



## Mr. Donald F. Michel

May 14, 1939 - December 28, 2015

Mr. Donald F. Michel, age 76, of Watertown, NY, a native Utican, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Monday, December 28, 2015.

He was born on May 14, 1939, the son of the late Fredrick F. and Rosella M. (Zorn) Michel. Raised in Utica, he was a graduate of U.F.A. He was at one time married to the former Sharon Zech (Waldren); to that relationship came the blessings of two children, and a lifetime of friendship and respect. On June 4, 1971 he was wed to the former Kathleen M. Gamage of Watertown. She has been a God sent to Don and his family, and they uniquely blended everyone with their love and compassion. They were able to enjoy each other for nearly 45 years because they shared the same interests.

A pet store owner for over 20 years, he operated The Animal House located in Watertown. A man who appreciated music, he was a true Rock and Roll aficionado. He also held a passion for gardens, and he had a remarkable backyard that he devoted endless hours tending to. He appreciated the serenity of fishing with family and friends.

Surviving are his wife, Kathleen; two daughters and sons-in-law, Cheryl and Jerome Murray, Kimberly and Craig Bohling, and their mother, Sharon Waldren; four grandchildren, Justin and Jessica Murray, Stacey and Joshua Brown; Ashley Macner, and Courtney and Geoff Roberts; three great grandchildren, Connor, Callie, and Caitlin Murray. Also left to remember him are his brother and sister-in-law, David and Sharon Michel of Vernon; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Carol and George Nowicki, and Janet Cwiklinski

of Las Vegas. In addition he is survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and in-laws. He was preceded by his brother-in-law, John Cwiklinski.

Services will be held privately and at the convenience of the family. Local arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

# Tribute Wall

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“ I went to UFA with Don. We were in machine shop together and did some crazy things. A few years ago or so I was on our class reunion committee and I was able to locate Don. I called him and talked for a short. We exchanged e mail address and have been exchanging e mail for years. I thought some day we could get together if he came to Utica. I asked him to try to come to one of our reunions, but it seems he couldn't make it. His name will be announced at our next reunion in August. Now i'm sorry that we couldn't get together. I lost an old friend. Best to all of Don's family. Sheldon Bartnick

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**Shelly Bartnick** - January 09, 2016 at 01:31 PM