



## Michael P. Mullins

September 20, 1953 - February 1, 2022

ASHBY-Michael P. Mullins, 68, of Ashby, passed away on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at UMASS Memorial Health Alliance Leominster Campus.

Michael was born in Fitchburg, MA, on September 20, 1953, the son of the late, Robert C. and Doris F. (Bourgeois) Mullins. Michael leaves his wife of 45 years, Margaret R. (Gray) Mullins of Ashby, and is predeceased by his brother, James Mullins. Michael also leaves his brothers, Stephen Mullins, his wife Linda Perla-Mullins of Ashburnham and Thomas Mullins of Ashburnham, his sister, Colleen Esposito, and her husband Phil Esposito of Ashburnham, his sister-in-law, Jean Mullins of Ashby, and nieces and nephews, all of whom were dear to him.

Michael was educated in Fitchburg, MA attending St. Bernard's High School for two years, and Fitchburg High School for two years where he graduated in 1971. He continued his education at Mt. Wachusett Community College and Fitchburg State College where he earned his bachelor's degree in education. Michael was a 5th grade teacher for forty-three years at the Applewild School in Fitchburg, MA, prior to his retirement in 2019. Michael's passion for teaching was exemplified every day that he walked into his classroom. His main objective was to make learning fun for the 10-year old's he taught. He was a science and nature enthusiast sharing that passion with his students through experiments and hands on learning when applicable. He used his

love of language arts to bring the curriculum to life and expand his student's knowledge. He was also a sports enthusiast, setting up intramural teams at Appewild so that all students had a well-rounded experience at school. Those fifth-grade students who were lucky to have Michael for a teacher, walked into sixth grade more knowledgeable. Everyone who met Michael, teachers, students, parents, friends, and his beloved family, are most grateful for his compassion, his warmth, his kindness, and his ever-present smile.

Michael's passion for science and the outdoors was not just contained to the classroom. He enjoyed fishing, mountain biking, skiing, kayaking, various music genres, and gardening. He was happiest when summering at his home in Bouctouche Bay, New Brunswick, Canada. Warm-hearted recollections are held by those who hiked, and cross-country skied with Michael during the fall and winter. Fishing for eel in Canada with family and friends, from his youthful days with family, to more recent times with family and friends, was an adventure that was worth taking.

Most significantly, Michael's love of family was closest to his heart. He was a devoted husband and a true-blue brother (and brother-in-law) to his sister and brothers and their spouses, who share many happy memories of Michael and their family times together. He was truly a "fun uncle" to his nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews, always taking the time to play and share interesting "tid bits" along the way. Michael will be missed but his spirit remains bright with all that knew him.

Funeral services and burial in St. Dennis Cemetery in Ashburnham will be held privately at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the UMASS Memorial Caregivers Fund at  
<https://support.umassmemorial.org/site/Donation2?idb=0&1400.donation=for>

m1&df\_id=1400&mfc\_pref=T

The Isabelle & Anderson Funeral Home, 316 Clarendon St. is assisting the family with the funeral arrangements. For further information or to leave an online condolence, please visit their website at [www.andersonfuneral.com](http://www.andersonfuneral.com)

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ *I remember Michael with great love and happiness.*

*Catherine Holloway*

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**catherine holloway** - February 11, 2022 at 12:58 PM

MG

“ *Kiki, I'm sorry we aren't able to be with you now. I'm sure there's lots to do. My memory is much like the recollections included here: always the smile.*

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**Mark Garduno** - February 11, 2022 at 11:42 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Michael P. Mullins.*



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February 09, 2022 at 08:55 PM

SJ

“ *Mr. Mullins was the perfect educator in every sense of the word. Not only was he incredibly adept at teaching all styles of student, but he had an unrivaled passion for his job. He taught me how to handle bullies, helped me cope with grief, and just how important it is to smile every day. I'll never forget you Mr. Mullins, nor the happiness that your booming "Hello there!" brought me every morning.*

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**Sean Jablon** - February 09, 2022 at 07:35 PM

HD

“*Mr. Mullins, I am so very grateful to you for your kindness to me in fifth grade. Your joyful, optimistic, energetic presence made such a great difference in my life and in the lives of so many 5th graders at Applewild. My only regret is that I didn't see more of you later on in life. I'm absolutely heartbroken.*

*Heather Lapham Duque  
Edinburgh, Scotland*

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**Heather Joyce Lapham Duque** - February 09, 2022 at 05:18 AM

JK

“*As a Broduerian myself I have scant memories of Mr. Mullins. Life was so jam packed in 5th grade, I'm sorry to say I never got time to get to know him. But, I will say, that fierce whistle to come in from recess will never leave my mind.*

*I recall a smile on the man's face. I remember the buoyancy of his spirit affecting a jolly saunter through the narrow 2nd floor of the Crocker building. I had friends in his class and they always spoke fondly of him and loved being there. He must of have loved his job.*

*RIP  
—Jason Karos*

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**Jason Karos** - February 08, 2022 at 09:46 PM



“ *Mr. Mullins was my favorite teacher of all time. 35 years ago he was my 5th grade teacher and he was kind and understanding to me when others didn't know what to do with a kid that didn't fit the “perfect” mold. He gave me a nickname that still holds to this day. I remember playing basketball with him in the gym, his amazing sense of humor and his ability to see the good in so many. I wish his family all the happy memories and peace.*

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**Meredith Dimola** - February 08, 2022 at 09:12 PM



“ *My condolences to the family. Mr Mullins was my 5th grade teacher. I have nothing but good memories about him. He was kind, funny, engaged, and made learning fun. Rest In Peace*  
*-ben mann*

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**ben mann** - February 08, 2022 at 07:59 PM



“ *Mr. Mullins, I was so lucky to have you at Applewild. You were amazing. You always had a smile on your face. I remember you walking around campus with that boom box on your shoulder listening to the Red Sox opening day, year after year. Most of all, I remember Mr. Brodeur and your awesome “Twas the Night Before Christmas” skits. I will never forget all the laughs, lessons, and memories that you taught me. Thank you. May you rest in peace.*



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**Scott Ansin-Blanchard** - February 08, 2022 at 07:28 PM

LR

“ I am so very sorry to hear about Mike. I've known him for at least 20 years. As an administrator at Applewild, I always sought his advice on many things for he always had an incredible insight into what was meaningful for the students who dearly loved and respected him. Applewild was a better place with Mike as part of the team. I am so grateful to have known such an incredibly wonderful human being and teacher. So many students benefited from his understanding of them. Thank you Mike for giving your life for such a worthy cause making a positive difference in all of our lives. You will be greatly missed.  
*Lynne Rawling*

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**Lynne Rawling** - February 08, 2022 at 07:22 PM

AS

“ I well remember Mike from his early days at Applewild when I was the Board President, before he was a faculty member. Even then I noted he was a great teacher, not only of children, all of us! Over the ensuing years I learned many stories of Mike's importance in the education and lives of several of my grandchildren whom he taught. He is a much respected and will be sorely missed by all of us. Thank you Mike!

*Al Stone*

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**Al Stone** - February 08, 2022 at 04:13 PM

MB

“ Peace cousin Mike.

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**Mo and Beth** - February 08, 2022 at 11:46 AM

MH

“ My condolences to the Mullins family. I grew up in the same neighborhood as Mike and his brothers and sister, and went to high school with him. He was as likeable and fun as there is. RIP Mike

*Mike Hay*

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**Mike Hay** - February 08, 2022 at 09:15 AM

KG

“ I had the pleasure of teaching with Mike for 23 years at Applewild School. We always shared our stories about our love of Ashby, our Irish heritage and James Taylor. He touched everyone by his smile. He will be missed.

*Kathie Grzewinski*

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**Kathie Grzewinski** - February 08, 2022 at 06:46 AM

GO

“ My condolences to Kiki and the Mullins family. I was lucky enough to have Mike as a neighbor, a friend and teacher for two of my kids. He was one of a kind! Always smiling and a big wave! He's going to be missed by so many. Rest in peace Mike.

*Glen Oetinger*

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**Glen Oetinger** - February 07, 2022 at 09:19 PM

PM

“ Michael Mullins is the best that life has to give~ His supreme kindness and loving, happy nature made him a GOAT in the truest sense of the word~

❤️ *patsy & john*

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**patsy mollica** - February 07, 2022 at 02:18 PM