



Sgt. James C. Mickel

December 8, 1948 - April 3, 2023

SHIRLEY-Sgt. James C. "Jazz" Mickel, 74, of Shirley, passed away on Monday, April 3, 2023 in the Life Care Center of Acton.

Jimmy was born in Geneva, NY, on December 8, 1948, a son of the late Charles and Clara (Scheurman) Mickel and has resided in Shirley for over 30 years.

He attended Syracuse University and shortly thereafter joined the U.S. Army and served in Germany during the Vietnam War.

Jimmy spent his entire career in law enforcement starting out as a dispatcher for the City of Framingham before joining the City of Worcester Housing Authority. He would then join the Town of Shirley's police department where he served proudly until he was shot in the line of duty on April 3, 1994, 29 years to the day of his death. Due to the events of that day he would retire from an occupation he truly loved in 1996.

He received the George L Hanna award for bravery in 1994. He had several commendations including one from former president Bill Clinton and Governor Weld.

Jimmy served as a Constable for the Town of Shirley. He was a passionate

Miami Dolphins fan and New York Yankees fan. He was a car enthusiast, BMW's in particular, and enjoyed attending car auctions. He loved the Beach Boys, Chapin Beach, trips to Maine, Key West and boating. He also loved his German shepherd, Bear.

He leaves his wife Faith L. O'Neil of Shirley, a brother, William H. Mickel of Westborough; two nephews, Steven Brusco and his wife Colleen of Amesbury and Christopher Brusco and his wife Cassie of Bradford, RI; a niece, Erica Pezzoni and her husband Jon of Westborough.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023 from 12pm-4pm at the Brookside Grill, 7 Main St., Shirley, MA.

The Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer is assisting the family with the funeral arrangements Please visit their website at www.andersonfuneral.com for future updates.

Tribute Wall

CT

“ I wasn't a friend or colleague of Jim's. I was a teenager who lived in Shirley during Jim's tenure there as a police officer. Jim responded to a couple calls I was involved in, nothing crazy, just small-town teenager stuff. He could have arrested me, but he didn't, he gave me sage advice that absolutely had a positive effect on my choices moving forward, and ultimately, my life. He also looked out for my sister when she was going through some things. Jim, thanks for your service to our community, and thank you for your empathy and compassion in the conduct of your duties. You made a meaningful difference in people's lives, and all these years later, I still think of you fondly.

Chad T. - August 06, 2025 at 08:23 AM

MD

“ Jim, you were a good neighbor and we will miss your “tell it like it is” sense of humor. Michele & Pat

mchele & pat Dew - April 11, 2023 at 08:36 PM

BE

“ Absolutely the best street smart Cop I ever met and partnered up with. We shared the same birthday's and shared the same way we we're forced to retire. It certainly wasn't the way we had planned. Rest well Jazz, we'll talk again.

Beave

Beave - April 11, 2023 at 09:39 AM

BK

“ To the Sgt. who broke me in as a municipal police officer in '85. You were absolutely correct when we spoke on the telephone just five weeks ago when you said, "You never listened!" I haven't had that much truth thrown at me in many, many years! May the Lord Bless and keep you and yours close JIMMY JAZZ!

Brian Kn. - A./K./A.: "Noodles"

Brian Knuuttila - April 07, 2023 at 09:49 PM



“ You put up a hell of a fight my friend...but you are in a better place now and not struggling, so now I have to say LOVE YOU BYE

Faith ONeil - April 07, 2023 at 10:17 AM

TW

“ My condolences to the Family. I have many good memories of working with him when I was the custodian at the Shirley Police department in the 1980s. Tim Welton

Tim Welton - April 07, 2023 at 09:58 AM

PW

“ My dearest friend. All the time we spent together. Happy times, Sad times. I know you are there. Like you always were. Love ya . RIP Willy

paul wilson - April 06, 2023 at 01:52 PM

WM

“ *The best Brother anyone could possibly have. So Proud of you and the determination and strength you had to fight off all your health issues. You were my Mentor through life and will miss you terribly. R.I.P. Brother.*

william mickel - April 06, 2023 at 01:18 PM

AN

“ *“Oh Jazz” *sigh*... i remember saying that just about everyday we worked together and I’m sure many times more during our 30 year friendship. I’m going to miss you my friend and I will cherish the memories of you coming into my office at the beginning of every 3-11.shift 💔 Oh Jazz*

Ann - April 06, 2023 at 12:28 PM

ED

“ *I am very happy and proud I got to know Jim Salt of the earth, right was right, wrong was wrong. He was witty and intelligent and a joy to sit, talk and debate with. I didn't know him that long, however because of who he was I felt I knew him well. Faith's devotion and love to him was always apparent as was his to her. God's Speed Jim.*

Elaine D-C - April 06, 2023 at 12:20 PM