



## Michael Cole

May 22, 2025

Michael A. Cole, a proud veteran of the United States Navy and Army Reserves, beloved husband, father, and a cornerstone of the communities of Beacon and Fishkill, New York, and most recently Woodbridge, Virginia, passed away peacefully in his sleep on the morning of Thursday, May 22, 2025.

Born in Portsmouth, Virginia, and raised in Colorado, Michael's life was defined by courage, resilience, and an unwavering sense of service. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he served with honor and dedication, and later continued his commitment to his country through service in the Army Reserves. In 1973, he married the love of his life, Rebecca Annette Cole, beginning a partnership that spanned more than 50 years of steadfast love and devotion.

Michael is survived by his wife, Rebecca; his two sons, Christopher Michael Cole and Michael Allen Cole II; and his cherished grandchildren. He also leaves behind his mother, Myra Ricketson of Centennial, Colorado; his brother, Mark Cole; and his sister, Marjorie Elkins. He was preceded in death by his father, Milton B. Cole, and his sister, Marcia Outlaw.

He was a man of deep strength and humility, whose greatest joy was being present for his family. He volunteered with the Boy Scouts, teaching and

guiding his sons through service and example. Michael was the kind of father who never missed a moment, never turned away, and never gave less than his whole heart. After long days of hard work, he'd come home, sit quietly as he unlaced his boots, and immediately shift his full attention to those he loved most. He never sought praise—only the quiet satisfaction of knowing he had done right by his family. His work ethic was unmatched, his love unconditional, and his legacy, immeasurable.

Michael was also a man of adventure and discipline. He was well-traveled and deeply curious about the world. He found joy in hours of audiobooks, riding motorcycles, the thrill of zip lining and whitewater rafting, and the dedication required to compete in professional bodybuilding. He lived fully, pushing limits, and inspiring those around him to do the same.

A viewing will be held on Monday, June 9th at Miller Funeral Home, 3200 Golansky Boulevard, Woodbridge, VA 22192, where friends and family are invited to gather, reflect, and celebrate Michael's remarkable life.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his honor to the Parkinson's Foundation (<https://www.parkinson.org/>), supporting a cause close to Michael's experience. The Foundation's initiative provides genetic testing and counseling at no cost to individuals with Parkinson's disease.

After a lifetime of love, service, and sacrifice, Michael has finally unlaced his boots for the last time. He now rests peacefully in the arms of God—his strength fulfilled, his purpose complete, his spirit free.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

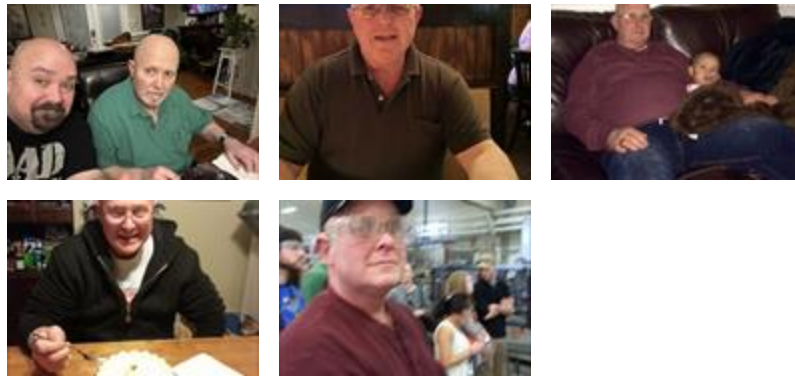
JUN 9. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.  
3200 Golansky Blvd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
703-878-CARE (2273)  
<https://millerfuneralhome.net/>

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Christopher Cole - June 09, 2025 at 11:20 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Cole.



June 08, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Cole.

June 08, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Cole.



June 06, 2025 at 05:50 AM



“ Mickey purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Michael Cole.



Mickey - June 04, 2025 at 08:15 PM



“ Mickey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Cole.

Mickey - June 04, 2025 at 08:15 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Cole.



June 03, 2025 at 10:39 AM



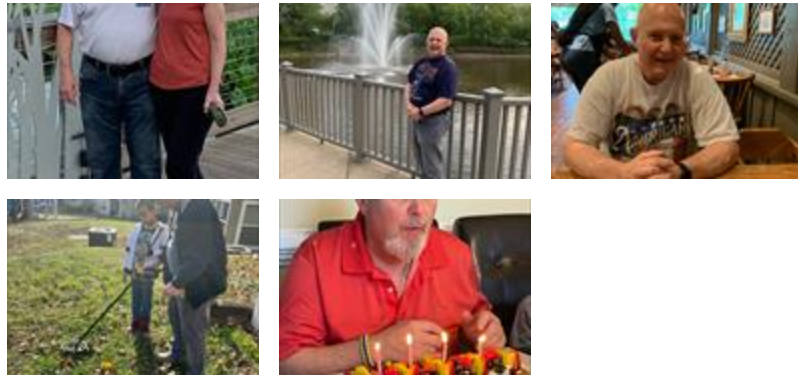
“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Cole.



May 27, 2025 at 09:38 AM



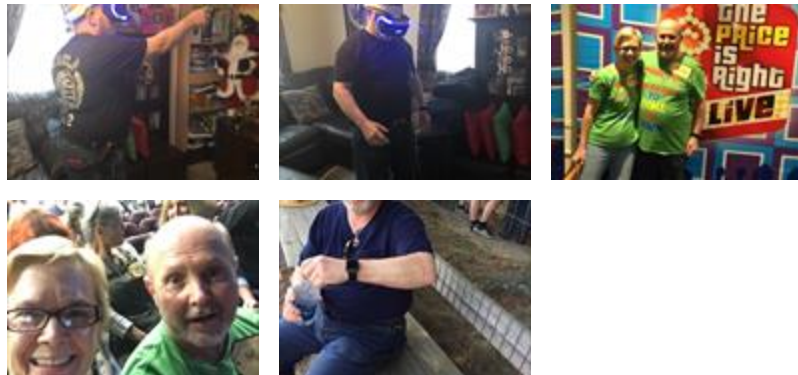
“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Christopher Cole - May 24, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Christopher Cole - May 24, 2025 at 01:00 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



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**Christopher Cole** - May 24, 2025 at 12:58 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Christopher Cole** - May 24, 2025 at 12:38 PM



“ Christopher C. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Cole.

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**Christopher C.** - May 24, 2025 at 12:28 PM



“ One of my favorite memories of my dad took place on a freezing cold winter day in the driveway, right in front of his infamous garage—the place where he fixed lawnmowers, chainsaws, and just about anything with a motor for half the neighborhood. I was in Boy Scouts, and we had a big winter event coming up that required each of us in the troop to build our own snow sled.

So there we were, out in the cold, working together with a pile of rope and tree limbs. The driveway was covered in snow and ice, and it was the kind of cold that makes your fingers hurt. But he kept going, stopping every so often to blow into his hands to warm them up, never saying a word about how miserable the weather was. He was focused on helping me get that sled built, determined that I'd be ready for the event, no matter what.

That moment sticks with me, not just because of the sled, but because it was one of the many times he showed how much he cared—by showing up, by doing the work, and by being right there next to me in the cold. That was my dad: always present, always dependable, and always putting in the effort, even when it wasn't easy.

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Christopher Cole - May 24, 2025 at 12:21 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Michael A. Cole



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Christopher Cole - May 24, 2025 at 12:11 PM

DC

“ 16 files added to the album Michael A. Cole



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**Denise Cole** - May 24, 2025 at 11:58 AM