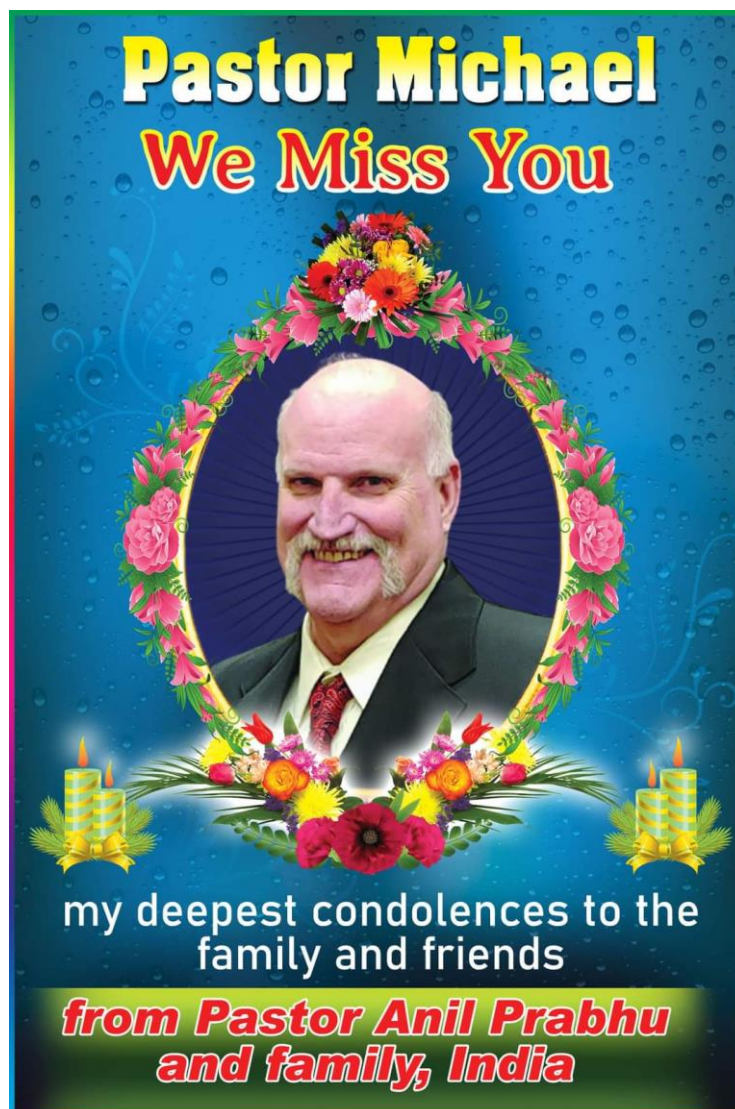


Pastor Michael Nicodemus

December 4, 1965 – February 5, 2022

In addition to his ministry and missionary work, Pastor Michael spoke at the Hour For Peace on how Peace is a Fruit of the Spirit. While he loved teaching and speaking on all nine Fruits of the Spirit as described in Galatians 5:22-23 (Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control), his favorite was Peace.

Pastor Michael was an organ donor and when he passed, his kidneys were able to save the lives of two people. His final request was that everyone be an organ donor. In most developed countries, it's the default position and one has to sign papers to decline. So many more lives are saved and there's no black market. In the U.S., it's the opposite, so sadly 17 people die each day waiting for a transplant. However, all you need to do is indicate on your driver's license or state identification that you wish to be an organ donor. You can also put it in your will. Every donor can save eight lives and enhance over 75 more. For more information, visit www.organdonor.gov.



Obituary

Michael Ray Nicodemus, 56 of Berthoud, CO passed away at Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland, CO, on February 5, 2022, due to complications of Covid-19. A memorial and Celebration of Life service was held on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 2pm at South Gate Church, 6541 S College Ave, Fort Collins, CO with Pastor Kevin McGinley officiating. At Michael's request, he was cremated, and the casting ceremony took place in the summer of 2022. Michael gifted blessings of hope for two recipients as an organ donor. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family in care of Gerald Berry.

<https://gofund.me/ccd032d5>



Michael was born December 4, 1965, in Alliance, NE to Janet (Coker) Artz and Larry Nicodemus. He attended Roosevelt Grade School and graduated from Scottsbluff High School in 1984. In high school, Michael enjoyed basketball, at 6'6", was an avid lover of shop class and excelled with artistic gifts. He participated in multiple career industries throughout his life as a cook at Grampy's, ranch hand near Hyannis and Bridgeport, NE, warehouse attendant at Kelly Bean Co. and accomplished his childhood dream of being a Conductor/Engineer for Union Pacific Railroad from '98 to '02.

Upon surviving a disabling accident as a conductor, Michael was a Chaplain with Cowboys For Christ (CFC) until '05. He yearned to teach God's love and created One Heart Ranch Ministries in Scottsbluff, NE to provide Christian based leadership through an understanding of horses and music including events at the YMCA Trails West Camp to promote healing, comfort and connection through God's love. His love for the mountains inspired him to continue his outreach in Loveland, CO and surrounding areas through light handyman services and spiritual health consulting from 2010 until his passing.

Michael enjoyed dancing, driving in the mountains, comedy movies, building model railroad sets and crafting. His treasured spirit was God loving, country western themed and horse loving with shared gifts of handcrafted horses, lamps, wagon wheels, cross clocks, horse paintings, hand carved story boards and murals that will be treasured by many. He aspired to be a carpenter and through multiple experiences he mastered many projects bringing joy through creativity and creation. His ability to help others paint their life's canvases grew over time through his quest of spiritual growth. When called upon for a devotional he once shared, ".....question of the month is more quest than a question. The quest is one that we as Christians have to battle with every day. The quest is more than what Christ does for us, but what we do with Christ living in us," Platte Valley CFC Chaplain, *Christian Ranchman*, February, 2004.

Michael is survived by his daughter, Savannah Merkel of Ontario, OR, newlywed wife Michelle (Byers) Nicodemus of Berthoud, CO, step-children Chris, Sara, Ashlynn and Madison, mother Janet Artz of Bayard, NE, father Larry (Pat) Nicodemus of Gering, NE, aunt Joan Coker of Scottsbluff, NE, sisters: Robyn Nicodemus of Bayard, Brenda (Chris) Schleicher of Chadron, NE and Lorlie (Mike) Dugger of Melbeta, NE, brother Gerald Berry of Romney, IN; nieces Selina Jahner, Cassy Nicodemus and Kyla Schily; Heather Wharton and Alicia (Adam) Pitman; Teona

(Brad) Fritzler and Shelby (Clayton) Tanner; nephews Alexander Berry and Vance Berry; many great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins. Michael was preceded in death by his step-father Clyde Artz, grandparents, uncles Charles (Evelyn), Ron and Ray Coker, brother Joel Nicodemus and his best friend Paul Carstensen who died just two days earlier on February 3rd.

To send a flower arrangement or to plant trees in memory of **Michael Ray Nicodemus**, please [click here to visit our Sympathy Store](#).

BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS
LOVE, JOY, PEACE,
PATIENCE, KINDNESS,
GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS,
GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL.
AGAINST SUCH THINGS
THERE IS NO LAW.

GALATIANS 5:22-23