsley - December 14, 2020 at 02:47 PM



“ *Although I didn't know Mike for a long time, I felt there was a friendly connection from the first time we met in choir. Mike was truly a man who loved God and shared God's love with others. I remember the day we went riding on the Withlacoochee trail. Such a wonderful time. Mike just enjoyed taking in all of what God had created. I know that Mike is enjoying the blessings of Heaven and being in the presence of Jesus Christ. One day, we will be reunited with Mike and all of our loved ones as we gather around the throne and celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ. Until then, my friend, save a place for me at the table. See you there!*

Mike Sarratt - December 12, 2020 at 01:17 PM

EN

“ It was an honor to serve Mike and Lora as their Pastor while they were in Tampa. They quickly became a very special blessing to Elaine and I. His friendship and encouragement were very important to me. It was a joy to know him here and to know that one day, because of Jesus, we will all be reunited. Lora, Elaine and I love you and are praying for you and your family in these days.

*Elbert And Elaine Nasworthy*

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**Elbert Nasworthy** - December 12, 2020 at 08:57 AM

SP

“ My uncle Mike was a wonderful person and truly made the world a better place. I saw the love of Christ in his words and actions. Until I see him again in heaven I will always smile when I think of him.  
*Susan Perkins*

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**susan Perkins** - December 11, 2020 at 10:13 PM

TM

“ I knew Mike and Lora while they lived in Las Cruces, NM. We went to the same church and were in the same home group. We shared a lot of great memories. One is that Mike and I shared the same birthday, January 27th. Mike was a wonderful human being, and an exemplary husband and father. I know that right now Mike is worshipping The Lord Jesus in person. Rest In Peace dear friend. One day we will meet again.

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**tatiana marckstadt** - December 11, 2020 at 09:37 PM

BA

*He was my brother even though he was younger I always looked up to him and admired him for the loving human being he was a great family man and his faith in Jesus inspired so many people he is and always will be in mine and so many peoples hearts*

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**Bill Abernethy** - December 11, 2020 at 09:55 PM

BE

*I knew Mike going back to St Vincent St Mary days in High School. He was a wild man and crazy. As he got older thank God that he found Jesus or Jesus found him. He was radically changed and became such a great witness for God. His heart and soul was into God. He ran a good race and fought the good fight. Well done Mike you will be deeply missed. I thank God for you. My condolences to Lora and the family ❤️*

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**Brad Elijah** - December 11, 2020 at 10:17 PM

MN

*I met Mike and Lora a few years ago when they began attending our Sunday morning Bible study group. Mike had already begun fighting cancer and I remember being so amazed at his positive attitude and Lora's quiet strength and faith. It didn't seem to matter what a new test showed or what the doctor said, Mike's faith never wavered. He was such a kind man, always encouraging others whose problems were much less serious than his own. My heart is just broken at the loss of this godly, generous and loving man. There is no doubt in my mind that the first thing Mike heard when he took his first breath in heaven was " Well done, good and faithful servant.....enter into the joy of your master".*

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**Marilyn Newland** - December 11, 2020 at 11:35 PM

CC

*I knew and worked with Mike at NMSU Purchasing and Risk Management in Las Cruces New Mexico for many years. Got to know his beautiful wife Lora and his children Mike and Lindsey, all such a beautiful and loving family. Mike was such an amazing man full of life and his Love for the Lord and his family. I will always be grateful for his caring and thoughtfulness during the time I was having to deal with my mothers health issues until she passed and told me not to worry about work or my job it will be there when I'm ready to come back, he said just focus on taking care of your mother. Family is important so don't worry. He cared for so many people and brought comfort when we needed it. He was the best boss ever. I will sure miss him picking on my football team the Broncos and me picking on his team the Cowboys and we teased each other each time one of our teams lost. Now he is with the winning team, our Lord and Savior. May God's Blessing to all his family during there time sorrow. He will never be forgotten.*

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**Carla Casas** - December 12, 2020 at 02:57 AM