



## Michael D. Grace

August 14, 1942 - January 28, 2024

CENTERVILLE, IN— Michael D. Grace, age 81, of Centerville, Indiana, left this life on January 28, 2024, at Reid Health in hospice care.

Mike was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on August 14, 1942, to Dale and Eloise Wessel Grace. Mike graduated from Country Day High School in Indian Hill, Ohio and briefly attended Duke University. He was a proud member of the Green Berets Special Forces and served as a Field Combat Medic during the Vietnam War, for which he was awarded several medals including the Silver Star and Purple Heart, and advanced to rank of Sergeant. Mike spent several years out west, mining with fellow veteran and close friend, Thomas Bonn, and drilling wells before returning to Cincinnati to help his dad run the family-owned Wilson Dairy Company. After the dairy closed, he relocated to Richmond and worked as distribution manager at C.S.D.C. until he retired. Mike was an avid reader and was highly skilled at working with both wood and iron. He enjoyed spending time with his family and especially loved the many camping trips he took with his children. He also enjoyed meeting his fellow local veterans weekly for coffee.

Left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife of 38 years, Sandra; two sons, Bryant (Sarah) and Thomas (Nidia); three daughters, Beatrice, Becky (John), and Elaina Grace (Corey), all of Oregon; grandchildren, Birdie, Jett, Zane, Sam, Abby, Georgia, and Erolyn; sister, Kathleen Grace; nephews, Mathew

and Jamie, all of Pennsylvania; cousins, Mike, Pat, Jim, and Joe Leonard of Ohio; along with his two faithful furry companions Pepe and Betsy. He also leaves behind brother-in-law Steve (Wendy) Barker; sisters in law, June Nearing, Penny King, and Millie (George) Holsapple.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Sally Wilson Young.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to the Wayne County Veteran's Memorial Park, P. O. Box 2401, Richmond, IN 47374.

Doan & Mills Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the guest book at [www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com](http://www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

TM

“ I wish to extend sincere condolences to the family. I was made aware of Mr. Grace's passing from the Special Forces Association magazine. I invite the family to contact me through [info@ohioheroes.org](mailto:info@ohioheroes.org). Mr. Grace, having been born in Cincinnati, Ohio and being awarded a Silver Star for action in Vietnam, is likely eligible for induction into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame ([www.ohioheroes.org](http://www.ohioheroes.org)). There are no fees involved. We've had an induction ceremony in Columbus each year at the Statehouse. This year's ceremony is May 3, 2024. We would hope to honor Mr. Grace at the 2025 ceremony in May, 2025.

*Ted Mosure  
President, Board of Directors  
Ohio Military Hall of Fame*

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**Ted Mosure** - April 12, 2024 at 09:34 AM

BT

“ We are sorry to hear of Mike's loss. He and Bernie worked together for several years at CSDC. He will certainly be missed. Our sincere condolences to the family.

*Sincerely,*

*Bernie and Mary Thomasson  
Fishers, Indiana*



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**Bernie and Mary Thomasson** - February 07, 2024 at 12:45 PM

DM

“ Just learned today from a former colleague of Mike's passing. Sincere condolences to his wife and family. Mike was a long-time valued member of the Palladium-Item's Editorial Board who shared his keen insights and helped shape the newspaper's view on issue, local to international. He also helped keep our weekly Editorial Board meetings as lively as they were enlightening, and I am proud to have known him and appreciative of his many contributions.

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**Dale McConnaughay** - February 06, 2024 at 05:24 PM

BL

“ Sharon and Bob Larkin, Veteran and beloved Friend, Mike and Bob were continuously Claiming one of us was the Oldest in our group of Vets. He and I shared many Great Laughs about our Ages Mike being only Three months older than I. Sharon and I will miss Mike and Sandy always.

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**Bob Larkin** - February 06, 2024 at 04:35 PM

BM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

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**Bob Clark and staff at Doan & Mills** - February 05, 2024 at 04:44 PM