



## Mike Gardner

July 14, 1952 - July 15, 2011

Obituary of Mike Gardner Mike Gardner, 59, of Ocala, FL, Loving husband and father, passed away On July 15, 2011. Mike was born on July 14, 1952 in Martin KY. Resident of Ocala for 18 years after moving from Royal Oak, MI. A laugh forever embedded in our thoughts with a passion for music, fishing, family, and friends. He is survived by his wife, Arlene; his children, Layla and Dylan; brother, Gordy; sisters, Tina and Diane; nephew, Austin; and nieces, Jessie and Karley. Services will be held on Saturday, July 23rd at 1 PM at Roberts Funeral Homes Bruce East Chapel, 2739 SE Maricamp Rd in Ocala.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mike Gardner*

June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *I'm a part-time keyboard musician in Gainesville. Met Mike at Lipham's Music Store up here in Gainesville, FL. Played him a song on a keyboard that I love by Night Ranger called "Good Bye", key of E. Mike had been framing on some acoustics when we first started to talk there. Such a sweet, kind, humble gentle soul. When he told me he did bass with the Nugent '81 tour, I was amazed and Mike kindly gave me his autograph. He so kindly said I had a good ear. I phoned later and was so shocked that his daughter Layla told me had had passed that I could not hold back the tears...the music ties people together big time for me.....Whenever I play "Good Bye" now, it's for Mike. ....My thoughts and prayers to his daughter Layla, his son Dylan, who, said Mike, plays his guitar like he was born doing it from nature, and to his wife. Harold Benson, Keyboard Gainesville, FL Jan.1, 2012*

**Harold Benson** - January 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Arlene and family; To an old friend,when we were young men we worked,fished and laughed together,I will always remember Mike,s laugh. Through moving and time we lost track of each other for about 27 years and about a year ago we reconnected through facebook of all places. Mike and I picked up right where we left off, I was planning a trip to Ocala in 2 weeks to visit Mike and Arlene,but it was not meant to be. Farewell my buddy until we meet again.*

**Bill Nelson** - July 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Dear Arlene and Family, Sending our deepest sympathy to you and your entire family. Larry and Cheryl Chapman

---

**Larry and Cheryl Chapman** - July 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Arlene, Sorry for you and your families loss. He was a good person.  
Charlie Rydzewski

---

**Charles Rydzewski** - July 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ What a great party we had at Kevin and Sue's on new years a couple of years ago. The weather was bad but the music was super.

---

**John & Rosemary Lapanne** - July 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Mike, played a mean, steady rockin bass, with a high spirited rock voice. He always looked and played like he belonged where he was. Home was his stage. Your talents and your fun personality will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go to your family.

---

**Lenny Holiday** - July 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Hi Arlene Just wanted to say how sorry i am for you and your family. My prayers are with you and you family as you go thru this difficulty time.

---

**Mezline Cunningham-Smith** - July 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Arlene, I am so very sorry for your loss. I just wanted you to know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

---

**Sheila Pingle** - July 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you at this time. He will be so greatly missed. With sincere sympathy, Rachel Lynch

---

**Rachel** - July 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ I am so terribly sorry to hear of this. Mike was undoubtedly one of the sweetest, kindest and most loving people whom I have ever met. Although I did not see him often or hear from him, he was a beautiful star in my life. Arlene, Layla and Dylan, I am so sorry for your loss. He was such a wonderful person and all of our lives were a little brighter for having had him in it. My love and prayers are with you now and always1 Love you, Jewell

---

**Carolyn "Jewell" Pennington** - July 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ when i was just a lil youngin' girl, let's say about 18 years ago, or so i was blessed with an amazing new friend who had coincidentally said that she... (like me!...) had just moved here from the MI snow! "well whuddayah know!?", we cried in surprise "...but i sure do miss that snow..." said the shared tear in our eyes. my blessed soul family you never turned me away, unconditionally welcoming my wanderin' spirit - a stray. i wish i could eloquently say, or even wholly convey, how your loving influence made me who i am today. mike and arlene - you always knew, there were plenny'o clue why i was perpetually running away to come over and hang out with you! labird and dill - thank you for being there... and for all your loving care my heartspace is so full, i am inevitably compelled to share!!! my gardner family here's my blessing to you while we sleep, his spirit's at play humanity weeps while the soul sways my sweet petite mother transcended at 59yrs as well 6 years ago - yet even i still fight with ego... here's my mini-mantra: "remember this body is merely a shell, a vessel for being pure energetic love, and this one doesn't kiss and tell! it simply is the infinite truth the soul never dies - as long as the music plays on. i love you all.

---

**Ashley Everett** - July 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Jewell has talked about him often and I have met him a few times. What a very nice person. I'm so sorry for your loss.

---

**Susan Pennington Degen** - July 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NI

“ Boy, where do you start with Mike. We had many fun conversations over lunch and dinner while traveling together. Mike always chose to see the positive side of life. He enjoyed his music for sure and loved fishing. I know he will be missed by all who knew him. I know I will.

---

**Neil Iacovetta** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ I will always remember Mike as someone who had a smile on his face; full of life and vigor. He was a pleasure to work with and be around.

---

**Pat Mormile** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ I only had a short time to work with Mike, but it was a pleasure. I will always push your sunnight, and will continue to sell your usc bondo in memory of Mike. You are in our prayers, through these rough times. Paula Smith Sandpaper

---

**PAULA "Smiths Sandpaper"** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ I do not even know what to say or where to begin. Mike was such a huge influence in my life...I had known Mike since 74/75. Even lived with him for a bit. He was always a caring and giving person with a personality that was like a shining star. His talents, smarts and humor were as special as could be. Even though Mike & his family were many miles away, I was so glad to still be in contact...my prayers are with Arlene, Layla & Dylan...Mike will be missed by all. God Bless!!!

---

**Randy Adam** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ I only played with Mike a short time, too short, but we became fast friends. I share in your loss as I lost my wife of 33 years on 5/11/2011 this year. I am so very sorry for your loss and will keep the family in my prayers. Ron Binkley

---

**Ron Binkley** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ *I'm really gonna miss Mike and his big laugh, but keep fond memories of time spent on the road with him doing customer service...working hard, having a laugh and talking about music and fishing. Good times...thanks Mike.*

---

**Jeff and Estelle Pierce** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ *Dear Arlene and Family, I am so very sorry for loss. I pray that God will grant you His peace and keep all of you in His loving care. With sincere sympathy, Claire (Turska) Lanvers*

---

**Claire Lanvers** - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM