



Michael "Mike" Joseph Athey

August 28, 1960 - June 25, 2016

Michael Joseph "Mike" Athey, 55, of Washington, IL, passed away at 12:09 p.m. Saturday, June 25, 2016, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL, with his family by his side.

Mike was born August 28, 1960, in Council Bluffs, IA to Joseph and Thana (Poulos) Athey. He married Wende Reeser on May 31, 2000, in Clayton, MO. He is survived by his wife, Wende; father, Joe Athey of Council Bluffs, IA; brother, Jeff Athey and his wife Kris of Crescent, IA; two nephews, Scott Athey and his fiancée, Jamie, of Crescent, and David Athey of Crescent; mother-in-law, Helga Stoner of Funkstown, MD; father-in-law, Daniel Reeser, Jr. and his wife, Sandy, of Waynesboro, PA; sister-in-law, Janis Reeser of Funkstown; extended family and friends, and his beloved dogs, Jewel and Buddy.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Thana, and his grandparents.

Mike graduated from Lewis Central Community High School, in Council Bluffs, in 1978. He majored in mathematics and economics at Creighton University, graduating summa cum laude in 1982. He went on to earn his master's degree and his Ph.D. in economics from Washington University in St. Louis. Mike taught economics for many years at several schools, including Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Northern Illinois University, Kalamazoo College, and his alma mater, Wash U.

He worked as an economist at Caterpillar Inc., having joined the company in 2000.

He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals and Rams fan, and enjoyed fishing,

hunting, and spending time with his family and friends.

Mike's family would like to thank the staff at OSF St. Francis Medical Center for their care and support.

The family will receive guests from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, July 1, 2016, at Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory in Washington. A memorial service will follow at 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Services will be held in Council Bluffs at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Ataxia Foundation, Pets For Seniors, The A.R.K. No Kill Animal Shelter, or TAPS No-Kill Animal Shelter.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - Washington
2075 Washington Road
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 745-5999

Service

JUL 1. 7:00 PM (CT)

Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - Washington
2075 Washington Road
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 745-5999

Tribute Wall

DJ

“ Wende,

I was so sad to learn about Mike and regret that I could not attend the memorial. I will remember the years we worked together and Mike's dedication. Our many discussions on economics were always enlightening. I appreciated the opportunity to have Mike as a colleague and friend.

*My condolences to you and your family,
Don Johnson*

Don Johnson - July 01, 2016 at 06:48 PM

TD

“ Wende, our deepest condolences to you on Mike's passing. May our Lord bless and comfort you and your family during this time of grief. Jim and Tammy Daugherty

Tammy Daugherty - July 01, 2016 at 12:00 PM

JC

My Condolences to you Joe and family. So sorry for your loss Your cousin Janice Green Core..

JaniceGreen Core - July 01, 2016 at 05:42 PM

GB

“ my condolences for your lose. I was struck by sending contributions to the ataxia foundation. I also have ataxia. I have done much research on my disability and know how rare it is to find people that have the disability, I feel I must contact them. when time suits you would you contact me, graig bitner of Washington also, 256-0443. once again I am sorry but mike is in a disability free place now,



graig bitner - July 01, 2016 at 08:45 AM

BK

“ Wende and family,

Please accept my deepest condolences for your loss.

I am grateful I had the chance to know Mike as both a colleague and a wonderful friend. He will be deeply missed, and those memories of his smiles and laughter will always be cherished.

May the love and care around you give you strength during this difficult time.

*With heartfelt sympathy,
Betty Kouo*

Betty Kouo - June 30, 2016 at 08:02 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Joseph Athey.



June 30, 2016 at 05:19 PM

JL

“ Wende, Joe, Jeff & Kris, Scott & Jamie, and David:

Finding adequate words to express sympathy is a very difficult task, if not impossible.

The times spent with Mike were enjoyable. He accomplished so much throughout his life and will be missed by all who knew him.

Phil & Janis, Cheryl, and Mark & Sandy Lustgraaf

Janis Lustgraaf - June 30, 2016 at 04:24 PM

WS

“ Waltraud Smith lit a candle in memory of Michael "Mike" Joseph Athey



Waltraud Smith - June 30, 2016 at 01:23 PM

WS

*Our deepest sympathies.
George and Waltraud Smith*

Waltraud Smith - June 30, 2016 at 01:25 PM

BM

“ We are so sorry for your loss Wende. You and all the family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Bob and Cathy Maynard

Bob and Cathy Maynard - June 30, 2016 at 08:53 AM



So sorry to hear of your son's passing, Joe, my prayers to you and your family. Shirley Jones Bradford..your Aunt Pearl Athey niece.

Shirley Bradford - June 30, 2016 at 02:32 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" Joseph Athey.*



June 29, 2016 at 09:27 PM

KS

“ Dear Wendee, Joe, Jeff & Kris, Scott, David,
family and friends..



We send you our deepest and most sincere condolences regarding the death of Mike. We thoroughly enjoyed sitting with Mike and Wendee after Thana's passing and enjoying his same sense of humor, sweet smile, kindness and gentleness that made him the great young man he had become.

We share in your loss.. Mike had accomplished such greatness in his short but successful life. It was apparent the love and respect Mike and Wendee shared.

We find comfort in knowing that Thana was awaiting Mike with hugs and kisses when he left this home for his new home in Heaven. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance to you in the days ahead..

We pray that you will find comfort in the great memories you have shared with Mike throughout his 55 years. We were honored to be his Aunt and Uncle and will miss him as well.

Love, hugs and our sympathies to each of you..

Kathie (Poulos) and Jim Schweiss

Kathie Schweiss - June 29, 2016 at 10:48 AM

KS

My sympathies to Mike's wife and family, and to the people who loved him. I hope you find peace and comfort in your happy memories.

Kara Schweiss - June 29, 2016 at 03:19 PM

SS

My thoughts and prayers go out to Mike's family and loved ones during this time of loss.

Shiloh Schweiss - June 29, 2016 at 05:18 PM

TS

I really enjoyed the chat I had with Mike after Thana's services. It was nice to meet Mike and Wende and visit with them.. I am very sorry for the loss of Mike. My sympathies to all of you.

Trevor J. Schweiss

Trevor Schweiss - June 30, 2016 at 06:06 PM