

# Mike Cooper

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015



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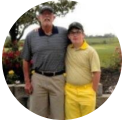
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## **Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

**M**ichael "Coop" Eugene Cooper, 61, of Centerville died Saturday, January 31, 2015. Coop was born May 23, 1953 in Webster City, Iowa to Paul & Janet (Nichols) Cooper. He received his education from Centerville High School graduating in 1971. Coop later received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Northern Iowa graduating in 1975. On April 24, 1993, he was united in marriage to Shelley Seeley at the First United Methodist Church. Together they have one son, Cole Cooper of Mystic. Coop was a member of the Centerville Fire Department for 37 years, he was also a loyal member and former officer of the Fraternal Order of Eagles #2675. Coop enjoyed spending time with his buddies at the Eagles, except on Sundays—he was not much for BINGO! He was a brother to many and a friend to all. Coop worked, for many years, as a truck driver for Reliable Culvert and then for MFA oil in Centerville. Coop enjoyed hunting, fishing and golfing with his son and also with his friends. Coop had his hangouts and loved to sit and B.S. with people. On occasion, he might even spend a little time antagonizing a friend just to get the reaction. For years he traveled with his group of friends to Kansas City to watch the Chiefs play football, all the while he was an Oakland Raiders Fan! Over the years Coop spent time coaching his son in wrestling and little league baseball. He was a proud papa, constantly sporting his typical smile with his son Cole tagging along. Coop always had a story that involved his son. He was never shy when it came time to boast about Cole. Coop is survived by his son Cole Cooper of Centerville, sisters, Holly (Stacey) Cooper-Simons of Tuscon, AZ, former wife Shelley Evers of Mystic and his brotherhood of friends and firemen. He was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral service will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 7, 2015 at Faith United Methodist Church in Centerville with Rev. Brian Hargrave officiating. Visitation will be all day Friday, February 6, 2015 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville with the family present from 4-8 p.m. Memorials are designated for his



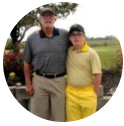
## Obituary

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

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son, Cole Cooper Collegiate Fund. Condolences may be shared at [www.thomasfh.com](http://www.thomasfh.com). To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Mike Cooper please visit our Sympathy Store. Visitation FEB 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CST) Thomas Funeral Home - Centerville 501 North 18th StreetCenterville, IA 52544[[emailprotected](mailto:protected)] Funeral Service FEB 7. 11:00 AM (CST) Faith United Methodist Church 23851 Hwy 5Centerville, IA 52544



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015



**Thomas Funeral Home** posted:

October 21 at 3:54 PM



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 5:08 PM



**Gary Brown** posted:

Mike and I went to UNI together and we had a lot of great times in Cedar Falls. Coop was the guy you could always bank on for support. He was there whenever I needed him. What a loss for mankind! Prayers are being offered for Coop, his family and friends. Rest in peace Coop. Gary Brown

February 10 at 7:00 PM



**John Schreurs** posted:

Mike was college buddy. A great guy! He was always there for you. He was a proud man and a man of character. John Schreurs

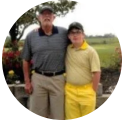
February 8 at 7:00 PM



**John Marshall** posted:

Coop was roommate of mine at UNI for his final year. It is interesting to read all the comments and the listen to the news articles. It was the same Coop that i knew back then. He had not changed. You just could not 'not like' Coop. There was also not a prouder or more loyal citizen of Centerville. He loved where he came from and the people there. The last time i saw Coop was a few years ago at an Iowa football game, i was able to introduce him to my son who was like 23 at the time. My son met the man for one day. When i told him that Coop had passed away, he responded..'Not Coop!' You simply did not forget the man that all knew as 'Coop', My condolences to all his family and friends. You do not get to many Mike Cooper's in your life. I am grateful to have known him. God Bless. John Marshall Topeka Kansas

February 6 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

MS

**Mark And Thelma Smothers** posted:

May happy memories carry you through this sorrowful time - You're in our thoughts, our hearts and our prayers

February 6 at 7:00 PM

LP

**Lindsey & Paul Pettibone** posted:

Prayers go out to Mike's family and friends, but especially to Cole. The one thing you will never have to question is how proud your dad was of you! May the happy memories of your dad provide you comfort. He will be missed! Paul, Lindsey, Kyler and Emersyn Pettibone

February 6 at 7:00 PM

RD

**Randy Dickerson** posted:

Thoughts and prayers to Mike and his entire family . Such incredible and fond memories of attending Sunset Heights Elementary school back in the late 50's . Rest in Peace my friend .  
Randy Dickerson

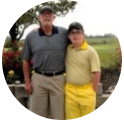
February 6 at 7:00 PM

GH

**Greg Hayes** posted:

I knew Mike through my brothers and always was a good time when I seen mike.He will be missed

February 6 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

MO

**Mike Ostlund** posted:

I am very sad to hear of Mike's death. Way too young. He was a good friend of mine in Webster City. We hung out together off and on and played sports together. It grieves me greatly to see the picture of Co-Op and Cole. What a tragedy it is to lose your father at such a young age. I am sure that given time Cole will realize that he had a great ten years with his dad and that he will be able to think back on those days with comfort. The picture of the baseball team was taken in my front yard. We were the Dodgers, and I am guessing, 2nd graders. We were bad ass...after all we had Mike. )I saw him a decade ago at the class reunion, the only one that he attended. Everyone was so glad to see him. I was very happy to see him again. I regret the fact that I have not seen him since. And, yes, I called him Co-Op. No particular reason...to me he was Co-Op. Mike Ostlund (Formerly of Webster City) Iowa City, IA

February 5 at 7:00 PM

SH

**Scott Hamlin - Van Horne, Ia** posted:

Played lots of softball back in the 70's and early 80's and drank a few beers between games. Coop kept us motivated and laughing even when we were getting clobbered. Cannot think of anyone who did not like him. If you hung around Centerville much the last 40 years or so you had to run across him. He belongs in every hall of fame I can think of. Coop you brought positive into a sometimes not so positive world. God Bless you and give your family and friends comfort, you gave many of us lots of great memories.

February 5 at 7:00 PM

BM

**Bob Maddaleno** posted:

I've never seen pictures of Coop at that age. Cole looks just like him.

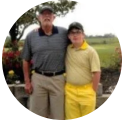
February 4 at 7:00 PM

CO

**Chris Ostlund** posted:

Mike was a junior high friend. He was a lot of fun and very well liked growing up. We all have fond memories of him. Mike came to our class reunion about 10 years ago. It was good to see him. Best wishes to all who knew and loved him. Chris

February 4 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

BF

**Bill Funk** posted:

Mike (Coop) was a good friend of ours during his UNI days. We are so sorry to hear the news. He was a wonderful human being and friend to so many in Cedar Falls. We lived on the same floor in the dorms and have many wonderful memories of him. He always loved to talk about Centerville and was so proud of his home town. Bill & Connie (Jensen) Funk - Ankeny, Iowa

February 4 at 7:00 PM

CM

**Clarissa Morris** posted:

I was so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. I have many good memories of working with him at the gas company. My prayers go out to his family. The community has suffered a great loss. Clarissa Morris

February 4 at 7:00 PM

BW

**Basket Full Of Wishes** posted:

Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mike Cooper.

February 4 at 7:00 PM

TF

**The Hutton Family** posted:

The Hutton Family lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 4 at 7:00 PM

PR

**Patti Slavin Richmond** posted:

Patti Slavin Richmond lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

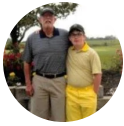
February 4 at 7:00 PM

JB

**Jack And Sharon Brice** posted:

Our hearts go out Mike's family and friends. So many memories. Summers of softball games in years past and watching Mike and Cole together. Good-bye Mike, you will be missed by so many, but never forgotten.

February 4 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

DL

**Debbie Lee** posted:

Debbie Lee lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

CB

**Charlie Brannon** posted:

Coop was a friend of mine during his UNI days - Many memories for me with the 'Coop' - He will be missed by all Charlie Brannon - Rochester, MN

February 3 at 7:00 PM

MM

**Marcella Mcelvain** posted:

Marcella McElvain lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

JC

**Jason And Cindy Crow** posted:

Jason And Cindy Crow lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

CM

**Celine McMurry** posted:

He was a friend and a great man.Had some goods laughs in the days.He will be missed Thank you Mike Cooper for all you did. Celine McMurry

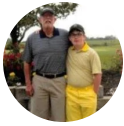
February 3 at 7:00 PM

MC

**Marcia Brinegar Callender** posted:

I have been gone from the area for a while but knew Mike back in the day, so saddened by this news. My heartfelt sympathies to Holly, who is a special friend to our family, and his son Cole. My Mom ran out of propane several years ago during the winter..he came after midnight and filled her tank!!! Who does that...what a guy. 37 yrs as a volunteer fire fighter, I salute you Mike Cooper!  
Marcia Brinegar Callender Portland OR

February 3 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

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PR

**Patrick Rinkleff** posted:

Its normally a struggle to find the right words to say in the face of such a loss. With Coop though there is no lack of words. There are so many stories that could be shared. I think of all the jabs and laughs we shared. My all time Coop moment was when my truck was fully engulfed in flames in the middle of Appanoose Country Club, it was Coop on his golf cart riding through the smoke and flames grabbing the hose off the first fire truck to arrive on the scene and personally battling the fire in a polo shirt, and kaki shorts. I know he's still bragging about how in 10 minutes he finished a round of golf, made a fire call, and bartered for the only two good tires left on my truck. Coop thank you for the memories, your service, and most of all rest in peace friend. Patrick Rinkleff

February 3 at 7:00 PM

KC

**Karen Coatney** posted:

Karen Coatney lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

DL

**Debbie Lee** posted:

Rest In Peace Mike. My heart is breaking for Cole, Shelly and all of your family. You were a wonderful man and I know Garrett will forever treasure the memories of golfing with you and Cole.

February 3 at 7:00 PM

TP

**Terry Penningroth** posted:

Thoughts and prayers are with you Holly in the loss of Mike. I was very saddened by the news. I will keep good memories. Terry Varese

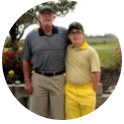
February 3 at 7:00 PM

SP

**Scott Price** posted:

Scott Price lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM



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SP

**Scott Price** posted:

Great memories of going to the Rose Bowl to watch the Hawks, playing softball, drinking beer with a good friend. Sorry that we didn't get to spend much time together lately. Always in my thoughts and entrenched in my memory.

February 3 at 7:00 PM

DK

**Deborah Kinnamon** posted:

My sincere condolences to the family. An untimely loss to be certain. On behalf of the Kinnamon family, we will hold you in our hearts. Deborah Kinnamon

February 3 at 7:00 PM

TS

**Tisha Shepard** posted:

Tisha Shepard lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

BF

**Beverly Craver Fowler** posted:

Beverly Craver Fowler lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

BC

**Beverly Craver** posted:

Had some good times with Coop in high school. He was a great person and my sympathies are with his son and Holly and his firehouse brothers.

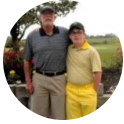
February 3 at 7:00 PM

RB

**Rochelle L Bozarth** posted:

Rochelle L Bozarth lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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MM

**Marlene (Stickler) Mitchell** posted:

Marlene (Stickler) Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 3 at 7:00 PM

JF

**Jerilyn Inman & Family** posted:

Fire scenes will never be the same, coop razzed me every time he seen me! He delivered propane to our home for years and we had some good conversations. He will be deeply missed by our community and the brotherhood of firefighters he leaves behind! Rest in peace coop, you will forever be in our hearts.

February 3 at 7:00 PM

KC

**Kelly Starchevich Culver** posted:

Coop was a great guy and was always so friendly and kind you will be missed Mike! Thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends that knew him. RIP!

February 3 at 7:00 PM

DM

**Dan Moore** posted:

Coop was one of the best coaches Centerville Wrestling will ever have he prepared a lot of men for high school and as high school wrestling will never be what it was neither will Centerville whether its Bratz Texaco in the morn or the Eagles on Fri eve defiantly a local icon. COOP.

February 3 at 7:00 PM

GC

**Gary Craver** posted:

Gary Craver lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

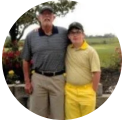
February 3 at 7:00 PM

TS

**Tisha Shepard** posted:

So sorry the community has loss a good man and firefighter. Praying God will give Mike's family peace and comfort. 'Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.' Blessings, Tisha

February 3 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

ML

**Missy Lawson** posted:

My condolences to his family and especially his son. Prayers.....

February 2 at 7:00 PM

AS

**Angie Steele** posted:

Angie Steele lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

JM

**Jennifer Mccully** posted:

Jennifer Mccully lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

BM

**Bob Maddaleno** posted:

I spent a lot of time golfing with Coop over the years. Some of my favorite memories are the Saturday morning matches when we took on Garner Cleaver and Todd Harp. I will always remember the big barrel chested guy standing over a putt somehow propped up by those skinny legs. He made more than he missed and then you heard about all the way back to the cart where his cigar awaited him. Thanks for the memories Coop, I'm glad we were friends.

February 2 at 7:00 PM

GR

**Gary (Flipper) & Brenda Robertson** posted:

Gary (flipper) & Brenda Robertson lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

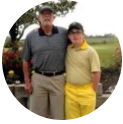
February 2 at 7:00 PM

JW

**Joe Walker** posted:

Joe Walker lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

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JW

**Joe Walker** posted:

Prayers here for family in this time of need. Amen

February 2 at 7:00 PM

CC

**Carla Cormeny** posted:

Carla Cormeny lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

WH

**William Harrington** posted:

William Harrington lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

MO

**Mfa Oil** posted:

Mike was a dedicated employee for MFA Oil and did a great job of taking care of our customers in the Centerville area. We are appreciative of his years of service. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. Thank you for sharing him with the MFA Oil family.

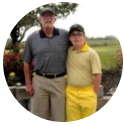
February 2 at 7:00 PM

DP

**Derrill ,Marge Pfannebecker** posted:

Derrill ,Marge Pfannebecker lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

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SH

**Sally Houser** posted:

Dear Mike, We will miss you old friend. Thank you for fighting one more fire in the end. You went home a hero, giving the highest sacrifice of all. You did what all firefighters do when they get the call. Your son Cole must be so Proud of you. Even though I know his heart is breaking in two. You are in Heaven, that's were all firefighters go my friend. I hope knowing that, will bring some peace to Cole, while he waits for his broken heart to mend. We want to thank you for taking such good care of Angel and Princess for us, when we went on our vacations. I know they are giving you lots of love and kisses, I can just see the joy on both their faces. You did lots of good things around your home town of Centerville. People will remember that, and it will help your families hearts to heal. So God Bless you our old friend. Norm and I will see you again. You and him can play a round of golf on Heavens Green. And I will drive the golf cart, eating my favorite vanilla ice cream. LOL!

February 2 at 7:00 PM

RJ

**Rose Johnson** posted:

Awesome sis coop was a good guy. God bless his family.

February 2 at 7:00 PM

CH

**Cheri** posted:

Cheri lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

FB

**Fred & Kelly Brandt** posted:

The firefighter brotherhood grieves with your family! Thanks for sharing him with us & allowing him to do what he obviously loved doing!! Prayers to you all at this time.

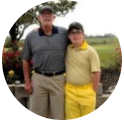
February 2 at 7:00 PM

JT

**Jamie Oden Tubaugh** posted:

Much sympathy and many prayers to Mike's family and Firefighter families! Mike coached my elementary basketball team at Cincinnati. (many years ago) Jamie Oden Tubaugh

February 2 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

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MB

**Mike Baker** posted:

I'm sorry to hear of Mike's passing. We went to school together in Webster City, Iowa and were neighbors here. He was always a good guy and nice to grow up with. Mike Baker

February 2 at 7:00 PM

SB

**Shawn Bayouth** posted:

On behalf of our officers and firefighters, we wish to offer our deepest sympathies in the passing of Chief Cooper. Our thoughts are with you and your family during these difficult times. Shawn Bayouth, Fire Chief - Ames Fire Department

February 2 at 7:00 PM

MS

**Missy And Jerod Shaffer** posted:

Missy And Jerod Shaffer lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

TE

**Tammy Talbot-Eakins** posted:

Tammy Talbot-Eakins lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

KO

**Kim Orman** posted:

Kim Orman lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

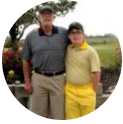
February 2 at 7:00 PM

MS

**Mary Shondel** posted:

You will be missed by many people !!!!

February 2 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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HA

**Hayden** posted:

Hayden lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 2 at 7:00 PM

BC

**Bruse Carlson** posted:

Bruse Carlson lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 1 at 7:00 PM

BC

**Bruse Carlson** posted:

So sorry to hear about Mike. He was a great guy, and a hero.

February 1 at 7:00 PM

MY

**Myra** posted:

Myra lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 1 at 7:00 PM

DM

**Darin Manson** posted:

Darin Manson lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

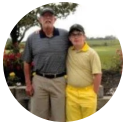
February 1 at 7:00 PM

SS

**Shawnda Starr** posted:

So very sorry to hear of Mike's passing. We have known him for many years. My family and I have many memories of him and one of them being Cole and my son Korey playing baseball together on the same team and Mike helped coach. They had a blast. He was a great man who had a great big heart and would lend a helping hand to anyone. He will be greatly missed by so many people. Cole and family, you are all in our thoughts and prayers. May God be with you and help you through this difficult time. RIP Coop!!!! --Kip Shawnda, Korey & Kaden Shondel

February 1 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

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RP

**Rich Parker** posted:

Coop and I knew each other a long time. Since slowpitch days in the 80s. He and I always joked and laughed any time we passed. Whether it be on the golf course or getting our morning drinks at joes. I will miss him a great deal and am so sorry for this happening to such a fine young man as Cole is. Our prayers and sympathies are with the family.

February 1 at 7:00 PM

NT

**Nellie Thomas** posted:

Nellie Thomas lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 1 at 7:00 PM

SB

**Shannon And Peggy Bullard** posted:

Shannon And Peggy Bullard lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 1 at 7:00 PM

DC

**Diana Crane** posted:

Diana Crane lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 1 at 7:00 PM

JP

**John And Debbie Pettit** posted:

John And Debbie Pettit lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

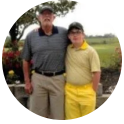
February 1 at 7:00 PM

RB

**Roberta Buban** posted:

my thoughts and prayers goes out too mike cooper family. so sorry too hear of his passing.

February 1 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

LA

**Lassabe** posted:

Prayers for the family! Thank god for his service to others!

February 1 at 7:00 PM

JF

**Josh & Paige Seddon And Familyt** posted:

Josh & Paige Seddon And Familyt lit a candle in memory of Mike Cooper

February 1 at 7:00 PM

KS

**Kris Sefton** posted:

I was so sorry to hear about Mike's passing. All of my family have such great memories of Coop that we talked about this weekend after hearing. Such a nice person who always could make me smile. Love you Coop. Kris Price Sefton

February 1 at 7:00 PM

MC

**Max Cox** posted:

Sorry to hear of Mikes passing, I have known him for several years and never heard him complain of anything and helpful to all. RIP COOP.

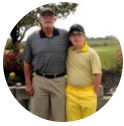
February 1 at 7:00 PM

MS

**Mary Shondel** posted:

So sad that we lost Mike.,He will be missed by many.,he was a friend and co-worker at MFA Propane....thoughts and prayers for his family....Larry & Mary Shondel

February 1 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015

MR

**Misti Russell** posted:

We have so many memories that we shared with Coop. We traveled together for years for Cole and Peyton's sports. We participated in school functions since the boys were in kindergarten. We come hang out with us at the lake. He also enjoyed taking the boys to the Iowa Hawkeye games. He had a big heart and would do anything for people. We are going to miss him terribly especially that empty seat at the sporting events. My heart breaks for Cole but I know Coop will be by his side in all he does. RIP Coop

February 1 at 7:00 PM

DL

**Dennis & Beverly Sisul Laurson** posted:

Just wanted to let you know how deeply saddened we are to hear about this terrible loss. We know that this leaves a deep hole in your lives that can never be filled, but we pray that your wonderful memories and loving family will help ease the pain as time passes.

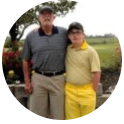
February 1 at 7:00 PM

RT

**Richard Thomas** posted:

sorry for loss to mikes family,tough loss for cole. I have known mike since old fastpitch softball leagues,also worked with him at gas company several years. we have been through a lot together. he will be missed by many people. Richard Thomas family.

January 31 at 7:00 PM



# Media

**Mike Cooper**

MAY 23, 1953 - JAN 31, 2015



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared 2 photos to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 5:08 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Mike by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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