



Robert "Mike" O'Hara

October 21, 1941 - February 11, 2010

Robert Michael O'Hara, age 68, passed away peacefully on February 10, 2010 in Topeka, Kansas, surrounded by his family. He was born October, 21, 1941, in Parsons, Kansas to James Patrick and Mary O'Connor O'Hara. He grew up in Parsons and graduated from St. Patrick's High School. He served as an MP in the U.S. Army from 1961-1962. He married Catherine Smith on April 27, 1968, in St. Paul, Kansas. The couple lived in Junction City, St. Marys, and later in Topeka, sharing time in Washington, D. C. Mike worked for the Kansas Department of Labor for 35 years and retired in 2000. He was a member of St. Joseph/Sacred Heart Catholic Parish in Topeka and served as a Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. His devotions were to his family, his Catholic faith and his Irish heritage. He enjoyed serving as the honorary "St. Patrick" on the family float at the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Topeka and hosted large pool parties with extended family and friends each 4th of July. He was preceded in death by his brothers James P. and John (Jack) O'Hara and sister Kathleen O'Hara. Mike is survived by his wife, Cathy; his sons Michael (Amy) O'Hara, Smithville, Missouri and Ryan (Leslie) O'Hara, Kansas City, Kansas; and his daughters, Erin (Tim) Newport, Topeka, Kansas and Katie Scarlett O'Hara (Jack) Calcutt, Bridgeport, Connecticut; and grandchildren Peter, Mary Margaret, Bernadette, Bridget, Henry and Joseph Newport and Molly, Brady and Casey O'Hara. He also is survived by three brothers, E.B. O'Hara, Denver, Colorado, W.J. (Joe) and Charles O'Hara of Topeka; and four sisters, Margaret Grillot and Jeanne Smith, St. Paul, Elaine Jefferson, Parsons, Betty Ann Cunningham, Chanute. Visitation for Mike in Topeka will be held at St. Joseph Church on Thursday, February 11th, from 4 to 7 p.m. with a rosary at 5:30 p.m. Visitation in St. Paul, Kansas, will be at St. Francis Hieronymo Church on Friday, February 12th, from 5 to 7 p.m. with a rosary at 6:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. at St. Francis Hieronymo Church with interment at St. Francis Parish Cemetery in St. Paul. Memorial contributions may be made to Topeka Catholic Charities and Prairie Mission Retirement Village in St. Paul and sent in care of the funeral homes. Online condolences may be sent to the Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home in Topeka at www.kevinbrennanfamily.com or Carson-Wall Funeral Home in Parsons at www.wallfuneralservices.com

Tribute Wall



“ Robert "Mike" O'Hara

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM

NB

“ Cathy:

I wanted to send you a card but was unsure of your address. Please accept my sincere sympathy and know that you and your family have been in my prayers.

Nancy Bogina

Nancy Bogina - February 22, 2010 at 01:49 PM

JH

“ Cathy and family, I just learned of Mike's passing. Thoughts and prayers to the family. I have many nice memories of Mike and Cathy with the Whittle's and also of the summer I babysat Micheal and Erin.

Jane Shoemann Harris - February 22, 2010 at 12:00 PM

MG

“ I am so sorry to read about Mike's passing. He was such a joy to know. He was always so pleasant and happy to talk about family. I liked giving him a bad time about not having pictures of all those grandkids he liked to talk about. Eventually I did get to see a few pictures. I'll miss him. Please know I will keep you and your family in my prayers.

Martha Gabehart - February 17, 2010 at 04:16 PM

JT

“ To the family, Nancy and I are greatly grieved to hear of Mike's passing. I have had the great pleasure in knowing Mike and his family for over 45 years. He was a great friend and a wonderful family man. Nancy and I will miss him greatly. Nancy and I have been in Florida for the past 6 weeks and did not hear of his passing until the 16th. He leaves a great legacy in the energy he gave to every enterprise and in the family he leaves behind. He was a great Irishman and Democrat. Peace. John & Nancy Taylor

John & Nancy Taylor - February 16, 2010 at 10:30 PM

CD

“ Cathy we were so very sorry to hear (from Jim Carfagno) of Mike's death. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

With love,
Carolyn

Carolyn Maus Duclos - February 15, 2010 at 03:49 PM

RS

“ Cathy, I was in Topeka last week and was very saddened to read Mike's obituary. It was my good fortune to know you folks many years ago and am sorry that we lost contact. I retired from AT&T in June and am now a lobbyist in Topeka. I fondly remember speaking to Mike Knights of Columbus Chapter in Junction City in October, 1977 and after the dinner we all sat around and watched Reggie Jackson hit three home runs and win the World Series for the New York Yankees. I was working for the Attorney General's office at the time. You two were a special couple and I respected both of you so much. You are in my thoughts and prayers. From what I read, it sounds like you have a great family to give you comfort. Take care. Richard Shank

Richard Shank - February 13, 2010 at 08:43 AM

DF

“ Dear Tim, Erin and Family,

We are so sorry for your loss. I'm sorry we can't be there personally to say this. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Love and God Bless You !!

Your Family In Ohio

David and Frances Zelch and Family - February 12, 2010 at 11:06 AM

KA

“ To the O'Hara family, my thoughts are with you at this difficult time. Let knowing that he is now at peace help to comfort you and help you through this. Mike was a good-hearted and thoughtful man. I had the pleasure of knowing him while working at KDHR/DOL.

May you find comfort and peace with the wonderful memories you have of your husband and father.

God Bless you, Karen Alexander, Topeka, Kansas

Karen Alexander - February 12, 2010 at 12:03 AM

MD

“ Ryan, Leslie & Family,

So sorry to hear about your Dad. Thinking of you all in the next few days and months.

Sending love!

Meg (Mai) Dubosky - February 11, 2010 at 08:31 PM

DS

“ Dear O'Hara family,

I was so saddened to read this morning of Mike's passing. I will always cherish and be grateful for the wonderful times that I spent with Mike and Cathy and with your entire family.

Cathy, you and Mike were great influences on me. Thank you so very much.

Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

David

David Steele - February 11, 2010 at 06:36 PM

CW

“ O'Hara family ~ My condolences to you as I was saddened to hear of his passing. He was truly, a caring and loving man. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Corey Wiltz - February 11, 2010 at 05:15 PM

JT

“ Please accept our most sincere condolences for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time. Jerry & Julie Turner

Jerry & Julie Turner - February 11, 2010 at 03:57 PM

SP

“ O'Hara Family,

May you find comfort in memories and strength in each other's love throughout this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Love, Stacey & Jason Pinto

Stacey & Jason Pinto - February 11, 2010 at 03:45 PM

DH

“ To all of the O'Hara Family, especially Cathy & Erin (& family), our hearts go out to you at this tough time of greiving the passing of Mike, but our hope burns eternal that we'll one day be reunited with our loved ones. Our prayers and thoughts are with you. Dave & Linda Hamilton

Dave & Linda Hamilton - February 11, 2010 at 03:44 PM

BW

“ CATHY AND FAMILY,
SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT MIKE'S PASSING.PLEASE KNOW THAT OUR
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME.
MAY GOD BE WITH YOU ALL NOW AND THE DAYS TO COME. GOD BLESS
YOU ALL.

BUTCH AND LINDA WILSON
ST PAUL, KANSAS

Butch & Linda Wilson - February 11, 2010 at 03:12 PM

FR

“ My condolences to the family. I will be remembering Mike in Masses at my
parishes this weekend.

Fr. Damian

Fr. Damian Richards - February 11, 2010 at 02:20 PM

MM

“ We were so sorry to hear about Mike...you will all be in our thoughts and prayers
as you journey through the difficult days ahead.

Mark and Jean Miller - February 11, 2010 at 12:13 PM

MH

“ Cathy and Family,
Fr. Ben told me about Mike this morning. It is ironic that yesterday morning I
asked Fr. Ben about him. Fr. says he actually passed away about that time. You
are in my thoughts and prayers. I enjoyed a short visit with Mike last summer here
in the rectory. You are so blessed with your wonderful family and your faith.

Mary Alice Hutley - February 11, 2010 at 11:34 AM

SW

“ Erin,

I was saddened to read about your dad. You will be in my thoughts and prayers during this time of sorrow.

Sheila Brennan Wallace - February 11, 2010 at 10:11 AM

JO

“ Cathy, Erin, Mike, Ryan and Katie and to all my other Smith cousins: I was so sorry to hear of Mike's death. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. I know that your large extended family will support you through this difficult time.

Johanna Oswald - February 11, 2010 at 09:14 AM

JL

“ I was very saddened to hear the news about Mike. I will keep him and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Jeff Lenherr - February 11, 2010 at 08:57 AM

KC

“ Katie Scarlett and Family--I know Katie always spoke with such fondness and love about her parents and your entire family. I am sorry for your loss. Kirsten Cigler

Kirsten Cigler - February 11, 2010 at 08:05 AM

LS

“ The Ohara Family,

I am so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you. May you find peace in God's love at this time.

Larissa

Larissa Stoddard - February 11, 2010 at 08:04 AM

DM

“ Cathy, Erin, Mike, Ryan, and Katie... I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. Thinking and praying for you.

Doug Miller - February 10, 2010 at 10:17 PM

DL

“ While I only had the privilege of meeting Mike near the end of his walk, I look forward to watching his legacy live on in his children and grandchildren. Mike, Cathy and the entire family will be in our prayers.

God bless,

Doug

Doug Longstaff - February 10, 2010 at 05:32 PM