



Russell Edwin Burnitt

September 30, 1982 - July 5, 2020

Russell “Michael” Edwin Burnitt, 37, of Charlotte, passed away on Sunday, July 5, 2020.

He was born on September 30, 1982 in Walnut Creek, CA, to Catherine Ann Forester and Russell John Burnitt. Michael loved absolutely everything Football, especially the 49ers. He was an avid supporter of Colin Kaepernick and his fight for racial justice. He enjoyed playing football from the early age of 8 until his Sophomore year in high school. He had a passion for reading and research which made him a great conversationalist.

He was the most amazing “Uncle Michael”. He invested his time in his niece and nephew, Laila and Jadon. He taught them both how to rollerblade and took them to different parks often. He was at every birthday party, sports game, cheerleading/dance competition, voice rehearsal and school event so he could always show them his support. He loved everyone's children as if they were his own.

He was a music lover, and enjoyed collecting mementos. He had the biggest heart, contagious laugh, and got along with just about everyone and would give you the shirt off his back. Michael loved his family especially his niece and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, John and Gwendoline Burnitt; and aunt, "Auntie Net" Annette Forester.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his brother, Bryan(Amanda) Burnitt; sister, Alicia(Josh) Thomas; stepmother, Kimberly Burnitt; maternal grandparents "Amma and Papa", Allen and Barbara Forester; stepsisters, Heather Thompson and Kristen Militello; niece and nephews, Laila and Jadon Thomas, Olaf and Thoreson Burnitt, Damien Militello; aunts and uncles, Sharon Temple, Suzanne Salcido, Carol(Don) Adamich, and Karin(Rich) Bowen; and numerous cousins and loved ones.

A private service will be held.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory, Mooresville, is serving Michael's family.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Russell Edwin Burnitt*

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ *Russell Edwin Burnitt*

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ *Russell Edwin Burnitt*

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ *I met Michael at SLA (SOBER LIVIBG AMERICA) I'm proud to say that he was a wonderful man and friend ❤️ He was always eager to help anyone without thinking twice about it. I'm very saddened by the loss of my dear friend 😭
I know we will meet again one day. My heart breaks for his family that he loved dearly 💔
Rest In Peace my friend.....*

Barbara Johnson - July 20, 2020 at 02:32 AM

SA

“Michael, or as I affectionately referred to him, Sug (as in Sugar, but shortened), was the sunshine of my days while working at FIRST. He and I shared an office, and he made what could often be sad and difficult work exciting and rewarding. He always knew how to make me laugh, and was the kind of guy to put the needs of anyone he cared for before his own. I remember once having an appointment with a resident but also needing some “embarrassing” female items from the store. Michael and some friends were making a store trip and without hesitation or embarrassment, he purchased exactly what I was needing without me even asking him. This story is silly and slightly embarrassing, but I decided to share for his family because I feel that it also perfectly captures his level of devotion to others. He didn’t hold back in his demonstration of love and care, and I learned from him the importance of showing through my actions that I love those closest to me. Not a single day spent with Michael was a bad one. He made my world so much brighter. That brightness lives on in the lessons I learned from him, and the love I carry with me. Holding his family in the light. Thank you to his family for sharing your precious gift with the rest of us. He truly was a gift.

sara - July 19, 2020 at 03:08 PM

MG

“ Heard the news today that Michael has passed away. I was very sad to hear this news. I worked with Michael at his mothers landscaping company.

We had a great time working together. One memory that will always stick with me is what Michael would eat for lunch. He would bring a can of beans or soup and set it on the dash of the truck and let it cook all morning in the sun so by lunch time he had a warm meal. I don't know why but that memory has always stuck with me and I can't go down the soup aisle at the grocery store without thinking of him. Haha. I am happy to say that I knew Michael at a time in his life where he seemed to be the best. He was a hard worker and very motivated. My prayers are to him and his entire family. May he Rest In Peace.

Matt Greenan - July 18, 2020 at 12:16 PM

RA

“ You only get a once in a lifetime friend, once in a lifetime.

Mine showed up at the tender age of 17 and nothing in my life wasn't touched by it.

Unfortunately my friend was already loaded with baggage and fighting demons way beyond his years.

Everyone knows Michael fought addiction his entire life. But it didn't define him. He had hills and valleys. Alcohol and drugs made him lie, steal, and be selfish. But that was never who he was. He was honestly the most complex, beautiful person I've ever met.

He was funny, too sensitive, empathetic, respectful, introspective.

He cared so much about the state of the world.

We had hours long conversations without any filler or small talk. He was always so intense and deep and wise.

I will miss h forever. I can't even begin to understand how life is still moving on. I know I will feel this unbearable pain for the rest of my life, and still count myself lucky to have known him.

Michaely person, my best friend, my soulmate. A part of me died with you.

You were soany things to so many people. You changed the world by loving the unlovable, and never apologizing for giving too much.

Everyone who knows you, has a piece of you. You always gave yourself away so freely. I wish you would have kept just a few pieces for yourself.

Rachel - July 17, 2020 at 11:29 AM

SM

“ *Mikey was such a kind sweet soul, I moved away after high school but I keep many amazing memories with me from the carefree days! You will be missed by so many fly high my friend!❤️*

Samantha Miller - July 16, 2020 at 08:00 PM

KB

“ *Karin Bowen lit a candle in memory of Russell Edwin Burnitt*



Karin Bowen - July 15, 2020 at 08:03 PM

TR

“ *My sincerest condolences. So sorry for your loss. Prayers for comfort and strength.*

Tim Ray - July 15, 2020 at 07:24 AM

CA

“ *Michael was always fun to be around and it was a delight to watch him grow from the little guy who liked to wear suits into the young man he was. He will be sorely missed by Don, me, Brandy, Joe and their families. Our hope is that he has found peace now.*

Carol Adamich - July 14, 2020 at 08:47 PM

KB

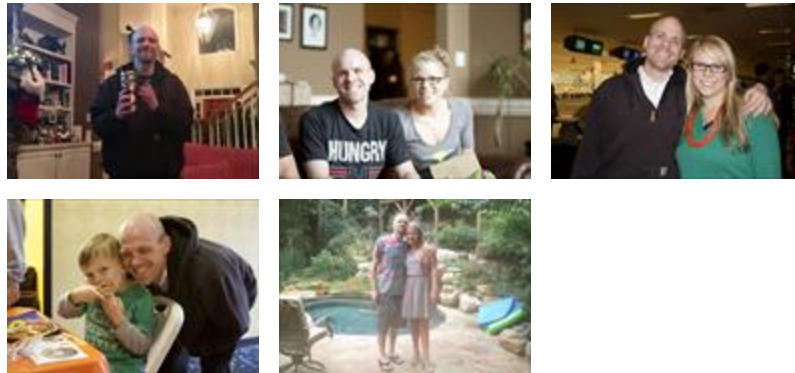
“ *Kimberly Burnitt lit a candle in memory of Russell Edwin Burnitt*



Kimberly Burnitt - July 14, 2020 at 01:50 PM

KB

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Kimberly Burnitt - July 14, 2020 at 01:49 PM

BB

“ A few days ago I learned of the passing of Michael Burnitt, one of my old school friends from my high school days. We had sporadically spoken here and there but I am ashamed to say over the last few years I did not do such a good job at keeping in touch with him. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts.



Mikey, you were a great guy. We all went on plenty of adventures back in the day and I have so many stories I could tell, and those great memories will keep you alive forever in my mind. I hope you're in a better place now my friend. Sorry again for not being better at keeping in touch when in hindsight, I had plenty of opportunity to do so. I'll miss ya buddy.

Make sure you tell your friends and family you're thinking of them. You never know when it might be the last time you speak.

Ben Brucato - July 13, 2020 at 05:11 PM

Alicia
Burnitt
Thomas

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Alicia Burnitt Thomas - July 13, 2020 at 05:11 PM

CT

*Huge blessings and prayers to the whole family in this great loss!
Candy Thoreson near Seattle*

Candy Thoreson - July 13, 2020 at 07:43 PM

KB

*We all send our heartfelt condolences. Michael will be sorely
missed. With love from Karin and Rich*

Karin Bowen - July 15, 2020 at 08:11 PM