



Edward J. Michaels

October 15, 1951 - July 19, 2016

Edward J. Michaels passed away unexpectedly from renal disease on July 19, 2016. He leaves behind his wife, Karen M. Michaels and (3) brother in laws Glendon, Robert, and Gary Doran. His parents Conrad E. Michaels and Viola R. Michaels predeceased him in 1970 and 1989.

Edward was born in Philadelphia and spent part of his childhood in the Bronx, NY. Having moved to Cinnaminson, NJ as a child with his parents, he spent most of his life in Burlington County, NJ. He graduated from Cinnaminson High School in 1969. He had an extensive life-long career in the security and private detective industry, including but not limited to, jobs with Associated Security Specialists, Titan Detective Agency, Bowles Corporate Security, Allied Protection, General Security, and most recently Assets Protection. At one point, he was a dog handler and worked with the local Edgewater Park Police Department in his younger days.

His true passion in life was photography. The Courier Post had opened a summer internship program to him as a press photographer in his youth, and he had a natural gift for photography. During his life, he had been active in the Masonic organization, had been Sgt. at Arms of Tri-State Association of Criminal Investigators, and held a license for ham radio operation. All who knew Ed can attest he had the gift of conversation and enjoyed immensely telling stories of his past and present with friends and family. Having been

most recently a dialysis patient and partial bilateral foot amputee, his wife would like to express gratitude for all the medical personnel and friends and family who have aided in his care these last few years.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Ed's Memorial Service 7 p.m. Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at the Merchantville Masonic Lodge, 6926 Park Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08109.

The family would appreciate memorial contributions, in Ed's name, may be made to the Masonic Lodge.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

AUG **23**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Merchantville Masonic Lodge
6925 Park Avenue
Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Tribute Wall



“ *Edward J. Michaels*

September 09, 2022 at 01:27 AM



“ *to Ed....I think of you a lot; it seems so surreal to not hear you on the phone... Surely, you've found your beloved mom and dad, and you are reunited with others who have passed before you. Never again will you have to struggle, never again will you be "alone" for special occasions, and you will always be surrounded by love. You were larger than life at times in your business demeanor, everyone around you knew you were bold. You carried that same boldness in your personal life, it allowed you to overcome a lot, the amputations of parts of both of your feet, learning to walk again, prosthetics, learning to drive again. Rest in peace, you need not fight to get through each day now; you have more than earned your rest....God speed, Eddie Bear.*

Karen Michaels - November 04, 2016 at 12:38 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Pamela orchow Reeder - August 29, 2016 at 01:19 AM

PR

“ So very sad to hear about Ed passing... I just found out today. Many nice memories of him when we went to Cinaminson High School together when we would ride to school in his "EdMobile". He had such a good memory compared to me about all the details of funny events we shared and it was really nice to relive them all over again with him after so many years.

Would have liked to see him one last time but I live in California so it wasn't to be.

RIP Ed... I will always remember you ❤️

Pamela orchow Reeder - August 29, 2016 at 01:14 AM

CC

“ Today, I learned of your passing and was flooded with many emotions. My heart is heavy, however, I know you are in a better place and are no longer suffering. We had crazy relationship, you and I, and I'm thankful that we were able to make some semblance of peace. God speed, friend.

Love always,

Colleen

Colleen Clark - August 24, 2016 at 11:51 AM

PE

“ Ed and I would talk on the phone for hours at a time some evenings...we would talk about everything and anything....sometimes about nothing more than just day to day stuff...I will those phone calls...Ed was a unique man...We both had our share of problems in life and Ed's phone calls sometimes were well timed and good for both of us....Ed will be missed.

Until we meet on The Level again....so long Ed.

Paul Ellis Past Master Collingswood-Cloud Lodge 101

Paul Ellis - August 23, 2016 at 09:32 AM

HM

“ I had the distinct pleasure of knowing, working with, and believe it or not, actually working for Ed at one time. Like everyone knows, Ed was just different. Tell him there was a nice blue sky outside and you'd get at least a 20 minute detailed explanation about how the color spectrum worked and why the sky just looked blue. There was never a need to fact check anything with Ed - if he said it, it was true!

If I could only have one more long telephone conversation with you Ed - I need to know who to vote for in November!!!

Peace Ed. Out here.

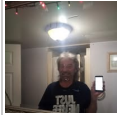
Harry Myers (and yes Ed, I really did earn my PhD)

Harry Myers - August 09, 2016 at 10:47 AM

KA

Harry....though I am not sure if I ever met you; I am Karen, Ed's wife... He and I had been separated these last 5 years; but my heart is still very sore with Ed's passing.... When I read your post, I smiled a mile wide; you surely captured Ed so very well in your comment above... Thank you ever so much for your dear, kind words, and for the little smile in my heart tonight...

karenmichaels - August 10, 2016 at 08:17 PM



I read it too . He nailed it exactly. There was Ed Michaels or Google .

Gary Doran - August 22, 2016 at 04:31 PM

PE

That is Ed...we would talk on the phone some evenings for hours...about everything and anything....I will miss those phone calls...

Paul Ellis PM

Paul Ellis - August 23, 2016 at 09:17 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Givnish Funeral Home - August 04, 2016 at 01:14 PM

JK

“ Ed was a good friend with a good heart. We were classmates in Cinnaminson High School, class of 1969. I wouldn't be surprised if Ed, who always had a camera in hand, didn't photograph every one of us in our graduating class, and then gave a copy of their picture to keep. I still have mine. Through FB, Ed and I reconnected years later. He cared about his friends deeply and made it evident. Ed became friends with my husband, Lou, and our two grown daughters. He will be missed. God bless you, Ed. Whenever I hear, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," I know I will think of you, Ed. Thanks for your many years of friendship. Love, JoAnn and Lou Koff and family

JoAnn Koff - August 02, 2016 at 08:08 PM

RR

“ 4 files added to the album Photos of Ed



Ray Richardson - August 02, 2016 at 02:30 AM

KA

“ Below I have added a photo of Ed's mom and dad, Viola and Conrad Michaels. His parents were married "in secret" on December 8, 1941, then again in a Presbyterian church when his father returned from the war; then again in the Catholic church as his father neared his own passing from cancer when Ed was 18. May you find eternal peace with your mom and dad, Eddie.

karenmichaels - August 02, 2016 at 12:12 AM

KA

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



karenmichaels - August 02, 2016 at 12:07 AM

KA

“ Here is a photo of Ed "in his glory" at Sal and Joe's restaurant, Maple Shade, NJ...one of his favorite places to eat. Sal is standing next to Ed. Sal shared a birthday with Ed's wife (me, Karen), and we made sure to include a card for Sal for his birthday, too...

karenmichaels - August 01, 2016 at 11:57 PM

KA

The photo below would have been from 2005....

karenmichaels - August 05, 2016 at 12:38 AM

KA

“ 1 file added to the album *Photos of Ed*



karenmichaels - August 01, 2016 at 11:53 PM

“What can I say. I have traveled and worked and been around and know a lot of people, but none remotely like Ed.

We met around 2004 at a ham radio store where i worked. i'd been a ham off and on since 1959. Besides that, my career had been in commercial photography, and I shot at the range, so Ed and I had a lot of things in common.

i was working my way up to leaving a 25 year marriage and was tense and desperate. Ed was very supportive. I had left the photo studio in 1987 when the city of Philadelphia built its new convention center and tore down the photo and graphic arts district. Ed and I did some camera research and shopping and I shot my first jobs in the better part of 30 years.

We talked all the time. If you were involved with Ed, you know what it was like to talk once or twice or five times a day. I went over and saw him many times, but nothing compared to the frequency of phone calls, as he was a three hour round trip away.

I have never heard of, much less known, someone with the courage and guts and determination to survive. He lived on such thin ice and every single day was a cliff hanger. We would be on the phone and he would scream if he dropped something or was about to fall over. I never knew if he would live through the night, and figured that some day, the phone wouldn't answer or I wouldn't hear from him for a while, and it wouldn't be clear if he were still around. I never pictured getting a call from Karen, after they had extracted my number from his phone,

I never knew someone who constantly suffered so much. So much physical pain, fear, emotional and financial distress. How he stayed alive by himself and kept up the apartment and the car amazed me. I haven't seen "The Revenant" which is about some guy who miraculously kept himself alive. Sounds like Ed.

I also never had a relationship where we would argue and fight so much. It was always so unexpectedly provocative to argue about nothing important. Ed said it was like being brothers. Maybe Cain and Abel.

Again, if you also hung out with Ed, you know exactly what I mean.

He and I had strong spiritual drive and we loved church and other ceremonies. My wife and I have a teacher from a path from India, who comes to the US every year. We brought him over to meet with Ed, whom we wanted so much to have more peace with his situation. We told him that to do meditation he didn't have to get up or down or move around or chant or repeat a mantra or anything like that, but merely to watch his breath, if only momentarily. We know how difficult the challenge is to be present and accept the way things are, rather than how they were or how we want them to be. We wanted Ed to have a little bit of peace with the things he couldn't control much, such as his health, his isolation, his finances. Like us, he was so self-punitive.

He was a very big guy with a very big heart. He was a completely devoted and dependable friend and there was nothing he wouldn't do for me. He was always so generous, particularly for someone with very little means.

So Karen called out of the blue and we had a very good talk. I drove over to Ed's to pick up a scooter we had just gotten him. I thought I would take home some little souvenir, a hat, something from the desk or counter, but I couldn't do it.

I want to thank so many of you who did so much for him -- Sonny Pearl, who is also no longer around, Glenn and Karen's family, his friends from Sal and Joe's, the F & M Deli and Brother Bear's BBQ, the Masons and Tri-State crew, Don Herr for being incredibly generous and helpful - what an employer! - and so many others I heard about so many times who, at the drop of a hat, came to Ed's aid.

I could go on and on. I spent more time with Ed than with anyone but my wife and pets. He loved our dogs and would always ask for them. He really missed having pets.

It's hard to believe the phone won't ring with Ed on the other end and we will talk another zillion times....

Bob Penneys - July 31, 2016 at 01:54 PM

RR

“ 2 files added to the album Photos of Ed



Ray Richardson - July 30, 2016 at 03:13 PM

KA

“ Karenmichaels lit a candle in memory of Edward J. Michaels



karenmichaels - July 28, 2016 at 05:00 PM

KA

A rose colored candle for you, Ed. You're with your mom, Viola Rose, once again.

karenmichaels - July 28, 2016 at 05:01 PM

KA

“ *The way I will always remember Ed is with a Nikon around his neck, passionately ready to take his next photo. I can only imagine, Ed, that you wish you had your camera with you as you approached the Pearly Gates. I picture Tom Cosans and Drew Preis right there waiting to greet you, checking your security credentials before allowing you to pass. Your voice, your stories, your larger than life presence at times, will be remembered by many... With tears, you will be missed; with smiles you will be remembered. --- Karen.*

karenmichaels - July 28, 2016 at 12:09 PM

BB

“ *I attended Westfield Friends School with Ed who lived a few blocks away from where I was raised. We used to play together at his house when we were little. His parents were always welcoming and friendly as was Ed. A good guy who I glad reconnected with a bunch of us on Facebook in recent years. It was nice to keep in touch with him as he was struggling through the past few years. I'm very grateful that our friend, Bill Steagall was able to spend some time with Ed recently. RIP, my friend.*
Bill Barker

Bill Barker - July 28, 2016 at 10:00 AM

KA

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



karenmichaels - July 27, 2016 at 07:10 PM

NF

He will be missed.

Nancy Turner, a friend - July 28, 2016 at 10:30 AM

RR

Hi, I photographed Karen and Ed's wedding back in the 1980's and knew Ed very well over the past thirty years, both as a friend and working with him as a Private Investigator through a half dozen different companies which is he was employed by. I hired Ed to photograph weddings for me and to work with me as a "second shooter" at weddings with me over the course of my photographic career. I was supposed to have lunch with Ed the day before he passed at his favorite restaurant, Sal & Joe's, where he and Karen had many a meal. I was there with the officers from Tristate Criminal Investigators Association, but Ed overslept and missed our luncheon. I spoke with him later on and he told me that he overslept but that he had some good ideas for Tristate. Later that same afternoon, there was one hell of a thunderstorm, so I don't know if that caused Ed to miss his Dialysis appointment or not that day. I tried to post some images that Ed had taken and some pictures of him, but I'm not sure they uploaded. Guess time will tell. I will see you on the 20th of August at Ed's Memorial Service. RIP Edward Joseph Michaels....from your friend Ray Richardson

Ray Richardson - July 30, 2016 at 03:09 PM

KA

“ 4 files added to the album Photos of Ed



karenmichaels - July 27, 2016 at 06:27 PM