

# WHERE I'M FROM

*By Michael LaMonte*

I am from frogs croaking, birds chirping, fish jumping and pond smell in the air.

From the s'mores roasting to the late nights on the lake.

I'm from the sausage, pot roast, and pies.

The biscuits and gravy, eggs, and waffles.

From the "I love you" to "love you more", to the "I love you the most".

"Can I go fishing?" "Can we go on a boat ride?"

From "what's for dinner to what's for dessert?"

From "get the net" to "set the hook".

From "let's go Buffalo".

I'm from the helmets and shoulder pads to the rinks and the grass diamonds.

I'm from the rods and reels to lures.

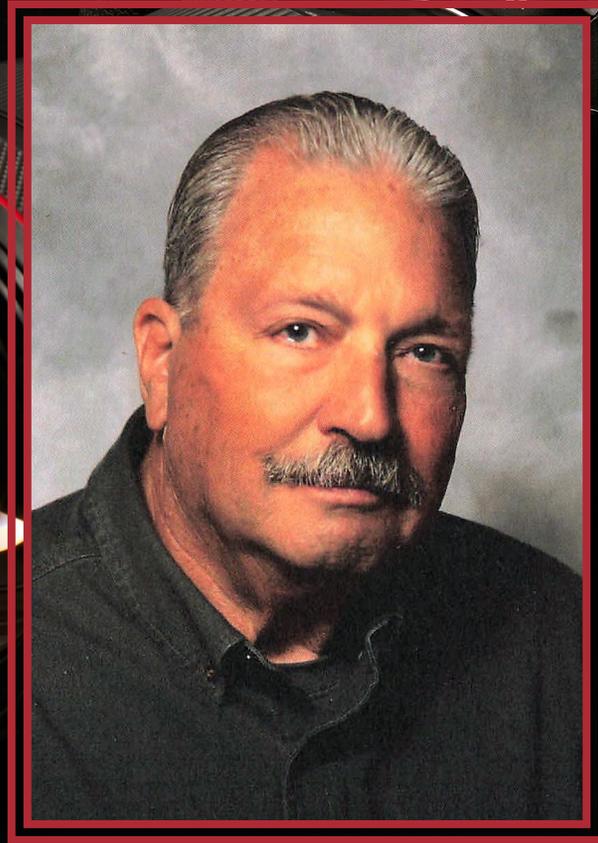
From Lillyridge Dr. to East Lake St.

From boat rides to tubing.

From the blood, laughter, and sobbing.



# CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



# MICHAEL H. QUINN

October 25, 1950 – March 15, 2025

**Michael H. Quinn, 74**, of Ventura, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at MercyOne Medical Center – North Iowa in Mason City.

Michael Hobart Quinn was born on October 25, 1950, in South Charleston, West Virginia, to Frances and William Quinn. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, mentor, and friend. He came into the world on his grandfather's birthday, a delightful coincidence that would mark the beginning of a life filled with cherished memories. He also shared a birthday with his son-in-law, Doug Barkema.

As a child, Mike moved with his family to California, where he developed a profound love for the beach and its vibrant culture. A proud alumnus of La Quinta High School, Mike graduated in 1969, where he earned the honor of prom king and displayed exceptional talent as an athlete. He lettered all four years and served as captain of the football team his senior year. He was honored to be named on the All-Orange County and All-State football teams, showcasing his leadership and dedication to the sport. His passion for football continued at Santa Ana Community College and the University of California at Fullerton, where he played as a tight end, further enriching his collegiate experience.

On September 12, 1970, he married Twyla Hanson in Westminster, California. Their union brought forth a beautiful family that would grow to touch many lives. In 1979, Mike made the decision to relocate with his family to Iowa, leaving behind his surfboard and embracing a new chapter in their lives. He devoted his career to Northern Natural Gas in Ventura, where he worked until retirement as a corrosion technician. His love for his job and camaraderie with his colleagues were evident throughout his career.

Mike had an incredible talent for photography, which he leveraged to give back to his community. He volunteered to take photographs for the Ventura Fire Department. His passion for capturing moments extended to school sporting events, senior portraits and extracurricular activities, where his lens immortalized countless memories for families.

Mike is survived by his wife of 54 years, Twyla of Ventura; three daughters, Shelley (Michael) LaMonte of East Amherst, NY, Shannon (Jason) Spieker of Britt and Summer (Doug) Barkema of Littleton, CO; grandchildren, Michael and Luke LaMonte, Sarah-Michele (Chase) Ulven and their son, Wilder, Buck Weaver, and Norah and Quinn Barkema; his siblings, Linda (Jay) Keeling of Evans, Georgia, and Harvey (Susie) Quinn of Mission Viejo, CA; his in-laws, Cynthia (Paul) Oshea and Debra (Del) Owen, Gregory Hanson and Jim (Tish) Karl; his stepfather-in-law Duane Leavens; his stepmother-in-law Holly Hanson; his best friend, Steve Gustavus; and many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews, who were like bonus grandkids to Mike.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sarah Michele Quinn; his brother, Gary Quinn; parents; parents-in-law; and a great-great niece, Adelaide Ann Bell.

Mike's loving spirit and unwavering commitment to his family and community will be profoundly missed. His legacy of compassion and creativity will continue to inspire those who knew him.

Celebrating the Life of  
**MICHAEL H. QUINN**  
October 25, 1950 – March 15, 2025

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Faith Bible Church – Britt, Iowa  
1:30 p.m., Friday, March 21, 2025

**OFFICIATING**

Pastor Bob Dodge

**MUSIC**

Tammy Johnson, Organist

Norah Barkema, Soloist

“How Great Thou Art”

*Congregational Hymns*

“The Old Rugged Cross” P. 504

“When We All Get to Heaven” P. 701

*Special Music*

“Peace In the Valley”

“The Last Roundup”

**USHERS**

Gene Guenther

Marvin Nieman

**URN BEARERS**

Buck Weaver

Michael LaMonte

Quinn Barkema

Luke LaMonte

**INURNMENT**

Ventura Cemetery – Ventura, Iowa

*All are invited to a luncheon in the church fellowship hall immediately following the memorial service.*

*Cafaldo*  
FUNERAL HOMES