

## Michael "Mike" James Beck

Mike was born on January 4, 1949, to James E. and Helen E. Beck in Deadwood, SD. He attended Deadwood Public School and graduated in 1968. As a youngster, Mike spent most of his summer days with his brothers and sisters swimming at the Deadwood City Pool. In high school, Mike received recognition as a football player, which he often remembered fondly.

Mike worked road construction in Deadwood, but eventually enlisted in the US Navy from January 20, 1969, to December 18, 1972, as a boatswain's mate on the USS Juneau (LPD-10). The USS Juneau did missions in the Tonkin Gulf of Vietnam. Upon discharge from the Navy, Mike returned home to Deadwood and eventually followed the energy boom to Gillette, WY, where he worked at the Amax Belle Ayr Mine (coal). Mike met and married Barbara Fiermonte. James M. Beck, was born on June 25, 1980. Mike and Barb separated and Mike returned to South Dakota in 1988, to work as an underground mechanic in the Homestake Mine, Lead, SD, until the mine closed in 2002.

In 1988, Mike met and eventually married his new neighbor, Renel Hall. Mike and Renel welcomed Tyler C. Beck, born November 25, 1992, and Kristine E. Beck, born April 13, 1994, to the family. Upon Homestake's closure, Mike took his skills to the Spearfish Forest Products sawmill and worked as a Mill Wright (mechanic) until his retirement in 2012.

As a supportive father and husband, Mike often had to keep the home fires burning while Renel was gone on military duty. Mike took the reigns as a single parent during Renel's 2007/2008 deployment, at a time when few fathers had this role.

No one loved animals more than Mike (although he never wanted anymore pets, somehow the family still continued to grow). As a hunter, fisherman, and friend to all wild animals, he was active in the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Renel often asked him why he drove miles away to deer hunt when a herd of deer, fed by him, walked through the yard each night.

During his retirement years, Mike's golf game improved substantially. He was able to complete two rounds of golf the week of his passing with friends. In turn, he joined Renel on several trips around the world.

Mike, you are loved and missed. Life will not be the same.

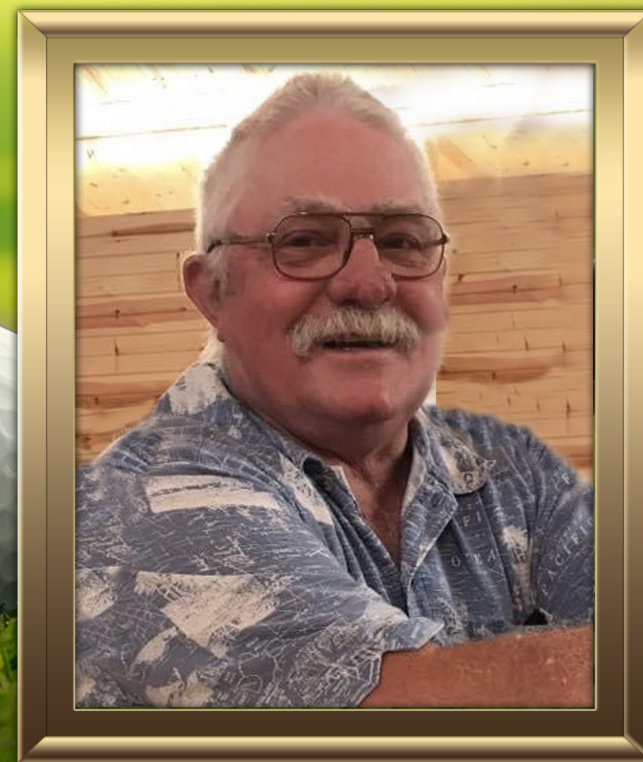
Michael "Mike" Beck, 71, of Sturgis, was taken from us suddenly on Friday, April 3, 2020.

Mike is survived by his spouse, Renel Hall-Beck; children, James, Tyler, and Kristine Beck; mother, Helen E. Beck; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, James E. Beck; brothers, Gary Beck, and Patrick Beck; and sisters, Patti Farrell, and Kimberly Tarrell.

Due to the current Covid-19 virus environment, the family would like to thank you for all of your thoughts of love and prayers. We regret that a traditional ceremony cannot take place.

Condolences can be sent to [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com)

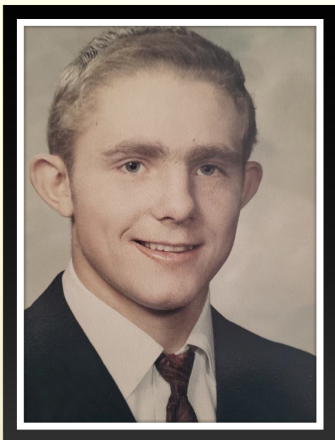


*In Loving Memory*

**Michael James Beck**

*January 4, 1949 ~ April 3, 2020*





*In Memory Of*  
***Michael "Mike" James Beck***

***Date of Birth***  
January 4, 1949  
Deadwood, South Dakota

***Date of Death***  
April 3, 2020  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Service***  
Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.  
Kinkade Funeral Chapel  
Sturgis, South Dakota

***Clergy***  
Pastor Kris Garlick

***Songs***  
"Go Rest High On That Mountain"

***Pallbearers***  
James M. Beck ~ Tyler Beck ~ Kristine Beck ~ Jebidiah Hoffman  
Sommer Hoffman Hill ~ Katherine Russell ~ William Tarrell

***Honorary Pallbearers***  
Clint Wilder ~ Shannon Steier  
Tera Emmons ~ Kiley Beck

***Final Resting Place***  
Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

# Footprints

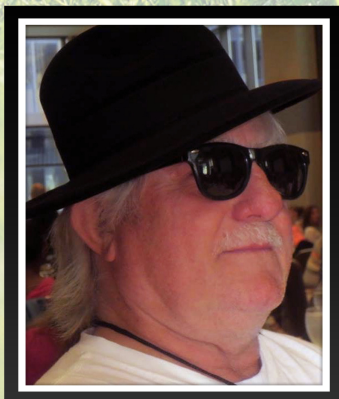
***One night I had a dream.***

I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One was mine, and one was the Lord's.

When the last scene of my life appeared before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand, and to my surprise I noticed that there was only one set of footprints. And I noticed that it was at the lowest and saddest times in my life.

I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most trouble-some times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most."

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, where you see only one set of footprints, I was carrying you."



***"Good Bye my friend. My love. My Dad."***