



Martin D. Michalec

OCT 6, 2016



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Introvigne
Funeral Home, Inc.

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Martin D. Michalec

OCT 6, 2016

Martin D. Michalec, 92, of Union, CT, husband of the late Christine “Tina” (Hornacek) Michalec, passed away on Thursday, October 6, 2016. He was born on August 17, 1924 in Stafford Springs, CT, son of the late John and Suzanna (Kutka) Michalec. Martin served in the United States Army 128th AAA Gun Battalion in Europe during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1946. He attended numerous Army reunions and hosted reunions beginning in 1992 and as recently as 2014. Following the war, he and his brother John, formed the hydraulics and pneumatics rebuilding company John the Jackman Company, Inc., where he served as President following incorporation until his retirement. In 1948 Martin married Christine Hornacek, who passed away in July 2010. Martin was an avid outdoorsman and motorized sports enthusiast. He was a hunter and fished both fresh and salt water. He participated in the Rhode Island and Cape Cod Tuna Tournaments, having won numerous awards. He was a member of the State of Connecticut DEEP Recreational Trails Program for more than thirty years, having served as the trails motorized use advocate. Martin was a founding member of the Nipmuck Trail Riders Snowmobile Club, and a supporter of numerous outdoor recreational organizations including New England Trail Riders Association, CT Ramblers, Nutmeg Scrambles, and ATV and snowmobile watercross groups. He is survived by his son, Gary M. Michalec and wife Rosemarie, daughter, Nancy Cleary and husband Peter, grandchildren, Jason Michalec and wife Rocio, and Courtney (Cleary) Goldenberg and husband Matthew, and two great grandchildren, Nathan and Lauren Goldenberg. He was the last survivor of his 12 siblings. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 5-8 P.M. at Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., 51 East Main St., Stafford Springs, CT. Funeral services with burial in Stafford Springs Cemetery, Stafford Springs, CT, will be held privately. In lieu of donations, please



Obituary

Martin D. Michalec


perform an act of kindness in memory of Martin. For online condolences or directions, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com

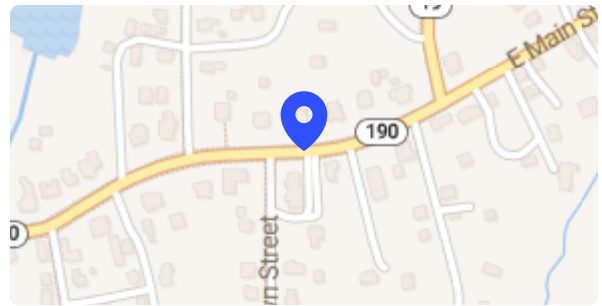


Visitation

 **Thursday**, October 13, 2016

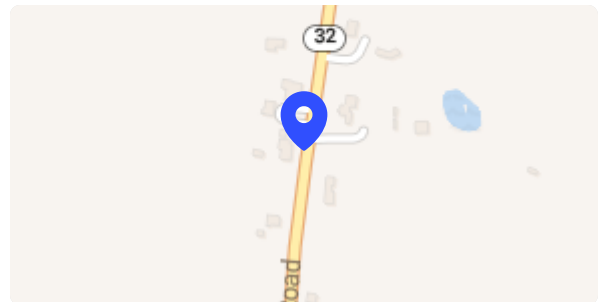
 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc.**
51 East Main St., Stafford Springs CT 06076



Cemetery Details

 **Stafford Springs Cemetery**
Monson Rd., Stafford Springs CT 06076





Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Ron Daros lit a candle in honor of Martin.

Sorry to hear about Martin's passing.

February 16 at 4:21 PM



Trina Spellman lit a candle in honor of Martin.

Martin,I enjoyed many many sundays up at your house to watch the water skips and races...I got to know you up at the truck stop In the restaurant I worked at. You will truly one in a million and will be missed greatly....my heart goes out to his family and friends.. may you RIP martin

October 14 at 3:18 AM





Jane Evans posted:

Martin touched my life from the day he walked into the ta restaurant. We quickly became friends. Every Friday he would wait at the door with a flower behind his back for me hoping I would tell him he was late and he made me worry 😞. On Christmas I got beautiful flowers with a great big smile. On my birthday flowers and a card as he confessed that I was the first person he ever bought a card for. He made me cry of course. He stayed so late one night talking to me his car was covered with snow and it took him an hour to get home no more of that! We shared stories of his army life, his young married life, he often brought pictures to show me of when he was younger, his wedding ets. He was so supportive when my son joined the army lots of advice for sure. He loved swapping stories with customers in the restaurant. The last year he spent every Friday night, Saturday night and Even Sunday lunch with me. He joked he had to actually go home before me!! When I gave him a little stuffed bunny for Easter he said no so I said I will give it to someone else, he said he wanted it. The next week he came in to tell me his put it on his bureau and how it made him so happy to wake up and see it and reminds him of what good friends he has and a reason to get up and of course a tear in his eye and I got another hug!, He mentioned the bunny every week and even n south Carolina he called and mentioned it. I am glad to finally find something that made him smile. When I showed him my neck was swollen he showed me his and uh oh I insisted he go to the dr. When the diagnosis came in there he was crying in my arms, us sharing another milestone! When I decided to move tto sc he was upset but being Martin he threw me a party with a cake music and friends 😊 On my last day he was there waiting to walk me to my car (thanks Jason for waiting with him). I gave him a plaque and card and I understand he carried the card to the ta for several weeks showing everyone so I know he appreciated it!, these r just a few of the wonderful memories I have of a very wonderful man who definitely made a Difficult job more fun and made me a better person for knowing him!, Thanks to all his family who brought him to the truck stop it really was a second home to him. We all cared very much for him but as the servers would say Jane your Martin is here!! I will so miss u my friend Martin! Love Jane

October 6 at 1:49 PM



Lindsay Ernst October 14 at 2:58 AM

Martin will be missed very much by everyone at the truck stop. He was such a sweetheart. He always loved having conversations with all of us at the TA. Jane was definitely his favorite though! As soon as we saw him we would go get his applesauce for him and he loved that he didn't have to ask for anything because we all knew him so well. He was such a generous person. Flowers and birthday cards for the staff. He knew that even if he came in to the restaurant alone, he would always have someone to talk to. We will miss your laugh and your smile every day. Rest in peace Martin.



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Dave Harkness posted:

So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. I will never forget one of the Nutmeg youth camps, Martin following myself and Joe Menard around instructing us on how to pick up rocks. Martin will never be forgotten. Dave Harkness Meriden MC.

October 13 at 11:42 AM



John S. Michalec & Family lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 13 at 9:00 AM



The Michalec's From San Clemente Ca John & Family sent a Sweet Tenderness to the Michalec family.



October 13 at 8:59 AM



John Michalec shared an album called **ON RACE DAY AT THE POND.**



October 13 at 8:26 AM



Lorne & Maria Day & Family sent a Guiding Light Bouquet to the Michalec family.



October 13 at 4:00 AM



Nipmuck Trail Riders Snowmobile Club sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Michalec family.



October 12 at 4:32 PM



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Lyle posted:

Nancy, Gary and families, Sorry to hear of your loss. I'm out of town so I can't make the service but my thoughts are with you. Hope you are doing well. Lyle (Remember when Martin hooked me with the Gaff, he took great pleasure in that)

October 12 at 11:32 AM



Erin Laska lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 11 at 6:49 PM



From All Of The Crew And Racers Of Necc sent an A Full Life to the Michalec family.



October 11 at 3:09 PM



Stan And Denise Poplasky, Sr And Family sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Michalec family.



October 11 at 2:58 PM



Anonymous sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Michalec family.



October 11 at 10:17 AM



Diane Ciano (Ct Horse Council) posted:

So sorry to hear of Martin's passing. He truly had such great character, and although I only knew him in the capacity of the CT Recreation Trails Advisory Committee, his memorable character and passion for trails and motorized use will always be remembered and respected. I especially remember the day he received a recognition award from the CT Greenways Council for his achievements.

October 11 at 5:39 AM



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Anonymous sent a Serenity Wreath to the Michalec family.



October 11 at 3:50 AM



James Blais shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Mr Michalec was tough and fair. Whenever he'd get on a tirade, I jokingly offer him a hug at which time he'd offer to kick me in the @ss. This picture was one of those moments when I caught him off guard with a smile. He might have been tough but he was also easy to diffuse with some simple gestures of friendship and respect.



October 10 at 10:44 AM



Peter Ostrowski posted:

Gary & Rose im very sorry to hear of Martin's passing he was a great guy . he will be looking down at us as he drives his 6 cylinder three on the tree pickup Pete&Cindy Ostrowski

October 10 at 9:12 AM



Tom Brodie lit a candle in honor of Martin.

I'm so sorry for your loss. We've lost another member of the 128th and a member of the Greatest Generation.Tom Brodie



October 10 at 9:08 AM



Bryan And Leigh (Mandak) Maxa lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 10 at 8:58 AM



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



The Aborns lit a candle in honor of Martin.

We have so many fond memories of Martin, mostly from being his neighbor and friends as well as Adam and Woody helping him on many projects with the CT Ramblers. But it was his famous war stories and historical knowledge of the Michalec Rd area that we will all miss the most. That and the twinkle in his eye when he smiled and made you laugh. He was a real go getter when it came to hard work too. Once he stopped by during breakfast and told Woody to "Put down the damn ham and eggs, we have work to do!" We will all miss you Martin! Our love goes out to his family and many friends.



October 9 at 5:45 PM



The Aborns October 10 at 11:53 AM

I like to think that he is now walking his property with his sweet wife Tina again.



Jeff Fluckiger lit a candle in honor of Martin.

Gary, My condolences to you and your family for the loss of your dad.



October 9 at 4:53 PM



Holly Vaughn lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 9 at 4:20 PM



Tony G. posted:

Martin was a fixture in the world of New England motorcycling. Many, many New England riders learned from Martin and by riding on his property which he so generously shared with all of us. He will be missed dearly by everyone in the NETRA family. Tony Gasper NETRA President.

October 9 at 12:19 PM



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Koehler Cottage posted:

My boys, many of our friends, and I spent days, working with Martin on his property. During that time I can safely say that we saw all sides of him. Ultimately the lessons of hard work, trail savvy, and common sense were life lessons. Always quick to mentor a youngster, Martin was always willing to offer a story (countless) of everything from the history of the area, to his time in the service, and of the Penton boys riding enduros on the property.Hell we even had all of the boys and girls riding dirt bikes up Main Street in Stafford as part of the Memorial Day parades in honor of our vets service. I could go on for days with stories of my memories. RIP Martin Michalec. The local community, and off road community will miss you.Pete Koehler

October 9 at 11:19 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Michalec family.



October 9 at 7:58 AM



Maria Day posted:

Mr. Martin was a great man and a great story teller. I will miss him and his stories. He also showed a great love to our club (NECC). He was so great to be around, even though he was strict in the way he liked thing done, he was always a pleasure to be around. We will really miss this GREAT man. RIP Mr. Martin and enjoy your return with your wife.

October 8 at 8:27 AM



Elaine Defeo & Family lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 7 at 4:49 PM

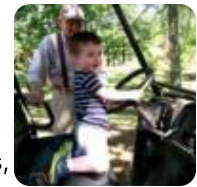


Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Courtney Goldenberg shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



My Grandfather was a man who loved the out doors. For most of my adult life, I would reference him to other people as, "a wild old man who lived in the woods of Northern Connecticut." I still picture him, to this day, as riding around through rivers and valleys, and finding as much trouble as he could get into on any given day. During my childhood he taught me how to fish, how to catch frogs, skip stones, and about the profound beauty and respite of being in nature. Whenever we would visit, our days were spent outside, either riding snow mobiles in the winter, walking the trails in the spring, swimming in the pond in the summer, or harvesting and caring for the land in the fall. His knowledge of how to live, and truly live in this natural world was profound and I will miss it dearly. I'll miss the way his face would light up with a good story or the twinkle in his eye if something caught him funny. I'll miss how much he gave to other people, how freely he shared his land and the space he loved. I'll miss those muggy summer nights catching fireflies in mason jars, running wild in the fields outside his house. I am so thankful that my Grandfather got a chance to meet his great grandson, and share with all of us the beauty of his home and joy of breathing deep in the great outdoors.

October 6 at 1:49 PM



Patricia Laska lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 7 at 11:54 AM



Patricia Laska October 7 at 11:56 AM

May you rest in peace Martin! The Laska Family - Mike, Pat, Erin and Alex. Glad I got to know you.



Herman Voisine posted:

Gary & Nancy I am so sorry for your loss. Your Dad has always been an inspiration to me and my family. Herman Voisine & Family

October 7 at 10:51 AM



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



John And Sandy Emhoff lit a candle in honor of Martin.

Gary, Sheila and family, we are so sorry for your loss. We have great memories of snowmobiling with your Dad and Mom. Remember the happy memories to get through this time. John and Sandy Emhoff



October 7 at 7:51 AM



John And Sandy Emhoff October 8 at 2:19 PM

Nancy, so sorry for your loss. I mistakenly added Sheila, a niece to your Dad.



Liz Sartori -Nickname Then-Betty posted:

I would like to have read an obituary. Martin and Tina as newlyweds lived in an apartment downstairs when my family lived upstairs, in Staffordville, Conn. in the late '40's, early '50's. Pleasant people, friendly people. Liz Sartori (At the time my nickname was "Betty")

October 7 at 5:51 AM



Nancy Cleary October 7 at 11:25 AM

Dear Liz, the obituary is in process and should be posted shortly. Please check back.



The Litvinchyks lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 7 at 5:29 AM



Peter Ference lit a candle in honor of Martin.



October 7 at 2:25 AM



Tribute Wall

Martin D. Michalec



Stanley Poplasky Sr posted:

Martin was a man to learn from, a man of many words, and an inspiration to all. Martin has a place in the hearts of all who have met him. Martin's stories will never be forgotten. Martin will be missed by everyone. Stanley Poplasky Sr and Family

October 6 at 1:49 PM



John Michalec shared a photo to the **ON RACE DAY AT THE POND** album.

October 13 at 8:26 AM



JOHN&MICHAEL FROM SAN CLEMENTE
WITH MARTIN ON RACE DAY AT HIS POND



James Blais shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 10 at 10:44 AM





Courtney Goldenberg shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 7 at 3:13 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Martin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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