



## Michael Paul Beachler

October 10, 1951 - June 12, 2022

Michael Paul Beachler, 70, of New Castle Delaware, formerly of Pittsburgh PA, died suddenly on June 12, 2022. Michael was the son of the late Edwin H. Beachler, Jr. and Mercedes S. Beachler. He is survived by his sons Daniel (Julie), Brian (Katie Ring), their mother Jeanne, and was the loving “Pops” of his grandson Jake. He is also survived by four brothers and five sisters, as well as their numerous spouses, and many nieces, and nephews. Michael attended Mt. Lebanon High School where he ran track and cross country, and graduated with highest honors in 1969. He subsequently attended Penn State University, majoring in history, and graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1972, and Phi Beta Kappa honors. Upon completion of his undergraduate degree, Michael joined the Peace Corps and took an assignment in the Micronesia Islands of the South Pacific Ocean. After his time in the Peace Corps, Michael worked various jobs in Pittsburgh and traveled extensively throughout the United States. In 1976, he rode his 10-speed bicycle from western Maryland to San Francisco CA, completing the solo expedition in a total of 45 days, camping along the way.

After returning to Pittsburgh in 1977, he attended the University of Pittsburgh’s Graduate School of Public Health, and received a Master of Public Health Administration in 1979. Michael spent his entire career providing public health related services to various organizations dedicated to supporting health improvement of residents in need. In 1984, he served for the State of Maine

Department of Human Services before transitioning to the Governor's Office. He then worked at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation from 1987- 1997 as a Senior Program Officer, where he was responsible for developing and overseeing several national grant programs funded by the nation's largest public health philanthropy. He was most proud of his contributions to increasing the supply of primary care providers and expanding smoking cessation initiatives such as the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids. From 1997 -2006 he was the Director for the Southern Rural Access Program in Hershey, Pa that provided funding for basic health care for rural communities. For the remainder of his career, he worked as a consultant for various health care foundations and agencies throughout the U.S. including the Center for Creative Leadership located in Greensboro, NC.

He received numerous awards including an Honorary Doctorate award in Humane Letters and an Ambassador of Good Will from the State of Arkansas. He served on the boards of more than twenty organizations throughout the U.S. He has more than 15 health care services' publications in various international journals, and presented at numerous meetings across the U.S.

Michael was an avid sports fan and was particularly interested in college sports for his alma maters, Penn State University and the University of Pittsburgh, where he frequently attended games with his family and friends. He was an energetic coach to his son's soccer teams and enjoyed traveling to see his family and friends participate in various events. He was a lover of national parks and enjoyed hiking, long-distance running, bicycling, swimming, and traveling throughout the U.S. He competed in numerous long distance running and bicycling events in various cities in the U.S. In the late 1990s, he earnestly took up distance swimming and trained and competed at the Masters level. During the last four years of his retirement, he spent countless hours with his grandson Jake and traveled to explore new areas and visited his friends and siblings that are spread out all over the U.S.

Michael will be remembered by his former colleagues as a compassionate individual who diligently worked with people who needed health related services. His family and friends will remember him as a loyal and loving father, grandfather, and brother who enjoyed life with love, vigor and fun – particularly on the dance floor.

Friends will be received at the Strano and Feeley Family Funeral Home, 635 Churchmans Road, Newark, Delaware, 19702, on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 10-11 am. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am, following the visitation.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to either Partners in Health or the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, (“In memory of Michael Beachler”). To send an online condolence please visit [www.stranofeeley.com](http://www.stranofeeley.com)

Strano & Feeley  
Family Funeral Home  
302-731-5459

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**JUN 18.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home  
635 Churchmans Rd  
Newark, DE 19702  
(302) 731-5459  
info@stranofeeley.com

### Service

**JUN 18.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home  
635 Churchmans Rd  
Newark, DE 19702  
(302) 731-5459  
info@stranofeeley.com

# Tribute Wall

SS

“ I had the honor of working with Michael at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He was a bulldog in his pursuit of programs that would help those in need. He was greatly respected by his colleagues and grantees and was a wonderful role model. I will miss him deeply.

Steve Schroeder

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**Steven Schroeder** - June 20, 2022 at 12:52 PM

JW

“ So many memories with Michael over the years at CCL! He brought some great energy, experience, and a candor that kept us all real! He helped us grow a new line of work - Leadership Beyond Boundaries, which evolved into Societal Advancement. Not only did he believe in public health for everyone but he also recognized that leadership development could help individuals, communities, and organizations create positive change. Michael will be greatly missed but the lessons and mentoring he provided many of us will live on in us and the work that continues today.

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**Joel Wright** - June 18, 2022 at 03:32 PM

MK

“ My condolences to all of Michael's family for the loss of a guy who always loved to make people laugh and have fun. The Minge family and the Beachler family were both large and we have great memories over the years. We will all miss you Moose. Rest in peace.

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**Margaret M Knode** - June 18, 2022 at 07:55 AM

JB

*Thanks for being there yesterday, Maggie - my love to you and Terry*

**Jeanne Beachler** - June 19, 2022 at 11:02 AM

JO

*“ I met him only briefly before the race last Sunday. But he was warm and kind. As I saw the boat pull to shore I stopped swimming and said a prayer. My prayers have been with the family this week.*



**jodi** - June 17, 2022 at 06:48 PM



*“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Beachler.*



June 17, 2022 at 02:22 PM

HS

*“ Hershey masters swimmers purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Paul Beachler.*



**Hershey masters swimmers** - June 17, 2022 at 10:33 AM

YI

“ I was a participant in the event last Sunday where Mr. Beachler lost his life. I did not know him and only heard about his passing on Monday. Just reading about him here, I am struck by what an accomplished, joyful, loving gentleman he was. He truly lived, right up to the moment when he left this earth, doing something he loved. May his memory be a blessing and an inspiration.

Yasmine Iqbal - June 17, 2022 at 08:27 AM

AW

“ Michael brought so much joy with him, wherever he went. I remember when he came to visit us in Ethiopia for work with CCL. There was no water at our house for several days and it didn't phase him at all... he just kept making everyone laugh over beers late at night. He will be missed!

Aaron White - June 16, 2022 at 03:07 PM



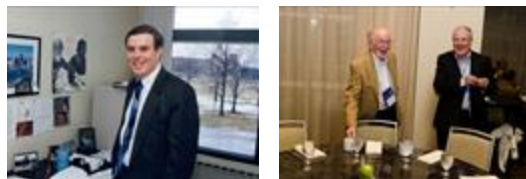
“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Beachler.



June 16, 2022 at 11:44 AM

BB

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Brian Bechler - June 16, 2022 at 10:34 AM

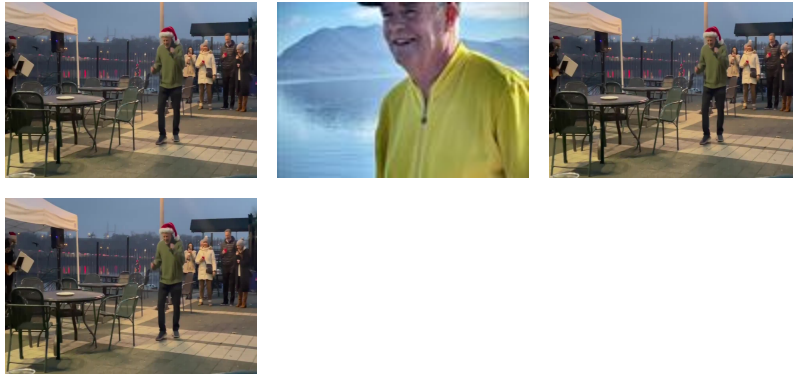
FM

“ I want to express my condolences and deepest sympathies to all of Michael’s family and friends. As a McGough growing up in Lebo a number of my brothers and sisters were friends with the Beachlers...Bob being the closest in age to me. Michael and my brother Michael graduated the same year from Lebo. Such a great family, a life well lived! so sorry for your loss.

Frank McGough - June 16, 2022 at 09:32 AM

BB

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Brian Beachler - June 16, 2022 at 09:28 AM

OL

“ I knew Michael only as "Mr. B", as that is what we, as friends of his sons, called him. I didn't know much of Mr. B's academic or professional accomplishments but I am not surprised to read of his impressive achievements in those fields. Instead, I only knew him as a humble, generous, kind and fun-loving father and friend. I have many childhood memories of trips with Mr. B and his sons to Deep Creek in the summer for waterskiing and kayaking and in the winter for skiing. I also remember he would always take us out for dinner when he came to visit Dan at Penn State. Mr. B was clearly a devoted father, grandfather, brother, partner and beloved friend to many, but I will always most clearly remember his incredible ability to make everyone around him feel welcome and comfortable. His kindness, humor and generous spirit will endure on with his memory. Thank you for everything and rest in peace, Mr. B.

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**Oliver Liao** - June 16, 2022 at 09:07 AM

JB

Thank you Oliver - love to you from Dan and Brian's Mom, Jeanne

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**Jeanne Beachler** - June 18, 2022 at 08:08 AM

RH

“ hello all, i have now read the complete obit for michael. my sentiments of awe and admiration are even greater than before. what an impressive guy. i remember how modest of a person he was all the years i knew him. private and did not wish to draw attention to his huge personality and huge list of achievements.

again, my condolences to dear michael.

if there are those who want to put me on list of folks to stay in touch with, you can do so at [rjholsinger@hotmail.com](mailto:rjholsinger@hotmail.com).

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**richard j holsinger** - June 15, 2022 at 08:17 PM

LY

“ I worked with Michael for a number of years at CCL. He was always passionate and fun and put his heart into the things he cared about. His passing was marked by many messages from colleagues, near and far. It is a great tribute to the widespread appreciation we held for a wonderful man. -- Lyndon

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**Lyndon** - June 15, 2022 at 06:19 PM

AN

“ I'm so thankful to have met you. I loved cycling with you. Thank you for always encouraging me. Thanks for the laughs and for putting up with me calling you Bleacher. I'm glad your final years were by family and making lasting memories with your grandson. Rest well, good friend XO

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**Angela** - June 15, 2022 at 05:39 PM

JM

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Joe Marx** - June 15, 2022 at 03:57 PM



“ Dan, Julie, Jakey, Bo, and Katie,

*Your dad was such a great guy to know. Forever proud of his boys. I truly appreciated his support of Lisa's Army and how he biked circles around our team. He lead the charge and committed to the cause even though he hardly knew me. I loved seeing his facebook updates and seeing him brag about all of you. I know he lives on in your hearts and the work that you all do for others. Sending love and condolences.*

*Rachael, Jim and Sky*

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**Rachael Gartner** - June 15, 2022 at 03:30 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Michael Paul Beachler.

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June 15, 2022 at 03:12 PM

KN

“ Dan, Julie, Brian, Katie, Jake.....though we have never met, Michael talked about you so lovingly, proudly and with such joy, I feel I know each of you. I could probably fill this Tribute Wall with memories of our conversations about the enthusiasm and the love he had for each of you....what struck me the most was how he talked about Jake. What a team! They looked alike and Michael just adored him from here to the moon and back!

Michael and I were riding/dancing buddies....we shared some really fun adventures on two wheels. I will miss him dearly, especially when I ride. Right now I suspect you are gutted, bereft and lost. My wish for you is that someday you will think of Michael (Dad) and feel the amazing love he felt for you and gave to the world. I am so blessed to have crossed paths with Michael and felt his energy, boundless optimism and above all else his radiant love. Hugs! I'm so so sorry!

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**Kathleen Nieman** - June 15, 2022 at 02:07 PM

TW

“ Wonderful individual...went through grade school and high school with Mike. As positive an individual of anyone I know...God bless the Beachler clan

Tom Welch  
LEBO 69

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**Tom Welch** - June 14, 2022 at 04:58 PM

MK

Yes, Tom, we all went to school together. I last saw Mike at our 50th Class reunion. He was great!

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**Marian Kennedy** - June 15, 2022 at 11:57 AM

FS

*So sorry to hear, Michael and I are the same age, and spent a lot of time during our younger years with our families.*

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**Fritz Shiring** - June 15, 2022 at 04:16 PM