Michael Byriel, 65

Mike Byriel, age 65, of Grinnell, died on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Grinnell Regional Medical Center after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Mass of the Resurrection was held Saturday, December 9, 2017, at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell with Fr. Ron Hodges, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grinnell, presiding. A reception followed the service at Michael’s Italian Kitchen, 720 Fifth Avenue in Grinnell.

Visitation began on Friday afternoon at the Smith Funeral Home and his family greeted friends Friday evening.

Memorials may be designated to the Michael G. Byriel Memorial Fund to benefit local organizations and may be mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, IA 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared online with his family at www.smithfh.com.

Michael Glenn Byriel was born the oldest of four sons to Glenn Jacob Byriel and Donna Maye (Nielsen) Byriel in Carroll, Iowa. He was raised and educated in Boone, Iowa, and graduated from Boone High School with the class of 1970. Mike honorably served his country in the United States Navy and was stationed in Pensacola, Florida and Guam during the Vietnam War.

Mike was united in marriage to Charmaine Fraulini on January 13, 1973 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Boone, Iowa. They were blessed with a daughter, Cara in 1977. In 1983, they moved to Grinnell. In 1988, they opened Michael’s Italian Kitchen in Grinnell and have operated the restaurant together for nearly 30 years.

Mike’s family and family business were his life. He dearly loved his grandchildren and looked forward to attending their events. He was an avid golfer and was a longtime member of the Grinnell Country Club. He was a big fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes, Chicago Bears and the New York Yankees.

Mike is survived by his wife of 44 years, Charmaine Byriel of Grinnell; daughter, Cara (Brian) Kenkel of Grinnell; three grandchildren, Sydney, Isabel and Nicholas Kenkel of Grinnell; father, Glenn Byriel of Boone; three brothers, Brian (Diane) Byriel of Boone, Rick (Jennifer) Byriel of Urbandale, Iowa, and Perry (Diana) Byriel of Boone; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his son, Jeremy, and daughter, Tanya, both in infancy; and his mother, Donna Byriel.