



# Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023



Scan to Visit

**YURCH**  
*Funeral Home*

# Table of Contents

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| <b>Obituary</b> .....     | Page 3 |
| <b>Events</b> .....       | Page 5 |
| <b>Tribute Wall</b> ..... | Page 6 |
| <b>Media</b> .....        | Page 8 |



## Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023

**M**anuel P. "Mike" Vasilakes, age 95, passed away December 26, 2023. Loving husband to Nike Hoty Vasilakes (deceased) from 1959-1980 and Dr. Mary Petrelli Vasilakes (deceased) from 1990-2021. Dear son of the late Prodromos and Argero Vasilakes (née Deskes). Cherished son-in-law of the late Antony and Argero Hoty (née Kackludis). Beloved father of Argerie Vasilakes (Paul Landefeld Jr.) and Antonia Gates (David). Grandfather of Amanda Kuhrt (Randy). Brother of Grace Pasiadis (deceased). Uncle of Christopher Pasiadis (deceased) (Vanessa), Marian Pasiadis, Jeanne Patitsas (Nicholas), Cathy Beckman (Terry), Peter Millett (Anna Antoniou), Roger Hoty (Jeannie), Barb Rose, Antony P. Hoty (Jo-Ann), Dee Hoty (Sam Freed), John Decaneas (deceased), Tony Decaneas (Nanny, deceased) (Ellen), Peter Decaneas (Karen), James Nenopoulos (Kathleen), Tony Nenopoulos, Mindy Verenis (Nick), Argerie Hoty (Andy Holman), Pam Jacobsen, Tony M. Hoty (deceased), and Joanna Russell (Tom). Survived by many others here and abroad.

After graduating as an electrical engineer from Case Institute of Technology, Mike served in the Army from 1954-1956. At Fort Huachuca, Arizona, he was part of the Scientific and Professional program, analyzing captured military equipment.

After his honorable discharge, he entered the field of Industrial Publicity. "I liked the writing end of engineering," he said and penned thousands of trade journal articles for his business clients that included Parker Hannifin, BF Goodrich and Bailey Meter. Later he joined Penton Publishing and retired as chief editor of Specialty Gas Report.

Mike's lifetime service to the Greek Orthodox church and community earned him a St. Photios award in 2023. With Themistocles Rodis, he co-authored Greeks Americans of Cleveland: Immigration and Assimilation Since 1870, now in its 4th edition. That work would also help launch a Greek Cultural Center, still in the planning stages. He was an officer of the American Hellenic Community of Greater Cleveland board of directors, then of the parish council of the



## Obituary

**Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes**

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023

---

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland, Ohio. He was a founding member and first president of Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA) in Cleveland. A church choir singer since 1947, he was an early president of the Mid-Eastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (MEFGOX), the oldest continuing church music federation in the Archdiocese of America. He was the choir director of the Annunciation Church for ten years and was that church's festival emcee for 25 years. He also volunteered at the Saints Constantine and Helen festival. He wrote and edited various community newsletters in the 1940s and more recently edited the Koinonia — the Saints Constantine and Helen monthly newsletter – for 15 years.

A long-time resident of Lakewood, Ohio, Mike served on that city's school board for two years, one year as president. His term coincided with the beginning of the planning phase for the expansion of the school system, completed in 2017. While both daughters were students at the high school, Mike took on the role of chairman of the fruit drive, one year raising \$30,000 for the Lakewood High School Music Dept.

Funeral service at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 3352 Mayfield Rd., Cleveland Hts., 44118, where the family will receive friends 11:30 a.m. until time of service. Rev. Dr. Stephen Callos officiating. Lunch will follow the service at the church. Private burial. Donations welcomed to support the planned Hellenic Cultural Center of Cleveland – make checks out to Next One Hundred Years, Annunciation GOC.



# Events

**Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes**

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023

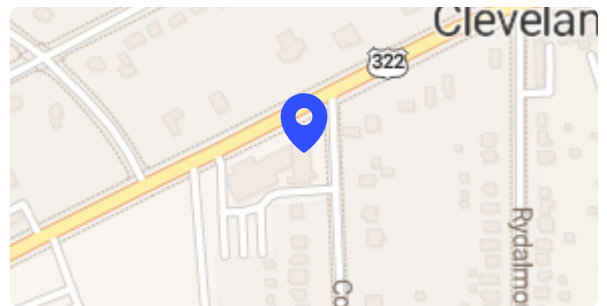
## Visitation

**Saturday**, January 6, 2024

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM ET

**Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral**

3352 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights OH 44118



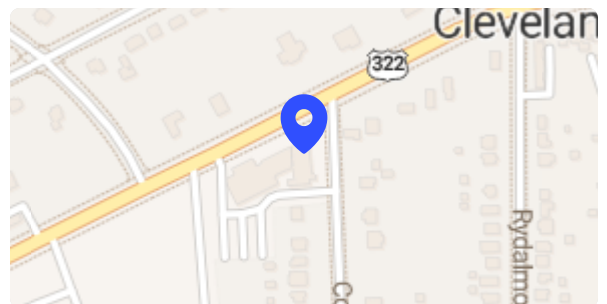
## Funeral Service

**Saturday**, January 6, 2024

1:00 PM ET

**Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral**

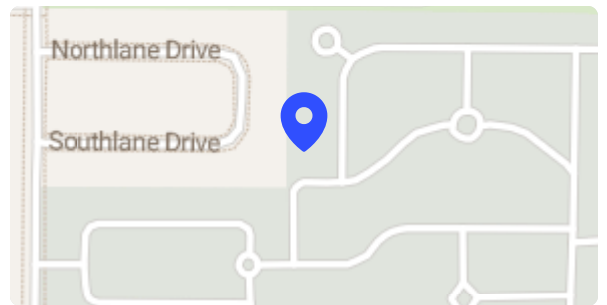
3352 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights OH 44118



## Cemetery Details

**Saint Theodosius Cemetery**

8200 Biddulph Road, Brooklyn OH 44144





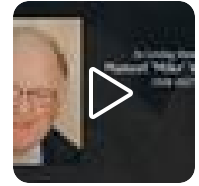
# Tribute Wall

**Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes**

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023



**Yurch Funeral Home** shared a **Video**.



January 15 at 10:08 AM



**Manuel And Sue Moutsios** posted:

We are so sorry to learn of the passing of Uncle Mike. The entire Verdakis/Moutsios family loved him and the interesting stories he would share. He will be missed, but his heavenly family is celebrating his heavenly return. Manuel and Sue Moutsios

January 6 at 6:34 AM



**Anonymous** sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Vasilakes family.



January 5 at 9:26 AM



**Nicky Deal** posted:

We are very sorry to hear the sad news of the passing away of Mike. We will hold happy memories of our times together in England with Mike and Mary. He was always fun with a great sense of humour and will be sadly missed. Our love and condolences to Algeria, Nonie and family, from Nicky & Colin Deal.

January 3 at 11:50 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Vasilakes family.



January 3 at 7:28 AM



**Sophie And Andrew Millett** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Manuel "Mike".



January 3 at 7:28 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes**

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Vasilakes family.

January 3 at 3:27 AM



**Nearchos, Jette, George Economou** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Manuel "Mike".

January 3 at 3:27 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Vasilakes family.

December 30 at 3:52 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Vasilakes family.

December 30 at 5:45 AM



**Karl, Debbie And Erich** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Manuel "Mike".

December 30 at 5:45 AM





## Media

### Manuel "Mike" Vasilakes

MAR 30, 1928 - DEC 26, 2023



Yurch Funeral Home shared a Video.

January 15 at 10:08 AM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Manuel "Mike" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit

**YURCH**  
*Funeral Home*