



Celebrating the Life of

Michael James
Fisher

22nd June 1976 - 31st December 2024

All Family & Friends are welcome for refreshments at:
Jagera Arts Centre, 121 Cordelia St, South Brisbane QLD 4101

The Family would like to thank all the services and organisations that have provided their love and support, including Barada Barna, Jagera Arts, Sisters Inside, Aunty Faith Green-Gunya Meta, and all other donations provided through family, friends & associations.

The family would like to thank you for supporting Michael and his children.

A big Thank You for supporting us through this sad time.

Link to Online Tribute



MCCARTNEY FAMILY FUNERALS

9/21 Waterloo St, Cleveland QLD 4163
1300 043 522 | mccartneyfunerals.com.au

Order of Service

Opening Music

Freedom - Kev Carmody
A Change Is Gonna Come - Sam Cooke
Meet Me In The Middle Of The Air - Paul Kelly
Jesu - Gurrumul

Traditional Welcome and Prayer

Opening Prayer
Pastor Max Conlon

The Lord's Prayer

Opening Hymn

How Great Thou Art - Josh Turner & Sonya Isaacs

Celebration of Michael's Life

Eulogy
Billy-Joe & Orlyn (Snr)

Tributes/Messages/Poems

Family and Friends

Slideshow

Celebration & Memories of Michael James Fisher (Snr).
Sweet Child O' Mine - Guns N' Roses

Gospel Message/Bible Reading

Pastor Max Conlon

Closing Words/Messages of Farewell

Pastor Max Conlon

Closing Hymn

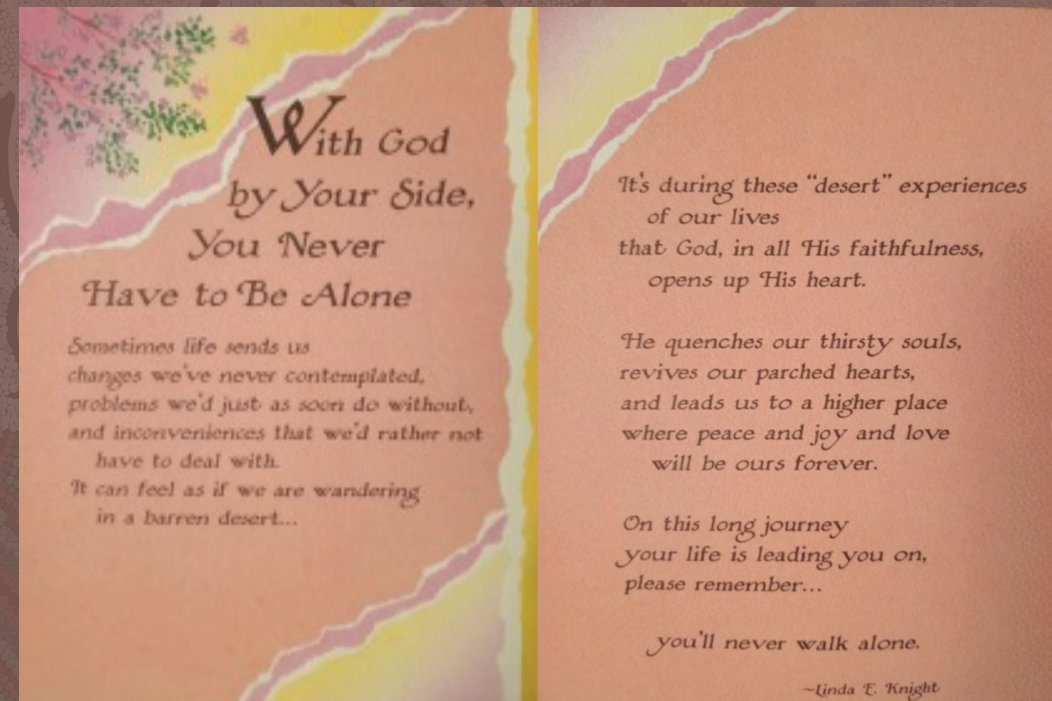
Why Me - Kris Kristofferson

Michael moved from Murgon to Brisbane. During this time, self-care led him to become unwell. Michael's self-care and ill health led him home to a place of peace.

Michael experienced many setbacks over his 48 years, including the loss of two brothers whom he loved and respected, his father, his children's mother Constance, and recently the loss of his mother. Michael became overwhelmed by [his] grief and loss.

Michael is survived and loved by his children, grandchildren, siblings, aunties, uncles, extended family, and friends.

Apologies if we have missed any families. This was not our intention, as there are too many of our family and friends to list.



Michael was a proud Goori [Abo-riginal, lol] man, son, father, grandfather, brother, nephew, and friend. He was never judgmental towards others and was a silent observer, always sitting back and watching people and the world around him.

As a young child in Sydney, Michael would be escorted into the city to breakdance (rap) with older youth on a Friday and Saturday night. He would also request to visit Nana Katie Geehoy at Kings Cross before heading home from a night out in the city [breakdancing]. Surprisingly, they became neighbours in Cooper Street, Murgon [years later].

After relocating from Sydney to Brisbane with his father and siblings, Michael discovered his musical talent and enjoyed strumming the guitar. Michael had a talent for music and movement. Several great guitarists inspired him. His love of music led him to busk and entertain others. As Uncle Hedley shared, “Michael was a gifted musician who could have played with anyone who needed a top guitarist”.

When the family moved from Brisbane in a [long] taxi ride home to Cherbourg, Michael bonded with his extended family and other siblings and established long-lasting friendships. After a few years of living in Cherbourg, Michael returned to Brisbane as a youth, temporarily living with Julie, and he also moved around living with other family and friends.

Michael found himself exploring the wild side of life and started to self-care to heal his pain and past hurts. As a teenager, he got up to mischief and made unsafe decisions. His first visit to a youth facility harnessed concerns about his welfare by the family. Many would visit him, including his mother, Margaret, who travelled from Sydney to see him.

During his teenage years, Michael met Melanie Ruska, with whom he would have three beautiful babies. Michael and Melanie adored and loved their babies. A few years after Michael and Melanie parted, Michael started a relationship with Constance Watcho, with whom they would have four beautiful babies. Michael and Constance loved their babies. Michael and Constance parted ways. Michael became a single dad; it was during this time that Michael would take his four youngest children across Stradbroke Island for the holidays to spend time with their other siblings.

Graveside Tribute
Words of Farewell & Celebration
Pastor Max Conlon

Graveside Music
Thank You Lord - Bob Marley

Closing Celebration
Quandamooka Dancers

Memories

Daughter Namulli: “We love you, Dad; you’ll be dearly missed by all your children.”

Son’s Maurice and Jordan: “I loved the times when Uncle Mick and the brothers and sister(s) would occasionally stay with us; I remember Dad always caring for Uncle Mick and his children.”

Brother Shannon: “I remember we mimicked Iron Man races, running about in the rain, racing around two the ovals/islands [near home there] and swimming across the creek; there was no time for a break; otherwise, you’d lose. We also hung out at the creek, skateboarded, and rode bikes. Our Brother Gordan would take us for long bush walks and swimming; Gordan was always a good big brother to us boys. Mick was also a good guitarist, and he was good at playing blues-style music.”

Sister Melissa: “I used to love watching Mick, Mauri, Orlyn and Ally skateboarding and riding their BMX bikes, doing mad little tricks. As children, we all go down to the rocks swimming, having mud fights and running around [in the old girl’s dormitory] playing cowboys and Indians or cops and robbers. I used to love listening to Michael busking in the city; he had a mad singing voice.”



Eulogy

Michael James Fisher was born on the 22nd of June 1976 at Penrith Hospital Sydney.

Parents - Margaret Farrell and Alwyn Fisher (Snr). (dec)

Grandparents - Roy Allister Fisher and Winifred Stances Fisher (nee: Daylight). (dec)
June Kitchener Farrell and Lesly Farrell. (dec)

Michael had close relationships and connections with his aunty-mums, Vanessa and Kathryn Fisher. Michael loved all his other mothers, including Aunty Elaine (Rae) and Aunty Leah Fisher. All Michael's other mothers loved and help raise him and his other siblings.

He also had a strong bond and relationship with Julie Hislop, who loved and supported him and his children. Michael appreciated and respected Julie's continuous support and love. Thank you, Julie.

Children - Kurun Ruska-Fisher Ruska, Taryn Ruska-Fisher, Orlyn Fisher, Namulli Ruska-Fisher, Ozay Fisher, Rose Fisher, and Michael Fisher (Jnr). Michael loved his children!

Grandchildren - Lyra, Nyani, Haven, Joshiah, and Jamiah

Brothers - Billy-Joe Coleman, Alwyn Fisher (dec), Orlyn Fisher, Maurice Fisher (dec), Perry Farrell-Simon

Sisters - Kylie Farrell-Fisher, Dannielle Farrell-Simon, Natasha Pike & Tarita Fisher

Relations - Melanie Ruska and Constance May Watcho (dec), with whom he had beautiful children.

Extended family and friends

Michael loved all his aunts, uncles, and grandparents. Michael loved his family's children and grandchildren.

Michael had a special bond with all his other extended family and siblings that he grew up with, including Graham, Gordan, Rhonda, Paula, Dudley, Phillip, Noeleen and

Dianna, Lesley, Shannon, Melissa, Francis, Anna, Godfrey, Cassandra, Selwyn, Roy, Elaine, Warren, Keith, and Lutina, Jacqueline, Tessa and Shawn, Llyod, Cyril, and Kaitleen.

Michael also had a great relationship with his partner's family and made long-lasting friendships in Cherbourg, Murgon, South Burnett, Brisbane, Sydney, and other areas where he travelled. Michael loved spending time with his family and friends. Over the years, he often lived and boarded with many of them.

Schools - Michael attended several schools, including St Mary's State School, Bidwell State School, Traeger State School, Annandale State School, Murri School High Gate Hill—Dornoch Terrace, Woodridge North State School, Woodridge State High School, Centre Education – Kingston, and Cherbourg State School. He also attended Murgon High School for a very short period before moving to Brisbane.

His hobbies were busking, dancing, entertainment, basketball, camping, and gardening. He also liked cultivating his own bonsai trees.

Michael's Story

Michael was a mischievous and adventurous child, which reflects his values and lived experiences as an adult. If you knew Michael's lub heart, he would never intentionally cause harm to others but would create an environment that most of us would avoid and run from... LOL

He was loving and caring and shared this in his unique way. If you genuinely knew Michael, he wouldn't be intentionally disrespectful, but he would question the world, the dictionary, and the Bible's constitutions regarding who we are in this place. He was opinionated and inquisitive about life and its purpose. Michael would challenge situations that he felt were abounded by colonisation and became an activist against the mistreatment, discrimination and racism towards our families and communities. He may not have always been on the front line, but he would never hesitate to share his truths.

Michael's life was a place most of us can relate to and affiliate with as our own story.