



## Michael Carl Brodsgaard

June 9, 1944 - August 14, 2016

Michael Carl Brodsgaard, 72, of El Campo, passed away August 14, 2016. He was born on June 9, 1944 in Clinton, Iowa to the late Christian and Ruth Anderson Brodsgaard.

After graduating from El Campo High School, Mike attended Texas A&I Kingsville. He then joined the US Army during the Vietnam Conflict and served in the Army Security Association (Military Police). He was stationed in Japan, Petaluma, CA and Fort Hood, TX before being discharged after 3 years, 9 months and 27 days.

Mike then continued his education at Sam Houston State University where he studied while also working as a guard for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. After graduation, he was promoted to the position of Director of Education at Ferguson Unit in Midway, TX. Mike then returned to El Campo in 1979 and worked as a Juvenile Probation Officer for a short time before moving to Adult Probation. He retired in 2009 as the Assistant Director of the Wharton/Matagorda County Community Corrections Department and Interim Director of Juvenile Probation. While he was the Assistant Director, Mike implemented programs including a community garden and community service program with the Matagorda County Birding Nature Center. After retirement, Mike continued to volunteer at the Nature Center and also served as a docent at the Danish Heritage Museum.

He was a character in every sense of the word and loved helping others, whether it was through the community garden or by distributing food and gifts all over Wharton and Matagorda County during the holidays. He loved his country, his friends and his family. Although he will be missed, he would tell us to "lean into the wind" and that he will "see us down the road."

He is survived by his daughter, Amy Rod and husband Scott of El Campo; son, Jake Brodsgaard and wife Shayne of Raleigh, NC; grandchildren, Bryn and Brock Rod, Brinley and Bryce Brodsgaard; sisters, Myrna Hansen of El Campo, Dorene Brodsgaard of Fredericksburg and significant other, Carolyn Mitchell of El Campo.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Johnny Brodsgaard.

Visitation begins at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, August 17 at Triska Funeral Home with family receiving visitors from 5-7 p.m. Funeral services will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 18 at First Baptist Church of El Campo with Rev. Rick DuBroc officiating. Interment will be at Danevang Lutheran Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Eddie Blair, Paul Brodsgaard, Dr. Ben Crouch, Jim Crouch, Bill Doyle, Steve Swan and Dean Hansen.

Memorial donations in memory of Mike may be made to Danish Heritage Museum, P.O. Box 368, Danevang, TX 77432.

Triska Funeral Home, El Campo, 979-543-3681

# Cemetery Details

## Danevang Lutheran Cemetery

CR 426  
Danevang, TX 77432

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home  
612 Merchant Street  
El Campo, TX 77437-3440  
(979) 543-3681  
triskafh@sbcglobal.net

## Family Will Receive Visitors

AUG 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home  
612 Merchant Street  
El Campo, TX 77437-3440  
(979) 543-3681  
triskafh@sbcglobal.net

## Funeral Service

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AUG **18**. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
210 Depot Street  
El Campo, TX 77437

# Tribute Wall

K(

“ Thinking of you today and how you always told me to do my best.  
Miss you Papa.

Keri (Lavanya) - December 27, 2016 at 09:47 AM

PF

“ My dear family. Sorry about your loss. When the enemy death strikes, the sting of death can be very painful, and can leave us with emotions that are hard to understand. Know that when you pour out your heart to God (Psalms 83:18) in prayer, He will give you His Peace that surpasses all understanding to guard your thinking and your heart. May the family stay together during this difficult times.

pfl - August 29, 2016 at 09:27 AM

SR

“ Mr. Mike was our neighbor and we've only known him for 3 yrs but it seemed like we had known him all our lives he shared so many stories, that we will never forget . And most of all we will miss Mike driving down the street every morning and as he would go by he would give us that little honk of the horn that smile and the wave of the hand, and many times he would just stop to tell us a joke or simply just to see if we were up to no good as he would say . Well Mr. Mike you will never be forgotten as you left an impression in our hearts . Rest in Paradise and we shall lean into the wind and see you down the road .

Roy & Suzy Rodriguez

Susan Rodriguez - August 18, 2016 at 08:46 AM

SB

“ Rest in peace Papa. I am eternally grateful that you raised the most amazing son, whom I am so blessed to call my husband. You will certainly be missed. I'm so sorry that Brinley and Bryce will grow up not knowing their Papa and his crazy sayings (which Jake had to explain pretty much all of them to me!). But you always asked me for grand babies, and specifically a grandson, so I'm so glad I was able to give you that 3 weeks before you were called "home".

*You will be missed.*

*Shayne Brodsgaard*

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**Shayne Brodsgaard** - August 17, 2016 at 03:24 PM

EM

*Shayne, what a lovely tribute. So sorry for your family's loss. He sounds like he was a wonderful man, full of life like his son, Jake.*

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**Ellen Mueller** - August 18, 2016 at 08:27 AM

BZ

“ *Barbara Zapalac lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**Barbara Zapalac** - August 17, 2016 at 11:31 AM

JS

“ *Jim Stott lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**jim stott** - August 17, 2016 at 11:04 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Carl Brodsgaard.*



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August 17, 2016 at 09:33 AM



“ *I have known Mike for many years and was saddened to hear of his death. My prayers go out to Amy and Jake in the loss of their dad. Mike's smile and sweet personality will be a memory I carry with me. God bless all of his family.*

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**Kathleen Appling** - August 17, 2016 at 08:35 AM



“ *Mike was a neighbor for many years, he always had a kind word and laugh each time you saw him.*



*Vickie Holub & Debbie Smith Krenek*

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**Vickie Holub** - August 17, 2016 at 08:10 AM



*Mike was a great friend. He and I umpired many baseball games together. You never had a dull moment riding to a game with him as he always kept you well entertained. I love the unique way he handled coaches that did not agree with a call, that was made. He will be missed very, very much. See you on the other side old friend.*

*Bobby Hays*

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**Bobby Hays** - August 17, 2016 at 05:57 PM

SG

“ Thank you Mike for being so wonderful to my dear friend Carolyn. She always talked about how good you were to her. Thank you for making her happy. You will be missed beyond words. Please watch over Carolyn and give her strength while she grieves during this very difficult time.

Sandy Graff - August 17, 2016 at 07:20 AM

NC

“ You will be missed, friend. Rest in peace.

Nathan Curry - August 17, 2016 at 03:31 AM

KV

“ Kathy (Long) Vallet lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard



Kathy (Long) Vallet - August 16, 2016 at 09:31 PM

KV

Kathy (Long) Vallet, which is me, had the pleasure of working with Mike at the Wharton County Courthouse. He was always smiling, joking and making my day. Such a blessing in my life.

Kathy (Long) Vallet - August 16, 2016 at 09:33 PM

GH

“ Grover And Val Hargrove lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard



Grover and Val Hargrove - August 16, 2016 at 08:40 PM



“ We surely will miss this one of a kind man. We were lucky enough to cross paths and become neighbors with Mike and Carolyn for just about the past four years. He made friends with my kiddos instantly and became a grandfather figure to them sharing jokes, doing tricks, playing the guitar and piano with them, etc. His quirky phrases will always be remembered by them as he always told our little girl she was the "prettiest girl in Wharton county" and telling our boy "he was the ugliest"!  
He acted mad at us for moving a few short months ago as he hated to see us go. We have missed him and Mrs. Mitchell, but little did we know we'd be missing him forever. Thank you Mr. Brodsgaard for all the memories and loving our children so much. Rest in paradise! Our deepest condolences to the family  
-The Herzik family-

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**D'Angela Herzik** - August 16, 2016 at 08:35 PM

GW

“ George And Cheryl Washington lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard



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**George and Cheryl Washington** - August 16, 2016 at 07:56 PM

AR

“ Annie Rowe lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard



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**Annie Rowe** - August 16, 2016 at 04:56 PM

AF

“Awakenings Hill Country Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Carl Brodsgaard.



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**Awakenings Hill Country Family** - August 16, 2016 at 03:18 PM



“Morning Glories, Daisies and Peonies (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Michael Carl Brodsgaard.



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August 16, 2016 at 02:55 PM

WH

“For all of my life he was Uncle Mike . Mike's keen wit and obscure use of language was and forever will be a fascination of mine . He always had jokes ----Whenever he entered a room, the mood , the atmosphere improved for the better. He loved nature and he loved motorcycling, I know because I tried to keep up with him on a few rides . He had an eye for the simple rewards that living yields ---- yields that for most of us go unnoticed , but Mike noticed them. He leaned into life . He told me once that there are only two kinds of people in this world, there are givers and there are takers. Mike was a giver.  
I'm sure he telling his stories in Heaven right now----and I bet he "owns" the room .

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**Wayne Hansen** - August 16, 2016 at 02:39 PM

PF

“ My condolences to the family on the loss of your loved one. May the Almighty God whose personal name is recorded in Psalms 83:18 be a source of comfort and strength to you today and days ahead.

pfl - August 16, 2016 at 01:14 PM

LB

“ Lynn Blair, Eddy Blair, A.J. and Allie Blair purchased the Amazing Arboricola for the family of Michael Carl Brodsgaard.



Lynn Blair, Eddy Blair, A.J. and Allie Blair - August 16, 2016 at 12:20 PM

PH

“ I'll miss my friend Mike. We've been friends for the best part of 50 years. I haven't seen him much in the last 30 and the last time was about 6 months ago and you'd never know I didn't live across the street. He was one of a kind at showing his friendship and no one could out wit the guy. I'm a better person for knowing Mike. HE WAS MY FRIEND and I'll miss him.

paul hamman - August 16, 2016 at 12:13 PM

BG

“ Brenda & Kenny George lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard



Brenda & Kenny George - August 16, 2016 at 11:09 AM

MR

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Molly Ramirez - August 16, 2016 at 10:20 AM

LE

“ Leslie Enloe lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard



Leslie Enloe - August 16, 2016 at 10:08 AM

MR

“ Michael Carl Brodsgaard will be greatly missed. This man was a true light to Matagorda County many times during his life. When I worked at Texana Center, he made sure we had plenty of food, school supplies and clothes for many of our clients. He always had a smile or a joke for you. Rest in peace my friend and thank you for your service to this community. Safe journey my friend.- MaLinda Reddell



MaLinda Reddell - August 16, 2016 at 09:58 AM



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



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August 16, 2016 at 09:27 AM



“ I met Mike at HEB. During the holidays he was busy helping others. Purchasing food to help families in need and toys for the kiddos (as he referred to them). He will be missed by many. Rest in peace and may the perpetual light shine upon you.

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**Sharon Anders** - August 16, 2016 at 09:27 AM



“ My heart is heavy! Sending prayers for our family! Spending Little Christmas Eve and Christmas Eve was always a fun time with Mike. He loved my stuffed jalapenos and my tamales! Whenever there were some left at the end of the night, I would pack them up and send them home with him! He would never fail to tell me how much he loved them. He would always ask to be sure there were some left in the refrigerator for him! And of course, there were! I would always make it a point to sit on Santa's lap at the Danevang Lutheran Church and tell him what I wanted for Christmas! I think Santa had a private line to Mike!! I always loved to hear Mike sing! I will never forget the Womanless Style show when he walked out on stage in a blue bathing suit! He will be missed, but will always be in my heart and memories! In the picture posted here, he sure looks a lot like Grammy B!!!

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**Susan Hansen** - August 16, 2016 at 09:26 AM

SH

“ *Susan Hansen lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**Susan Hansen** - August 16, 2016 at 09:16 AM

KT

“ *Kim Thompson lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**Kim Thompson** - August 16, 2016 at 08:07 AM

LB

“ *Lana Benedict lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**Lana Benedict** - August 16, 2016 at 07:09 AM

JR

“ *Mr Brodsgaard was one of a kind. He had a passion for helping people. He did so many positive things for people in need that our community never knew about. His style of giving was completely selfless.*

*Conversations with Mike were an awesome ride. He was the undisputed king of the obscure metaphor and comical analogy. I loved when an unfamiliar, unsuspecting person would throw Mike a "layup" so he could leave them with their head spinning in phrases he had perfected over the years.*

*Growing up, Mr Brodsgaard umpired our summer league and high school baseball games. I remember that if he was behind the plate, "don't come looking for a walk, there ain't nothin' free in this life"--- and you'd better be swinging.*

*Mr Brodsgaard will be missed. Prayers for his family and his many friends.*

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**James Russell** - August 16, 2016 at 12:08 AM

JE

“ Mike was a true friend and partner in the criminal justice system for many years. He had a wealth of knowledge. Mike was involved during his career with the arrest, prosecution, supervision and confinement. He was a hands on administrator.

Mike remained close with friends with the Department Of Corrections. He was a master story teller. Mike asked me to umpire convict softball games at the Brazoria County Prison Units. What an experience. Mike knew several of the convicts. I met some of my Houston high school classmates. We really enjoyed the discussion during the ride home after the games.

God bless Mike and his family.

Jim Elliott  
Retired Chief of Police  
El Campo Police Department

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Jim Elliott - August 15, 2016 at 09:59 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Carl Brodsgaard.



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August 15, 2016 at 09:31 PM

DZ

“ *Diana Zabodyn lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



Diana Zabodyn - August 15, 2016 at 09:22 PM



“ *Dorothy Neeley lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



Dorothy Neeley - August 15, 2016 at 08:07 PM

DB

“ *I was deeply saddened to learn that my good friend Mike Brodsgaard - usually referred to as "Brother Brodsgaard" - had passed away. His passing came as a shock as he had just sent me a message on the 13th in which he wished me a "happy birthday." Mike was a wonderful person who recorded a distinguished career in the Texas criminal justice system. He was a true friend. While we all mourn Mike's departure from this world, we can take comfort from St. Paul; in his first letter to the Corinthian Christians, he wrote: ". . . no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him." Well, today, we can take comfort in the knowledge that Mike is enjoying the company of his Maker, and that his eyes have seen, his ears have heard, and he has realized the full appreciation of what God has prepared for those who love him.*

Dan Beto - August 15, 2016 at 06:07 PM

DH

“ *Diana & Phil Huvar lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**Diana & Phil Huvar** - August 15, 2016 at 06:07 PM

JN

“ *Jayne Nunez lit a candle in memory of Michael Carl Brodsgaard*



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**Jayne Nunez** - August 15, 2016 at 05:50 PM

LK

*I was so sorry to hear the news of the passing of Mike. We have know him for many year from baseball & his son. Mike would be shopping at HEB when we would stop to visit. He was shopping for the little ladies that he did all the time. He was a kind & thoughtful person. I will miss visiting with him. My prayers are sent to the family & friends. Mike may you rest in peace. Linda & Ken Kram*

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**Linda Kram** - August 16, 2016 at 02:01 AM

GD

*Sad to open my iPad to see Triska's obituary posting of Mike's death. Bill and I knew and loved him for many years and send heartfelt condolences to Jake and Amy, and their families. He was never without a big smile and a happy greeting. Although we don't live in El Campo anymore, we know how much he will be missed. Love and prayers to each of you.*

*Gloria and Bill Dowden  
Shreveport, La.*

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**Gloria Dowden** - August 16, 2016 at 07:06 AM

LB

*Although I have not seen or talked to Mike in several years, I would think of him often and remember his delicious stories, hearty laugh, and giving spirit. He loved life and lived it fully; he loved people and people loved him back.....he'll be greatly missed by all who knew him. Rest in peace, my friend, and thank you for some truly amazing memories.....*

*Lynn Blair*

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**Lynn Blair** - August 16, 2016 at 11:09 AM

AS

*Mike was a classmate and good friend for many years. He loved laughter and helping others. He will be missed. Doyle & Ann Schaer*

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**Ann Schaer** - August 16, 2016 at 02:58 PM