



## Michael Houston

October 3, 1953 - May 20, 2014

Michael A. Houston died May 20, 2014 of melanoma cancer. Michael was born on October 3, 1953 at St. Anthony's Hospital in Pendleton, Oregon. His family moved repeatedly between the time he was 6 and 12. Many good childhood memories were made living in Touchet, Washington for several years, but the family finally settled in Chelan in 1966. Michael lived in Chelan for the next 6 years, graduating from Chelan High School in 1972. He joined the Army National Guard in September of the same year, specializing in both Wheeled and Tracked Vehicle Maintenance. Michael did his active duty training from January to the end of June 1973; and he continued with the Guard until 1994 when he retired with 22 years of service. Upon his return from active duty in 1973, while working half-time as a custodian, he began attending Wenatchee Valley College. He graduated in 1976 with an Associate of Applied Arts in Automotive Mechanics and 2 years of German language study. Michael attended Bethesda Christian College from 1976 until 1980, studying towards a Bachelor's degree in Theology. On May 22nd 1981, He married the love of his life, Renee M. Blackman. He began working as a custodian full-time, ending up at Lincoln Elementary in 1983 in Wenatchee. After receiving encouragement from teachers in this school, Michael and his family moved to Ellensburg in 1986, from which they returned in 1989 with a B.A. in Elementary Ed. and a minor in Spanish. He was immediately hired at Lincoln Elementary and continued working there as a 5th grade teacher until his medical leave to fight his cancer.

The Lord and his relationship with his wife and family were his greatest loves. Michael and Renee had 5 beautiful children over 12 years, home-base educating each of them. Michael worked in the Wenatchee Four Square church teaching many different ages of children, and at the Wenatchee Assembly of God volunteering as a Royal Ranger Commander and Volunteer for 9 years. Michael and his family were members of the Christ Center Church for 10 years, serving in the body there. The most recent church he and his family have been going to is The Living Room Four Square Church in East Wenatchee. Michael was also very involved in the Republican Party and the Pro- Life Committee, working to save the lives of unborn babies. Michael never grew weary of doing good unto others. He kept himself reaching out to others in need and was a true prayer warrior. He is survived by his wife Renee, his five children, and their spouses, Michelle & Zak, Aaron & Sarah, Rebekah, Emilee & Clinton and David, his 9 grandchildren, his sister Pat and brother-in-law Les Lamkin their children, and his brother Tim. He has many nieces and nephews left behind. He will be greatly loved and missed by all. A Memorial Service for Michael will begin at 3:00 PM Saturday June 7, 2014 at the Wenatchee Valley Praise Center 433 S. Mission Avenue in Wenatchee. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Michael A. Houston Memorial Fund at the Cashmere Valley Bank in East Wenatchee.

# Tribute Wall



“ *lit a candle in memory of Michael Houston*



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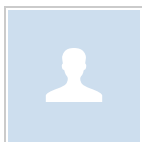
June 03, 2014 at 10:37 PM



“ *Oh, Mike. Your passing was so sudden. I remember the fun we had back at 222 N. Delaware. Mike would come home from work and see the kittens sleeping on the couch. He tried to hug them all and would yell, "Kitties!" They would scatter like quail. Just a wonderful person who will be greatly missed.*

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**Rick Buchanan** - June 01, 2014 at 07:01 PM



“ *lit a candle in memory of Michael Houston*



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May 31, 2014 at 10:41 PM



“ *I always appreciated Mike's love for God and for the boys who were in Royal Rangers. He was truly one of our most committed and effective leaders of the past two decades.*

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**Jerry** - May 28, 2014 at 01:42 PM

BH

“ When my daughter was going into 5th grade she wanted to do the safety patrol and was told that they would have to see, but when Mr Houston saw my daughter he seen her and not her wheel chair. He knew there was nothing that she couldn't do. He will always have a very special place in her heart, See her daddy died a couple years ago and she put him in place of not having Herr daddy. Also I have a Autistic son and he would always run up to him and hug him and tell him I am going to have you in 5th grade huh, and Mr Houston would say laughing yes you will but you got to do your work. So when Mr Houston passed my son said that not to worry because when Mr Houston is done being dead he was going to come back and teach him 5th grade, because he said he would. Just want you to know Renee I am here for you, I know you have many people around you, but honey I know what you as re feeling. So big hugs to you all. David big hugs to you.

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**bobbie hughes** - May 28, 2014 at 12:50 AM

MD

“ I loved Mike's smile & laugh. Although i haven't seen him for quite a while, i was saddened to learn of his illness and began praying for his healing.

*I thought of a memory, one of which was of the Bethesda choir days, long ago: Mike loved to raise his hands and sing with his great smile. Well, we sang a song with the lyrics "Famines, there's gonna be famines, earthquakes, there's gonna be earthquakes", there was Mike with a big grin & arms raised in worship. too funny.*

*Mike is now worshiping with the angels in heaven & he will be in the presence of the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, worshiping with hands lifted high, forever. We'll miss you, Mike, here on earth, but we'll be joining you some day.*

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**Mary Duren** - May 27, 2014 at 10:22 PM

MC

“ I have been involved with Araham Lincoln PTA for a total of 11 years. All three of my children had the opportunity to know Mr. Houston. My oldest, who is a sophmore now, had him as a teacher. Mr. Houston was a huge influence in his school life. He hated school up until he was in his class. Even after he left Lincoln he would ask me several times a week if he could go visit Mr. Houston after school. My middle son is a 7th grader. He did not have the chance to be in his class but was in safety patrol. He loved Mr. Houston. He would work hard so that on Friday (payday) he would get his little bag of candy. Proudly he would come home and show us his payday. My youngest is a 5th grader at Lincoln. He was so excited when he was picked to be a crossing guard captain. He was heartbroken when he was told about Mr. Houston taking some time off from teaching because he was sick. All of the crossing guard kids stepped and used their traing to keep things going while Mr. Houston was gone. They wanted him to be proud of him when he came back. One day a few weeks ago he came home from school all excited. Mr. Houston had paid them a visit. I think that was such a great gift for those kids to receive. When the news came that he had passed my son was devastated. He wishes he had one more chance to see him. I know the family knows what a great man he was. I just hope they know how much all of the kids and parents at Lincoln loved him. He was kind and patient but firm with them. He will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. R.I.P Mr. Houston

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**Maryann Coleman** - May 26, 2014 at 03:41 PM

B(

“ Dear Renee and famly: you are in my prayers and thoughts Renee you and Mike was so special to me i met him thru my father Don Woods in my prayers and thought God Bless You Brenda woods Weston

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**brenda weston (woods)** - May 24, 2014 at 08:58 PM

DR

“ I had the pleasure of getting to know Mr. Houston very well. He was not only my husband's 5th grade teacher 22 years ago, but more recently he was my two son's teacher back to back years. I got to go to Woodland Zoo with him and my son's class a few years ago, it was amazing and so many fun times and memories. He had such a huge amazing heart for his students. Patience was a must for my son as he was a bit of a class clown, and Mr. Houston excelled that. My family is heartbroken that such a great man has to leave this world so soon. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family!!

*Dusti*

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**Dusti Rocha** - May 23, 2014 at 03:25 PM