



## Mr. Michael T. Dougherty

May 19, 1955 - April 14, 2023

Michael T Dougherty, 67, of Roswell, died peacefully at home on Friday, April 14, 2023. Michael was born on May 19, 1955, the oldest son of the late Nancy and John Dougherty. Michael moved to Boston in 1976 to attend Northeastern University and always thought of Boston as “home” once he arrived. Michael loved much in his life from tailgating at Penn State, watching his Islanders and beloved Northeastern Huskies Hockey Team, blue fishing off Cape Cod, sitting on his 4th floor deck at Blue Mountain Beach, and summers in Kennebunk, Maine. Michael loved to talk about sports with anyone, be with those he loved and treasured, and have a good burger and a cold 30A beer on his deck with his wife, Lynne and their 3 dogs- Rosie, Molly, and Mickey. You never had to guess about what Michael was thinking, and he might appear gruff—but once you got to know him, he had the hugest heart and all you had to do was start talking about your dog and he and you were friends from that day on.

Michael and his loving wife, Lynne, built together an amazing life over the past 32 years. A friend shared their relationship was what Kurt Vonnegut termed “duprass- a pair who are like binary stars revolving around the universe and yet, connected at the same time.” His siblings Karen Ramacca and Kingsley (Phyllis) Dougherty, his nephew Matthew (Chelsea) Ramacca and niece Lisa (Justin) Allen and his Ross family of Wendy, Craig and Linda, Scott and Jo, CJ, John, and Emma will miss him greatly. His family in Scotland and Australia, his friends whether from Boston, sporting events, his home in Roswell, or his favorite vacation spots of 30A or Kennebunk, his dog rescue

connections or wherever they met him on his path still can't believe he isn't sending one of his texts about what he thought could fix the world or an update on a sporting event.

Michael attended Northeastern University and truly believed the Co-op Program gave him the direction he needed for his life's success, and graduating with a Masters from American University later in life further enhanced his business and real estate knowledge. Michael was a successful salesman for many years, and then ventured into his first owned business of a Dunkin Donuts—he quickly learned the Northeast drinks more coffee than the South, so he pivoted and leased the store to become a Papa John's and then began his expertise in building his own businesses in rental homes and storage facilities. His life truly changed in 2006 when he read a story about a puppy in a shelter that was going to be euthanized, and he got into his car and drove 90 minutes to go rescue "Bella" and gifted her to a friend, and began to save 1 dog at a time and borrowed a van and rescued 23 dogs and drove them to Maine to be adopted. Puppy Pipeline Rescue of GA was launched where the motto for all rescued is "We are Going Home". In the past 17 years Puppy Pipeline with Michael's vision and leadership, an amazing benefactor and a dedicated crew of drivers and shelters across the East Coast and Midwest has rescued 40,000 plus dogs and cats, and even a few hamsters. Puppy Pipeline was truly Michael's greatest joy and accomplishment in life. Michael loved history, especially WWII history. He respected and admired the traits of the "Greatest Generation" and lived by their principles: personal responsibility, integrity, work ethic, faithful commitment, financial prudence, and humility. He was an exceptional friend and always available to his friends no matter what. He is also known as "Uncle Mike" to his nieces and nephews and so many young people who looked up to him for his wisdom, guidance, and support. He never took himself too seriously and he loved to laugh. A visitation will be held from 4:00-7:00pm on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at Northside Chapel Funeral Directors at 12050 Crabapple Road, Roswell, GA. The funeral service will be held at 10:30am on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at

St. Peter Chanel Catholic Church, 11330 Woodstock Road, Roswell, GA immediately followed by a lunch and sharing “Michael Moments” at McNamee Hall at St Peter Chanel Catholic Church. The funeral will be live-streamed via <https://youtube.com/live/dhc2e4WKiRo?feature=share>. Michael will be “going home” to Boston where we will have a funeral service on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 10:30am at Our Lady Help of Christians, 573 Washington Street, Newton, MA, with interment immediately following at Newton Cemetery, 791 Walnut Street, Newton, MA. The family will host a luncheon at the American Legion Post 440, 295 California Street, Newton, MA 02458 (all family & friends welcome to join to celebrate Michael) where we will share some more “Michael Moments”.

In lieu of flowers, and if so inclined, please contribute to important causes Michael was passionate about:

- Northeastern University: The Lynne and Michael Dougherty '79 Bootstrap Scholarship established in 2018 supports students with financial need in the D'Amore-McKim School of Business who are participating in the co-op program and first-generation college students. Gifts may be sent to Northeastern University, 402 Columbus Place, 360 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115-5005 or made on the Northeastern Giving website: <https://giving.northeastern.edu/live/profiles/1342-lynne-and-michael-dougherty-79-bootstrap>

Puppy Pipeline Rescue of GA: Checks made payable to Puppy Pipeline Rescue of GA at 3321 Trickum Road, Woodstock, GA 30188.

Visit [www.northsidechapel.com](http://www.northsidechapel.com) to sign an online guestbook.

# Cemetery Details

## Newton Cemetery

791 Walnut St.  
Newton, MA 02459

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors & Crematory  
12050 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

## Funeral Service

MAY 3. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Peter Chanel Catholic Church  
11330 Woodstock Road  
Roswell, GA

## Funeral Service

JUN 5. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady Help of Christians  
573 Washington St.  
Newton, MA 02458

## Graveside

JUN 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

Newton Cemetery  
791 Walnut St.  
Newton, MA 02459

# Tribute Wall



“ Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Michael T. Dougherty



Northside Chapel - May 15, 2023 at 07:28 AM



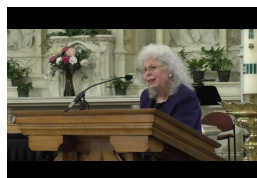
“ Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory created a <https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTY4Mjk4MTk5Mjl0ODk0MyZvbmVyb29tLWFkbWluJmNvcHlfb0> in memory of Mr. Michael T. Dougherty



Northside Chapel - May 01, 2023 at 03:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Northside Chapel - July 19, 2023 at 08:50 AM

BH

“ Oh how those many Puppies, Kittens , Dogs and Cats are rejoicing at seeing Mike again.

We transported to safety so many ... I am proud to say I helped Mike , just a little , compared to his massive contributions. Rest In Peace Mike - you are loved. Barry .

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**Barry Heaps.** - May 21, 2023 at 10:59 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Northside Chapel** - May 10, 2023 at 02:40 PM

JS

“ I was extremely saddened to hear of Mike's passing. He and I were roommates at Northeastern. There we played a lot of sports together and shared an awful lot of beers and laughs. Mike was a serious stand-up guy and I have many fond memories.

Unfortunately, I cannot make it down to Atlanta for the ceremony, but I will be there in Boston. Mike deserves a good send off from some of his old friends. My deepest condolences to the family, you are in my prayers. RIP “Big Carrot”, you will be missed by many, but even though you have gone to a better place the memories will live on forever. Simi.



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**John Simonelli** - May 03, 2023 at 10:36 AM

WR

*Great photos! Brought back many memories!*

Walter Raines - May 04, 2023 at 05:22 PM

CR

“ We were so fortunate to have Mike be part of our family and share so many special memories. We enjoyed listening to his views on sports, politics, and investments. He was a great financial and "Big Uncle" influence on CJ, John, and Emma. He picked out two special dogs for us, Vikkie and Dixie, who became loving members of our family. We loved his dogs, Major, Halsey, Coco, Lucy, Monty, Rosie, Molly, and Mickey. Lynne and Mike, thanks for all the special get-togethers that kept our family so bonded even though we lived in five different states. Mike touched so many lives in the way he connected with everyone he came in contact with. Michael, you are dearly missed by the Ross family, but your fond memories will live with us forever. Michael T. Dougherty, you are Dogs Best Friend!!  
Love Craig, Linda, CJ, John, Emma Ross, and Antonietta Luciano

Craig Ross - April 28, 2023 at 05:12 PM

PA

“ Lynn, Paula and I are deeply saddened to learn of Mike's passing. We always enjoyed spending time with you and Mike. We admired Mike for many things especially calling it like he saw it, his passion for rescuing dogs and his patriotism. You were the best neighbor anyone could want. We think of Mike everyday as we still have 2 dogs that Mike was directly responsible for saving Chilli 17 years old and Skippy 13 years old. Many say that when we pass we are met by family and loved ones. I cannot help but think and smile imagining hundreds of dogs greeting Mike as he passed on.  
Love, Patrick and Paula

Patrick Adamson - April 27, 2023 at 07:31 PM

JF

“ Michael will be missed by many. May Lynne and his extended family find warm and wonderful memories that support you during this time of transition.

Joy Ferguson - April 26, 2023 at 08:22 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Michael T. Dougherty.



April 26, 2023 at 09:14 AM

KC

“ Mike was not only my boss, which he disliked being called, but he was also a friend. I am proud to call him a good friend. As a Puppypipeline driver for nearly 10 years I soon realized the compassion this man shared for the thousands of helpless animals that were rescued thanks to his dedication to this cause. His compassion and need to help also encompassed humans in need as I witnessed many times. Puppypipeline was and will continue to be a family thanks Mike's guidance and leadership. He will be surely missed.❤️. On a side note, I actually had a chinchilla on one of my transports! God bless Lynne and the rest of your extended family. I have loved and respected you for 10 years. Rest in peace, my friend  
Ken & Birdie Carvalho.

Ken Carvalho - April 25, 2023 at 12:50 PM

DT

“ *Denae and Phil Taylor purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Michael T. Dougherty.*



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**Denae and Phil Taylor** - April 25, 2023 at 10:38 AM

DT

“ *Mike was one of the best! Working with him and Puppy Pipeline was an amazing experience. Mike had such love and compassion for animals and made it his mission to help all that he could. I told him many times that he was my hero. He also had very little tolerance for anyone who mistreated an animal and would let you know it!! A true warrior for animals. I loved knowing him and will miss him terribly. Love to the entire family.*

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**Denae Taylor** - April 25, 2023 at 10:32 AM

MM

“Michael Dougherty’s reputation preceded him, he was kin to me and although perhaps considered by some to be distant, blood runs deep in our family circles. His folks were dearly loved by my grandparents and my parents spent some of their honeymoon in his Long Island family home, a trip I would revisit soon after I married. We spent time in New York city and then also caught up with his dad, Uncle John in Las Vegas, when he took a trip there too.

We didn’t have a lot of time over the years with Big Mike in person; a visit to America when we were first married, his honeymoon trip to Australia with Lynne and we have some great memories of time with Lynne and Big Mike in San Francisco, when we took our two young daughters on a trip to America. There were occasional phone calls and social media was always a good way to keep track of our global family.

Mike was Big in more than just his stature, he was Big in generosity, Big in ideas, Big hearted and Big in his commitment to what was important to him - which seemed to be College Football and Hockey, Lynne and Dogs - I wasn’t quite sure of the order of his affections. In San Francisco it was virtually impossible to pay for anything, as we were treated to many meals and adventures by Mike and Lynne, including a San Francisco Giants game. Mike ensured we all had new baseball caps for the occasion and one of our girls even got a game ball.

Apart from our time with him, there were many other stories that came from other family members who also had time with Big Mike and Lynne over the years. Stories of his character and the unique bloke that he was. I was saddened to hear of his passing, it seemed like he had always just been there and would always be there - just over the horizon, steadfast, a stalwart of the American branch of the family. Big in many ways, he will be remembered fondly in our family and our thoughts are with Lynne, the extended family and the many friends and folks who knew him – God Bless you Big Mike.

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**Mike McGarrity** - April 25, 2023 at 09:35 AM

CK

“ Dear Lynne, The news of Michael’s passing was heart breaking. May God wrap his arms around you and bring you comfort in remembering the joy Michael brought to so many.  
Carolyn Kershaw

**carolyn Kershaw** - April 25, 2023 at 08:19 AM

SB

“ I was shocked and deeply saddened to hear of Michael’s passing, Lynne. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. I hope that the love of your family and friends will bring you some comfort and strength in the coming days. So sorry for your loss.

**Sharon Bottner** - April 25, 2023 at 07:40 AM

SW

Mike will be greatly missed by many, many people...family and friends. Shocked and saddened by the unexpected loss, our hearts and prayers go out to Lynne and extended family. Sam

**Samuel Winterbottom** - April 26, 2023 at 09:32 AM

WS

Lynne..I was so sorry to learn of the passing of Mike. We never met, but he must have been very special to have married you. Been many years since we worked together at ITT & Starwood, but those were some of my fondest memories. Jeff Schrader was kind enough to let me know. Nancy and I will keep you in our prayers and if you ever get to Raleigh, NC, please let me know. All our love...Bill Smith

**William F. Smith** - April 30, 2023 at 03:29 PM