



Michael Yakumithis

July 9, 1938 - May 22, 2021

Michael Yakumithis was born in 1938 to Manuel K. and Minnie Yakumithis. He attended Sherman School, Woodward High School and the University of Toledo. The youngest of four children, Michael's strong sense of family lent itself to joining his father in the restaurant business, and together they established Travel Concessions. The robust food service business catered to Trailways and Greyhound Bus Lines across the Midwest and was an accomplishment Michael took great pride in his entire life.

As both his own business and public demand for bus travel expanded, Michael also tapped into the vending industry, along with real estate and others which equipped him with keen abilities in many different areas.

Michael's legacy will perhaps be most notably perpetuated in his development of local restaurants, including the beloved Monroe Street hotspot, Michael's Bar and Grill (formerly the Baltimore Cafe, which opened its doors in 1922). Alongside his wife and partner in life, Vasilike "Koula" Mastrogiannis, whom he married in 1962, Michael's humility and authenticity made customers from all walks of life feel like part of the family. Customers and friends frequently stopped in for a meal accompanied by Michael's sagely advice, which was sought out by many in the back corner with a cup of coffee and pearls of wisdom accumulated from decades of his wide-reaching experiences. Advice drawn from his own experiences was supplemented by an obsession with history and general knowledge, which gave him the ability to discuss most topics (especially political history and science) in the most specific of terms.

As a voracious reader, Michael had recently moved his collection of hundreds of books to a digital format and loved showing off that he synced them to his phone, tablet and computer.

Michael's Greek Orthodox faith was also central to his life. The lifelong member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral served on its Parish Council, and he was also a former member of AHEPA in roles including President of his local Chapter.

Although his lifetime saw significant contributions to the church and Toledo community, Michael never sought acknowledgement for his generosity. As his sons recall, when asked as to why he didn't publicly promote his charity, he would simply say, "I know, your mother knows...who else needs to know?"

He is survived by his adoring wife Koula; sons Dean (Yanna), Emmanuel (Kelly), George (Julie) and John (Camilla); and also his nephew Emmanuel (Branwen) Diakonis, who attended to Michael like his own father.

Michael and Koula's family grew to include eight grandchildren: Anna Maria Yakumithis (Scott Geiger), Whitney Yakumithis, Michael (Marika) Yakumithis, Vasilia (Jeffrey) Kim, Alex Yakumithis, Marilyn Yakumithis and Sophia Yakumithis, along with one great grandchild, Maria Yakumithis. In addition to his parents, he was preceded by his beloved granddaughter, Elena; his siblings and their spouses, Karl (Virginia), Irene (William) Diakonis, John (Mildred); and his nephews, John and Nicholas Diakonis.

Visitation will be at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Road, on Tuesday, May 25 beginning at 2 pm with Trisiagon Prayers at 7pm. The funeral will be held on Wednesday May 26 at 11 am with the body lying in state at 10 am at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Fr. Larry Legakis presiding.

Interment services will follow in Forest Cemetery.

Memorial Donations are suggested to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral or the American Heart Association. Please view in online guest registry at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Forest Cemetery

1704 Mulberry St.
Toledo, OH 43608

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **25**. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614

Visitation

MAY **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Greek Cathedral
740 North Superior St
Toledo, OH 43604

Funeral Ceremony

MAY **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Greek Cathedral
740 North Superior St
Toledo, OH 43604

Graveside Service

MAY **26**. 12:30 PM - 12:45 PM (ET)

Forest Cemetery
1704 Mulberry St.
Toledo, OH 43608

Tribute Wall

SC

“ Sincere condolences to the entire Yakumithis family at this sad time. We hope that many happy memories will bring comfort in the days ahead as you grieve the loss of a wonderful man.
Stuart and Denise Cubbon

Stuart Cubbon - May 26, 2021 at 02:56 PM

JD

“ Please accept our condolences. We enjoyed our many discussions, history lessons, and general “ note comparing “ discussions with Michael while dining at Michael’s. We will always remember him during our future visits.
Joe & Fran Darmofal.



Joe Darmofal - May 25, 2021 at 09:21 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



May 25, 2021 at 07:50 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



May 24, 2021 at 10:52 PM

SW

“ Please know of my love, sympathy, and prayer for all in the family.

Sr. Linda Marie White - May 24, 2021 at 10:20 PM

RS

“ Dear Mama Koula and family,

I have never felt so welcome and loved as when I step into Michael's Bar and Grill. The "VIP table" will not be the same without a friendly chat with Michael. You know I loved his sense of humor. Michelle and I offer a prayer for your family and wish you strength in the years ahead.

Sincerely, Robert and Michelle Shiels

Robert Shiels - May 24, 2021 at 09:55 PM

TR

“ Koula and Family,
*Our Deepest Condolences to you and The Family.
We were saddened to hear of Michael's passing.
Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs....*

Love

Tracy and Jo & Donovan

tracy rodgers - May 24, 2021 at 08:51 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.*



May 24, 2021 at 05:24 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.*



May 24, 2021 at 05:05 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.*



May 24, 2021 at 04:34 PM



“ *May His memory be eternal. A man who was larger than life and his presence was felt by the way he lived his life, cherished his wife and loved his children. It was a pleasure to have known him a long time ago. He forever left a heartfelt impression. Kindest Sympathies, Stefanie Bougdanos Josephson*



Stefanie Bougdanos Josephson - May 24, 2021 at 04:32 PM

FW

“ From Barb and Jack Witherell purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



From Barb and Jack Witherell - May 24, 2021 at 12:36 PM

TG

“ The Ferguson Family & Donna Gallaher purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



The Ferguson Family & Donna Gallaher - May 24, 2021 at 11:19 AM

BB

“ A true father figure to me for over 30 years. He spoke with the wisdom and conviction of his years. I will always cherish the chats at the "Round Table". Sto kaló Patéras!

Brent R Beebe - May 24, 2021 at 10:49 AM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



May 24, 2021 at 10:49 AM



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



May 24, 2021 at 10:28 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



May 24, 2021 at 08:12 AM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



May 24, 2021 at 06:57 AM



“ *Fred Ahrens (Sarah) purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet* for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



Fred Ahrens (Sarah) - May 23, 2021 at 11:27 PM

DB

“ I first moved to the Toledo area in 1999. Never expected to stay. But discovered Michael's Bar & Grill and met an incredibly kind and generous family who have become life long friends. I spent many of nights talking with Michael and learned so much about Toledo and it's history. It's a memory I'll always treasure.

Dennis Bennett & Christy Pinkston

Dennis Bennett - May 23, 2021 at 09:13 PM

GM

“ George & Joanne, Adam & Laura, Peter & Margo purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



George & Joanne, Adam & Laura, Peter & Margo - May 23, 2021 at 08:44 PM



“ With Distinction was purchased for the family of Michael Yakumithis.



May 23, 2021 at 04:57 PM