



## Michael Lee Cabbage

July 21, 1950 - August 10, 2024

Michael Lee Cabbage

Michael Lee Cabbage, fondly known as “Cubby”, was born July 21, 1950, in Charlottesville, VA. On Saturday, August 10, 2024, the angels descended and Michael is now in the loving arms of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Michael is survived by his loving, devoted wife of 35 years, Janice Cabbage, daughter, Jennifer Iams, grandchildren, Connor and Maddie Iams, a brother, Christopher Cabbage, cousin Kenny Thurston, who was more like a brother, and wife Rebecca, Myles Thurston, and Janice’s uncle, David Gravely, cousins Tommy Gravely and wife Debbie, Perry Gravely and wife Kathryn, Bill Gravely and fiancé Marsha Patterson and dear, loyal and dedicated friends Liza Holder, Laura Colwell and Tom Kelly. He leaves behind his best friend and golf cart riding companion Jax, his polar bear lab.

Michael is predeceased by his parents L. L. and Margie Cabbage of Charlottesville, VA.

Michael graduated from Lane High School in 1968 as a 3-star athlete and was awarded the first baseball scholarship to attend the University of Virginia (UVA) where he played third base for the Cavaliers. During his first year at UVA, he was also quarterback for the football team.

In his senior year at Lane High School Michael was drafted but declined the offer; however, in his sophomore year at UVA, Michael was again drafted and accepted the offer by the Washington Senators, later known as the Texas Rangers. He played professional baseball with the Texas Rangers, the Minnesota Twins and the New York Mets.

After his playing years, he worked his way through the managerial ranks, culminating as the Triple A level with Tidewater Tides. Michael coached in the Major Leagues with the New York Mets, Houston Astros, Tampa Bay Rays and Boston Red Sox.

During his coaching career, he won World Series Championships with the New York Mets, Tampa Bay Rays and Washington Nationals. Additionally, he served as Special Assistant to the President of the Washington Nationals.

Commitment, determination and hard work resulted in his being inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame, UVA Baseball Hall of Fame, Tidewater Baseball Hall of Fame and the Valley League Hall of Fame.

After 49 years of professional baseball, Michael retired and he and Janice moved from Charlottesville to Lake Keowee, Sunset SC.

The Cabbage family is grateful to Cottingham Hospice House, Seneca, for their compassion, understanding ways, professionalism and comfort provided during his care. Additionally, the kindness, generosity and loving spirit of neighbors and friends who live at The Reserve at Lake Keowee were beyond amazing and greatly appreciated.

Should you wish to remember Michael in a special way, please consider a memorial donation to Pickens County Humane Society, 500 5 Forks Road,

Liberty, SC 29657.

The family invites you to join us Saturday, August 17, 2024, at Grace United Methodist Church, 309 East Cedar Rock St, Pickens SC 29671 at 11:00 a.m., followed by a reception at Orchard House, The Reserve at Lake Keowee, 931 Reserve Boulevard, Sunset SC 29685.

Mountain View Funeral Home – Pickens Chapel is serving the Cabbage family.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace United Methodist Church  
309 East Cedar Rock Street  
Pickens, SC 29671

## Reception

AUG 17 (ET)

Orchard House - The Reserve at Lake Keowee  
931 Reserve Blvd  
Sunset, SC 29685

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ Thank you you for the great memories. Twinstrivia.com sends condolences and best wishes to the Cubbage family, friends and fans.



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**John Swol** - August 24, 2024 at 12:45 PM

SP

“ Mike and I grew up in pro baseball with the NY Mets , both of us as minor league managers. Talking base ball through the years was always a fun time and I will miss him greatly. Condolences go out to Jan and family.

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**Sam Perlozzo** - August 18, 2024 at 10:53 AM

EW

“ It's been my privilege to have known Michael since 'knee high'!. His aunt and uncle lived next door....he would come to play with cousin Kenny and Buddy...I followed his successful career in sports...happy to cheer him on!! Grateful for his retirement to a lovely, caring community of friends...  
My love and prayers to family; hold close the precious memories and peace to know he has received the greatest REWARD. Edna Wood-Jones

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**edna wood-jones** - August 16, 2024 at 12:00 PM

LW

“ When I was a kid I used to go with my parents to see the Tidewater Tides play. It was always a thrill to get autographs of the players and coaches. I met Mr. Cabbage a few times, and I remember him being so nice and pleasant to talk to. He was a true gentleman. I send my condolences to his family and friends.

*Leigh Wills  
Hendersonville, NC*

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**leigh wills** - August 16, 2024 at 08:17 AM

PH

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with of you at this sad time.



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**Patricia Holcombe** - August 15, 2024 at 02:31 PM

EI

“ My deepest condolences to the "CUBBY" family. Growing up as a kid, I will ALWAYS remember Mike. My dad was an NYPD police officer, and I used to go on the field at Shea Stadium, and Cubby always gave me and my buddy a baseball on the field. I am honored to have been able to see him at the Reserve two years ago and talk BASEBALL!!! He was a classic, great baseball guy, and human being. He will be deeply missed! EE3

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**Eddie Enterlin III** - August 15, 2024 at 01:25 PM

DH

“ Diane H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

Diane H. - August 15, 2024 at 11:50 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



August 15, 2024 at 10:47 AM

PS

“ Pete & JoAnn Spidaliere planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

Pete & JoAnn Spidaliere - August 15, 2024 at 10:47 AM

JB

“ Mike was an asset to the Charlottesville Va community . He was always willing to assist the community when asked. Mike was very instrumental to alot of youth in Charlottesville to help them with their skills with baseball . He will be missed by this community. Dan Blake

Judith BrochuBlake - August 15, 2024 at 09:59 AM

LH

“ My condolences to Jan and their extended family, and to Chris. Mike kindly treated my family to several MLB games and Jan took my sons to meet some of the Mets players during a rain delay at one of them - a special memory for them. RIP Mike - thank you for your contributions to our community.

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**Larry Herbert** - August 14, 2024 at 09:18 PM

TK

“ I am a better person for having known Mike. The way he has lived his life and fame is an inspiration. We lost this great man way to soon. I will miss you my friend. Tom Kelly

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**Tom Kelly** - August 14, 2024 at 08:31 PM

AH

“ Mike was a 2nd cousin and was always followed in his career by my husband and myself. The last time we saw Mike was at his Mom's (Margie) funeral in Charlottesville, and always he was so polite and mild mannered. We will miss following your sports career. Rest In Peace knowing you were loved and will be truly missed. Pat (Amelia) and John Holloway, Midlothian, Va.

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**Amelia (Pat) Holloway** - August 14, 2024 at 05:13 PM

JS

“ On behalf of all Ny Mets fans I send you my sympathy. Mike was a passionate player who quietly did his job giving 100%. All Mets fans miss him

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**jane Strauss** - August 14, 2024 at 04:48 PM

DT

“ Sam and I got to know Mike and Jan only a couple years ago. They opened their home to us, Mike gave us a tour of his INCREDIBLE memorabilia and I instantly liked the guy. Frankly, one of the most telling things about him was how much he loved Jax and eventually Duck. You're a good man Mike Cubby Cabbage. Rest in peace.

David Testa - August 14, 2024 at 04:15 PM

TF

“ Terry Wetzel Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



Terry Wetzel Family - August 14, 2024 at 03:35 PM

TF

“ Terry Wetzel Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

Terry Wetzel Family - August 14, 2024 at 03:35 PM

KN

“ When I was a math teacher at Lane High School in Charlottesville, Mike was in one or two of my classes. He was always prepared and always polite, in spite of his hours on the practice field and in the gym. My family has enjoyed following his career. We have lost a true winner.

Kitty Allen, Waynesville, NC - August 14, 2024 at 10:05 AM

SS

“ Street Family: Daniel, Matthew & Sallie purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



Street Family: Daniel, Matthew & Sallie - August 14, 2024 at 07:10 AM

SK

“ Mike and his family were a great part of my teenage years. I remember days hitting baseballs in his chicken wire batting cage. Later when I moved to Florida he came over to talk to kids at a game in Daytona while he was with the Twins. The greatest athlete I ever knew but a great guy.

Skeeter Key - August 13, 2024 at 06:48 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



August 13, 2024 at 06:40 PM

SF

“ Shane Howell and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

Shane Howell and family - August 13, 2024 at 06:40 PM

RJ

“ To the Jan Cabbage and Family,  
Our family is sending our condolences and prayers to you all as the day passes, our heartfelt sympathy are with you. it was a pleasure knowing Mike and Jan. My son Kyshon really enjoyed his presence , May God continue to be with you,.  
Deepest sympathy  
Regina Johnson, Kyshon & Aytrice Howard

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**Regina Johnson** - August 13, 2024 at 05:51 PM

SA

“ Such a great guy and manager in Lynchburg. I was so happy when you met Jan later that off season. Sending deepest sympathies.  
May your memory be for a blessing always.

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**Susan Amowitz-Schlossberg** - August 13, 2024 at 05:19 PM

KL

“ Little Falls, Lynchburg, Jackson - great memories playing for you Cubby! RIP Coach.

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**Kurt Lundgren** - August 13, 2024 at 03:23 PM

JT

“ I was very sad to learn of Cubby's passing, I had the fortune of spending some time with he and Jan after a camp in Port St. Lucie. We remained in touch when the Mets came north and I was honored to attend some games with Jan and see Mike after the game. They were equally as nice to my wife and then 3 year old daughter. My condolences to the entire family, and Mike rest easy sir, you won't be forgotten.  
Jeff Tasch, New York

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**Jeffrey Tasch** - August 13, 2024 at 01:51 PM

CB

“ As an aspiring young athlete wanting to compete at the highest level in local sports in the 60’s and early 70’s, Mike was the quintessential hometown hero. Everybody knew Mike was the guy who was going to make it big. He didn’t let us down. He was great in everything he did. His legacy will live on forever for all of us who saw him play.

**corky bishop** - August 13, 2024 at 01:01 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



August 13, 2024 at 11:46 AM



“ Wish I had known Mike Cabbage. Loved reading the obituary and reading about the great life he lived. My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

**Dean Holder** - August 13, 2024 at 11:45 AM

NN

“ Mike and I were long time friends in sports and neighbors prayers for your family

**Nick neofotis** - August 13, 2024 at 09:50 AM

BS

“ *Cubster and I go back to his days at UVA, and our mutual coach and good friend, Jim West. We've been great friends over the last 50 years, and I'll miss him greatly. Had the pleasure of watching him play in "The Show" and went to games he managed in Lynchburg, Jackson, and Tidewater. What a wonderful mate Jan has been over their time together. Bill Spencer*

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**Bill Spencer** - August 13, 2024 at 09:12 AM

GA

“ *We were with Cubby in Jackson Mississippi and Virginia Beach Virginia...my husband Glenn was the pitching coach...many fun times with Mike (he managed the team)...remember Jan and how she was so crazy about Cubby...she would wash his car and detail the inside...once cleaning the tires with a toothbrush...Mike was a fun guy with a big smile always on his face...May he RIP...and Jan you will see him again one day...Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family...Much love...The Abbotts (Glenn & Patti)*

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**Glenn Abbott** - August 13, 2024 at 08:36 AM

SE

“ *I was very fortunate to have met Michael when he, and Jax, would golf cart and walk near our home and cul-de-sac. Michael would allow/help me to talk about my son's MiLB journey. I cherish those talks. Michael, rest in peace. Scott E.*

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**Scott Erwin** - August 13, 2024 at 08:17 AM

JH

“ *Jim and Mary Herndon planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.*

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**Jim and Mary Herndon** - August 13, 2024 at 06:50 AM

WM

“ Willie (Bill) and Geri McGee purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



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Willie (Bill) and Geri McGee - August 12, 2024 at 07:06 PM

WM

“ Willie (Bill) and Geri McGee planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

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Willie (Bill) and Geri McGee - August 12, 2024 at 07:06 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



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August 12, 2024 at 06:28 PM

MF

“ Mike white & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

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Mike white & family - August 12, 2024 at 06:28 PM

MK

“ So thankful we got to meet him. It will be our favorite time and memory. Thoughts and prayers are with you. Mary k and Frank Landgraff.

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**mary k kelly** - August 12, 2024 at 05:59 PM

BW

“ Billy wagner purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Lee Cabbage.



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**Billy wagner** - August 12, 2024 at 05:50 PM

BW

“ Billy wagner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Lee Cabbage.

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**Billy wagner** - August 12, 2024 at 05:50 PM