



## John Charles Pike Jr.

November 26, 1930 - February 24, 2017

John Charles Pike, Jr. entered into the presence of his Lord and Savior on Friday, February 24, 2017. He was born November 26, 1930 to John and Eva (Clancy) Pike. John was united in marriage to Beverly Jean Howard on August 28, 1953. He worked at many places, including Gibson Guitar, a Civil Defense Photographer, Merchant's Publishing, J.C.Pike Studio and the John Henry Company where he retired. John will be remembered by his loved ones as an avid fisherman, gardener, magician, woodworker and handyman. John had a passion for photography and a love of music. He was an accomplished French Horn instrumentalist who used his gift from the Lord until the age of 80. He had an infectious personality and was always one for a good joke and laughter. At a young age he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior and faithfully attended and served at Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. He was an active founding member of Berean Baptist Church until his passing. He is survived by his loving wife, Beverly of 63 years; sons, Stephen (Rinda) Pike, Joel (Lynda) Pike, Christopher (fiancée, Teresa Hensley) Pike; 12 beloved grandchildren; 17 beautiful great-grandchildren; many special nieces, nephews, sisters-in-law, brother-in-law and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Ruth (Lyle) Collison; and daughter Sheryl (Ronald) Stiger. A service to honor John's life and glorify the Lord will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, March 2nd at Berean Baptist Church in Portage, MI. A luncheon will follow. A private inurnment will be held at a later date. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to: Gitche

Gumee Bible Camp of Eagle River or Berean Baptist Church of Portage.  
Arrangements entrusted to Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Berean Baptist Church  
7813 S. 12th St.  
Portage, MI 49024

# Tribute Wall

TF

“ *Truly, The FOH, Inc family (Miami, FL) purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of John Charles Pike Jr..*



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**Truly, The FOH, Inc family (Miami, FL)** - February 28, 2017 at 06:06 PM

LS

“ *Sending our condolences to Joel and his family- The Portage Central Class of 1976*

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**Lori Slaughter** - February 27, 2017 at 07:42 AM

KD

“ *I remember the Pike and Howard families when, as a small child, I faithfully attended Bethel Baptist. I was saved and baptized in that church. These families probably didn't realize it but they left a tremendous impression on my life. Although many years have passed, these valuable memories still linger. God is faithful and will comfort in this hour.*

*Karen Jacobson Dekker*

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**Karen F. Dekker** - February 26, 2017 at 08:25 PM

ME

“ *Dear Steve and Rinda - You have our deepest sympathy. You have assurance that he is with the Lord and you will see him again. We love you kids and will be praying for you during this difficult time.*  
*Jim and Mary Ann Evans*

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**MaryAnn Evans** - February 26, 2017 at 11:52 AM



“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Wilma VanLoo** - February 26, 2017 at 11:33 AM

PW

“ I was the first of his nieces/nephews on the Howard side of the family. Uncle John would quite often recount the adventures we had when they "borrowed" me for the day before they had their own children. He and Aunt Bev never rode on another ferris wheel after I scared them by slipping off the seat and landing on the footrest during a ride at the carnival. I was too young to remember this, but he would tell me I said "Do it again Uncle John" when we took an accidental swim after he stepped off the side of our cabin cruiser into the water with me in his arms. (He thought that there was a small walkway all around the boat). I never tired of hearing all of his stories. I especially remember the ones when he incorporated his love of magic & music into Bible Stories. He was a wonderful photographer. He took the photos for our wedding, our daughters wedding, both of our kids graduations, and most of the pictures of all the babies born into the Howard family- in Grandma Howard's christening dress. His love of life and laughter was contagious. Thanks for all the wonderful memories you have imprinted in our minds, Uncle John. We love you and will miss you always.

*Our sympathies, prayers, and hugs go out to Aunt Bev and cousins, Steve, Joel and Chris and their families.*

*With love,  
Pam & Verne Waterman & family*

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**Pamela Waterman** - February 25, 2017 at 11:33 PM