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7-27-2015

Mike Mintle

Mike Mintle, age 73, of Grinnell, died on Thursday, July 23, 2015, at his home with his family by his side.

A celebration of his life with military honors will be held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, July 28, 2015, at the Grinnell Christian Church with Pastor John Epperson officiating. Following the service a reception will be held at the Eagles Club in Grinnell. A private family interment will be held at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

Visitation began at 2:00 p.m. on Monday at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell, with the family present to greet friends from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Monday evening.

Memorials may be designated to the Wounded Warrior Project and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfh.com.

Michael Dean Mintle was born on October 7, 1941, at St. Francis Hospital in Grinnell, Iowa, to Marston Ross Mintle and Ila Marie (Adkins) Mintle. He was raised on a farm north of Grinnell for ten years and then moved to a farm northeast of Grinnell. He attended country school through 8th grade and then graduated from Grinnell High School with the class of 1959.

Mike enlisted in the United States Navy right after graduation and honorably served his country during the Vietnam War. Following his military service, he moved to Oregon and lived there for two years before moving back to Iowa. Mike was known for owning and operating the Silver Lace Saloon in Malcom, Iowa, and The Little Bear Inn in Searsboro, Iowa, where he raised a brown bear cub for three years before releasing him in South Dakota. He was the chairman for the National Elks Veterans Service Commission for 11 years, past president and treasurer for the American Legion, secretary treasurer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Grinnell, and was a longtime member of the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit (Color Guard). During his time with the Grinnell Veterans Ceremonial Unit he had provided military rites for more than 300 United States Armed Forces service members' funerals.

Mike dearly loved his grandchildren. He cherished the time spent babysitting them, taking them camping and fishing, and did his best to make tomboys out of his granddaughters. Mike took great pride in his garden and loved sharing the food grown from his garden with family and friends.

Mike is survived by his wife, Anna Mae Mintle of Grinnell; six sons, Terry Mintle of Fort Mill, South Carolina, Mark Mintle of Casper, Wyoming, Troy Mintle of Omaha, Nebraska, Brian (Missy) Mintle of Grinnell, Brent (April) Mintle of Lynnvile, and Bradley "Fred" (Susan) Mintle of Racine, Wisconsin; four step children, Randy (Linda) Collum, Mike Collum, Cindy Cleary, and Connie (Randy) Lacy, all of Grinnell; 15 grandchildren; 13 step grandchildren; and 15 step great grandchildren; mother, Ila Mintle of Grinnell; and siblings, Mary McIvor of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, Dennis Mintle of Longmont, Colorado, and Steve Mintle of Grinnell.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ross Mintle; and two step children, Chris Brown and Dennis Collum.



M. of Mike

GRINNELL RESIDENT

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PCLR 7-29-2015