



Robert Michael "Mike" Cleary Jr.

January 22, 1959 - April 9, 2024

Robert Michael "Mike" Cleary, Jr., age 65, of Tallahassee, Florida, died at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare on April 9, 2024.

Mike was born on January 22, 1959 in Muskogee, Oklahoma to Robert Michael Cleary and Patsy Hardy. He graduated in 1977 from Midwest City High School, where he was a multisport athlete (baseball, basketball, and football).

Mike subsequently pursued a career in the oil business at which time he married Elizabeth "Liz" Santilli on December 28, 1984. Mike and Liz had two sons together and moved to Tallahassee in 1991 to raise their family. Mike owned and operated Elsasser's Lock & Key, a locksmith business serving the greater Tallahassee area, for over 30 years. He loved watching and attending FSU football games and coaching his sons' baseball teams.

Mike was a family man with a strong work ethic, rarely missing a day of work and always providing for his family. He was known for his humor and quick wit with the uncanny ability to say the right thing to light up a room. Mike loved deeply and expressed that love by sacrificially serving his family, friends, and customers.

Mike is survived by his sons, Dillon Michael Cleary and Nicholas Ray Cleary,

his daughters-in-law, Priscila Ferreira Cleary and Arielle Marie Cleary, his mother Patsy, and his sister Angela Gist. He is also survived by his seven beautiful grandchildren, Luca Michael Ferreira Cleary, Emersyn Rose Cleary, Zoe Elizabeth Ferreira Cleary, Adelai Rae Cleary, Mila Veronica Ferreira Cleary, Cade Watson Cleary, and Benicio Ray Ferreira Cleary. Mike is predeceased by his wife Liz and father Robert.

A celebration of Mike's life will be held at City Church Tallahassee (3215 Sessions Rd), Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Mike's name to Christ Classical Academy (Tallahassee) or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Todd Wahlquist is assisting the Cleary family with their arrangements (850-385-2193, www.bevisfh.com).

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 11. 4:00 PM (ET)

City Church Tallahassee
3215 Sessions Road
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tribute Wall

AG

“ Although we were nine years apart, Mike took his role of big brother very seriously. He was kind and generous, and always looked out for me... and he was hilarious and could always make people laugh. I have many fond memories of our time growing up together: We would play catch in the front yard, and he gave me the nickname Drew (if you know, you know) or I would help him wash and detail his first love-- his Z28. Even after he was out on his own, he came to visit us at the lake house, and we spent many wonderful Summer days water skiing and riding around in his boat until the sun went down. (Listening to 38 Special – So Caught Up in You brings it all back in an instant.)

Mike loved his family dearly and was often the glue holding us together. Dillion and Nick- Mike was and is so very proud of you and it brings me joy to know that his memory lives on in you.

Peace & Love,
Angela



Angela Gist - May 10, 2024 at 11:29 AM

AG

**Dillon*

Angela Gist - May 12, 2024 at 02:20 PM

NF

“ *Nellis FMR Faculty purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert Michael "Mike" Cleary Jr..*



Nellis FMR Faculty - May 08, 2024 at 10:49 AM

NF

“ *Nellis FMR Faculty planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Michael "Mike" Cleary Jr..*

Nellis FMR Faculty - May 08, 2024 at 10:49 AM

SB

“ *Mike always had a smile and always very positive. Steve Brown*

steve brown - April 21, 2024 at 11:54 PM