

Michael Beare, age 77, of Milbank, SD, passed away on August 28, 2026. A lifelong resident of Milbank, Michael was known to his close friends as “Sugar,” a nickname inspired by Sugar Bear.



Michael John Beare was born on July 18, 1949, in Milbank, SD, to Vern L. and Eileen (Van Orman) Beare. Michael graduated from Northern State University with a degree in education. Following graduation, he began his teaching career with the Milbank School System, where he dedicated many years to educating students before retiring.

An accomplished athlete in high school, Michael participated in football, wrestling, and track. His love of sports and the outdoors remained an important part of his life. He enjoyed hunting pheasants, ducks, and geese, as well as fishing and golfing. He was also an avid gardener who took great pride in planting vegetables and flowers. His backyard was a joy to visit, filled with beautiful colors and the fruits of his labor. Michael cherished his time outdoors and, most of all, the friendships, laughter, and memories made along the way.

Michael is survived by his sisters: Pat Whitt (Bob), Kate Gaspar, and Mary Helsper (Rich); his brothers: Dave (Wendy), Tom (Jan), Jim (Wendy), and Steve (Chris); along with 17 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Vern and Eileen Beare; his brother, Robert Beare; and his brother-in-law, Denny Gaspar.

Michael will be remembered and deeply missed by his family, friends, former students, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. His love of the outdoors, his passion for sports and gardening, and the friendships he made throughout his life will remain cherished memories for those who knew and loved him.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Michael Beare



WHO WAS BORN

July 18, 1949
Milbank, South Dakota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME

August 28, 2026
Milbank, South Dakota

VISITATION SERVICE

Monday, September 21, 2026
5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
Mundwiler Funeral Home
Milbank, South Dakota

CELEBRANT

Fr. Tom Hartman

MUSICIANS

Nancy Johnson, Organist
St. Lawrence Funeral Choir

READERS

Nicole DeVoe | Jennifer Walz

SPECIAL SONGS

“Be Not Afraid” | “On Eagle’s Wings” | “Here I am, Lord”
“Eye Has Not Seen” | “Old Hundreth” | “Amazing Grace”

HONORARY URN BEARERS

Beloved Siblings

Pat Whitt | David Beare | Kate Gaspar
Tom Beare | Jim Beare | Steve Beare | Mary Helsper

INURNMENT

St. Lawrence Catholic Cemetery
Milbank, South Dakota

APPRECIATION

Michael’s family is grateful for your attendance at this service.
Your expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated.

Irish Blessing

*May the road rise to meet you,
may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face,
may the rain fall soft upon your fields
and, until we meet again, may God
hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Amen

Please use this QR code to view Michael's
online obituary and guestbook.

Mundwiler Funeral Home - Milbank, South Dakota

