



## Michael Preston Roche

May 12, 1939 - November 21, 2021

Michael Roche, 82, of Albany, GA passed away on November 21, 2021, in Albany, GA.

The Celebration of Life service will be held at 6 PM Tuesday, November 23, 2021 in the chapel of Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors with Rev. Jennifer Sherling officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

Michael Preston Roche, son of Welton Chester Roche and Evelyn Margaret Michael, was born May 12, 1939, in Lisinby Hospital, Panama City, FL. His childhood years were spent in Port St. Joe (Oak Grove), FL, where his father Welton had many business interests, culminating in 45 years' ownership of Roche's Furniture Store serving the eastern Florida panhandle. Michael attended elementary school in Port St. Joe, and Gulfport Academy in Biloxi, MS. He graduated from Wewahitchka High School in Wewahitchka, FL. He spent 4 years in the Air Force working with airplanes' electronics systems, continuing with jobs in Greenville, TX, and then testing planes and radar systems at Tyndall and Eglin Air Force Bases on the Gulf Coast. Michael joined the Florida National Guard, returning to school to learn radiation calibration. This training brought him to Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany (GA), where he calibrated radioactive equipment for 16 years before retiring in 2000. He then joined his wife as a Dougherty County School Systems volunteer for 10 years at Merry Acres Middle School, Alice Coachman Elementary School, and the Dougherty County Gifted Program. He enjoyed

the interactions with teachers and made many good friends.

Mike loved books, traveling throughout the United States, jet skiing the Gulf Coast, and airplanes of all kinds.

Michael's family history includes Stephen J. Roche, who signed the Florida State Constitution as a delegate from Gulf County.

Michael is survived by a wife of 46 years, Margaret Donovan Lange Roche; a daughter, Sara Evelyn Roche Lassiter (Conway, AR); a son, Jonathan Preston Roche (Seattle, WA); and a brother, David J. Roche (wife Willie, Shreveport, LA).

In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make memorial contributions to their favorite charity.

You may sign the online guestbook and share your own special thoughts and memories with the family by visiting Kimbrell-Stern's website at [www.kimbrellstern.com](http://www.kimbrellstern.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **23**. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors  
1503 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

## Celebration of Life

NOV **23**. 6:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors  
1503 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

**In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to your favorite charity.**

NOV **23** (ET)

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Albany, GA 31707

# Tribute Wall

CN

“ So sad to see this tonight. He was loved by many. He was a thoughtful volunteer at Merry Acres for such a long time. I have the fondest memories of he and Margie.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Neal

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**Cindy Neal** - November 30, 2021 at 06:06 PM

PS

“ Very painful to learn of Mikes's sudden illness then quickly leave so many who thought very highly of Mike and his love for Margie, son Jon, and daughter Sarah. Mike will always be in my heart as one of the kindest, most caring, and considerate gentlemen I have ever met in my life. Mike's entire family has meant huge amounts to me over the years. I am deeply grateful for Mike's friendship and his family in my life over the years.

Pat Samford

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**pat samford** - November 23, 2021 at 10:47 AM

CW

“ 40 years of friendship! I will always remember Mike's voice when he answered the phone when I called on Margie. He and I had some wonderful conversations. He usually was the delivery boy bearing fresh baked holiday breads. Our dinners and parties filled with good food, joy and laughter will remain in my heart forever.

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**Cindy Welch** - November 23, 2021 at 01:58 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Michael Preston Roche.



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November 22, 2021 at 09:11 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Michael Preston Roche.



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November 22, 2021 at 08:34 AM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose* was purchased for the family of Michael Preston Roche.



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November 21, 2021 at 11:36 PM



“ *Sentimental Dreams* was purchased for the family of Michael Preston Roche.



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November 21, 2021 at 10:37 PM

LW

“ *I vividly recall the motorcycle ride you gave to my retired mother-in-law many years ago. She was as happy as if she had good sense, thrilled from the ride.*

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**Lloyd Wells** - November 21, 2021 at 06:24 PM