



## Michael "Mike" Culbertson

April 16, 2022

Michael Robert Culbertson of Fort Collins, Colorado passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his family, on April 16, 2022. He died from Parkinson's Disease, which he fought valiantly and with grace.

Mike was a kind loving person who cared deeply about his family, relatives and many friends. He enjoyed people, helped them whenever he could, and always saw the best in them. Mike was committed to human rights and peace in the world. He was an active member of Amnesty International.

Mike was born in 1951 in Glendale, CA to Elizabeth Jeannine (Smith) Culbertson and Robert Culbertson. Mike served in the Navy from 1973 to 1975 and was deployed to the South China Sea. Mike completed his BA in History from the University of California Northridge. He continued his education and obtained his Masters of Library Science at the University of Southern California (USC) in 1978.

Mike worked at the USC Business Administration Library and at Southern California Edison Company's corporate library before joining the Colorado State University (CSU) Libraries in 1989. Mike thoroughly loved his job as an academic librarian, and he especially liked to help students and faculty find and obtain the resources they needed. In 2014, Mike was honored by his colleagues with the CSU Libraries Faculty Award for Excellence. Mike retired

from CSU in December 2015.

Mike met the love of his life, Karen Weedman, at CSU's Morgan Library. Mike and Karen were married in 1991 and raised two beloved children, Leanne and Daniel. Mike loved being a husband and father. There are many great memories of playing sports, board games, and enjoying vacations as a family.

Mike enjoyed travel and treasured memories of trips to Europe, New Zealand, Central America, as well as seeing many National Parks and places in the United States. There were also many trips to see family and friends. Mike enjoyed reading, running, hiking, golfing, and especially cheering for the USC Trojans. Mike also spent time writing poetry, essays and short stories. The last short story was about golf, the importance of human connection and never giving up. The story concludes with an apt quote to summarize Mike's life: "Nice shot!"

Mike is survived by Karen, his wife of 30 years, his children Leanne (Nick) Allen, Daniel Culbertson, his younger sister Sharon Culbertson and her son Eli, many loving extended family members and friends. His parents preceded him in death.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at the Foothills Unitarian Church, 1815 Yorktown Ave., Fort Collins, CO.

The service will also be livestreamed at <https://uuma.zoom.us/my/foothills1>.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research <https://michaeljfox.org/donate>, or a charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN 4. 11:00 AM (MT)

Foothills Unitarian Church  
1815 Yorktown Ave.  
Fort Collins, CO 80526

# Tribute Wall



“ *Michael "Mike" Culbertson*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *My husband Don and I met Mike & Karen at our weekly Parkinson's Spin class at Genesis Health Club. We had a dynamic instructor, Sherri Wera who created adventurous bike trips that we took turns describing and imagining. It was a close group who got to know each other better through these adventures. We even got together a few times after class to go out for lunch and had a great time visiting.*

*Mike was always cheerful and fun to talk with. He persevered even though this class was a challenge for him. My husband Don and I were both blessed to have met Mike and spend fun times together.*

*Thoughts and prayers are with Karen and family for strength and peace. Cherish all the wonderful memories that you shared as a family!*

*Sincerely,  
Carolyn Bonenberger*

Carolyn Bonenberger - May 31, 2022 at 11:00 PM



“ *Mike, Karen, Leanne, and Daniel were wonderful cul-de-sac neighbors! Mike always had a welcoming smile and quiet, gentle spirit. Praying for comfort to the family during this difficult time.*

❤️ *Debbie Hover*

Debbie Hover - May 31, 2022 at 09:23 AM

JS

“ Mike was a gentleman and a good friend, whether we were golfing, talking about books, or listening to jazz. His patience, generosity, and creativity showed a man who was engaged with the world. We're a little poorer today for his loss. Our thoughts go out to Karen, Leanne, and Daniel.

*John Schmitt,  
Thornton*

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**John Schmitt** - May 22, 2022 at 05:51 PM

DE

“ Among Mike's many gifts was his combination of patience and resolve. In the workplace he could inspire and teach through his quiet professionalism and his "can do" focus upon the task at hand. I was one of his co-workers for over 20 years and cannot remember him ever becoming angry. He was a remarkable person.

*Doug Ernest*

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**Doug Ernest** - May 21, 2022 at 06:19 PM

KT

“ I have lots of wonderful memories of Mike from working with him at the CSU library.

*My thoughts are with his family.*

*Kacy Thompson*

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**Kacy Thompson** - May 19, 2022 at 05:05 AM

LC

“ *What a joy to know Mike! Everyone was shocked to learn that Mike and Karen were getting married because they kept the secret so well we didn't even know they were dating!! What fun then to share their walk together. The love they had for each other was precious, especially the last few years. My love and prayers are with Karen, Leanne and Daniel as they now continue life with wonderful memories of Mike.*

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**Linda Castor** - May 17, 2022 at 06:15 PM

NG

“ *I met Mike soon after he arrived at CSU and became a really helpful librarian to help us in Engineering. He would reach out and go the extra mile when we needed something, and he was always friendly and kind. I missed him after he retired from CSU and am sorry that he has passed. I thought his obituary was well done and described him just as I knew him. Neil Grigg, CSU Civil and Environmental Engineering*

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**Neil Grigg** - May 15, 2022 at 07:30 AM

SK

“ *Mike was an inspiration to all who knew him. The courage with which he faced his debilitating illness was an incredible testament to the kind and wonderful man he was. Karen was such a strong support to him throughout their life together. My love goes out to her and their children during their time of loss.*

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**Sharon Kunze** - May 14, 2022 at 01:24 PM