

Michael Kills Pretty Enemy, Sr., Wačínŷapi

Wičháša "Dependable One" was born in Ft. Yates, North Dakota on April 19, 1942, to Gilbert and Ella Mae Kills Pretty Enemy. He lived a life rooted in education, faith, family, and service to his people and community. Michael graduated from Ft. Yates High School and furthered his education through the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, earning his degree in Teacher Education. Michael then attended Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota, where he earned a Master of Science in Public Administration.

Education became one of Michael's lifelong callings. He began his career as a Teacher's Aide at Bullhead Day School in the 1970s and later continued serving as both a Teacher and Acting Principal. He was also a Lakota Teacher for the St. Joseph's Indian School. Later in life, Michael moved to Eagle Butte, where he served as Dean of Students for the Cheyenne Eagle Butte High School.

Michael was known not only for his dedication in the classroom but also for his love of athletics. He was a talented cross-country runner, holding a record in the mile run, and also played football during his years at Fort Yates High School.

His faith remained an important part of his life. Michael faithfully served as a Deacon in the Catholic Church and was ordained by Bishop Charles J. Chaput until 1999. On October 12, 2012, he was ordained through the United Church of Christ, where he continued serving as a pastor until his passing.

Family, singing, and teaching were among the greatest joys and highlights of Michael's life.

Michael is survived by his wife, Adella; his sons, William, Michael Jr. (Mobridge), and Charles (Stacy) of Bismarck, North Dakota; along with additional family from his union with Adella, including stepsons Rex, Eldean, and Delray. He is also survived by his siblings Mary Helen (Bullhead, SD), Kris (Theresa (Indian Head, MD)), and Clarice (McLaughlin).

Michael was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert Sr. (2001) and Ella (1984); his first wife, Loretta Redfish Kills Pretty Enemy (1999); and his siblings Tim (1983), Edna (2007), Dale (2014), and Gilbert Jr. (2023).

Michael's family invites all relatives and friends to join in honoring and celebrating his life.

In Loving Memory Of



Michael Kills Pretty Enemy, Sr.
Wačínŷapi Wičháša "Dependable One"

SUNRISE
1942

SUNSET
2026

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Michael Kills Pretty Enemy, Sr.
Wačhinyapi Wičháša "Dependable One"

84 years ~ 1 months ~ 4 days

BORN

*April 19, 1942
Ft. Yates, North Dakota*

PASSED AWAY

*May 23, 2026
Bismarck, North Dakota*

FUNERAL SERVICE

*11:00 AM, Saturday, June 6, 2026
Elkhorn Congregational Church
Little Eagle, South Dakota*

CLERGY

Doug Wilkinson

MUSIC

Grand River Singers

CASKETBEARERS

*Robert Brendel ~ Zach Brendel ~ Ben LeBrun
Brian LeBrun Jr. ~ Donovan Brown
Noah Kills Pretty Enemy ~ David Steele Sr.
Gilbert Kills Pretty Enemy III ~ Jason Kills Pretty Enemy*

HONORARY BEARERS

*All of Mike's nephews, nieces, grandchildren, great grandchil-
dren, great, great grandchildren, family, friends and all UCC
Ministers*

INTERMENT

*Little Brown Church Cemetery
Rural Bullhead, South Dakota
Arrangements Entrusted to Kesling Funeral Home, Mobridge, South Dakota.*

For Whom You Cared

*For whom you cared
With such abiding love
Has found the wondrous
Shining path
Up to the home above.
The Home where joy
Forever dwells
Where loved ones but await
For us to share their happiness
Beyond the heavenly gate.*

