

Michael Vernile Hess

August 30, 1960 ~ October 27, 2025

Michael Vernile Hess, the prankster and protector of his family, passed away on Monday, October 27, 2025. The epitome of a stubborn teddy bear, he delighted in the discovery and creation of authenticity and laughter wherever he went. Always the wildcard, his presence and humor are already deeply missed.

Mike was a man devoted to his authenticity and pursuing his own versions of excellence. He dedicated his career to contract flooring, beginning with his own business and later serving as a project manager overseeing large and varied contracts across Utah and neighboring states. Known for his professionalism and integrity, he earned lasting respect from colleagues and clients alike. Those who worked with him knew they were in capable hands—and often came away better for the experience.

At home, Mike found peace in simple pleasures: sitting on the deck with Lorretta, watching baseball, and playing with his grandkids. He also loved to travel, whether on his Harley-Davidson with lifelong friends or exploring new corners of the world with family. No matter where he went, he had a knack for turning strangers into friends.

Above all, Mike’s devotion was to his family—the source of his strength, purpose, and happiness.

He is survived by his wife, Lorretta; his three children, Bryce, Paige (Preston), and Jessica; his four stepchildren, Kambrey, Riley (Savigny), Skyler (Scott), and Brayson; his parents, Vernile and Karen Hess; and his five siblings, Diane (David), Scott (Sonya), Carrie (Bruce), Brad (Tauna), and Cory (Michelle). Mike also leaves behind twelve beloved grandchildren: Dajen, Aislinn, Maverick, Anistyn, Talia, Emersyn, Emberly, Dallin, Grant, Cooper, Elyza, and Aspen—each of whom brought him immense pride and joy.

A public visitation will be held at **Larkin Mortuary, 260 E South Temple St., Salt Lake City, UT 84111**, on **Saturday, November 1, 2025**, from **1:30 to 3:00 PM**, for those who wish to stop by and give Mike one last hard time. This will be a casual setting aimed at sharing stories, laughing, and remembering Mike’s presence in our lives.