



## Michael Joseph Bermes

October 7, 1994 - February 13, 2026

Michael Bermes, 31, of Aurora, IL passed away on February 13, 2026 surrounded by his loving family.

At the age of 5, Michael was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Despite his physical limitations, he faced life with strength, resilience, and determination. He was a warrior who spent his life being stronger than the disease. With the incredible care and dedication of his parents, family, doctors, and his longtime physical therapist, Iymen, he lived the best life possible.

Michael was born on October 7, 1994, to Brian and Mabel Bermes. As a child, Michael was active and creative, participating in Boy Scouts, swimming, and expressed his creativity through the arts. He had a happy, joyful spirit, a curious mind, and a determination to succeed in whatever he set his heart to. He was incredibly intelligent with a remarkable memory. Michael's childhood was filled with love and laughter alongside his many cousins.

Michael graduated from West Aurora High School in 2013, where he was a member of the National Honor Society. He then earned his Associate's degree from Waubensee Community College in 2016 and earned his Bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University in 2019, graduating Cum Laude.

Michael was a passionate Chicago sports fan who loved watching games with his family, especially the Chicago Cubs. Despite his physical limitations, he experienced countless concerts, baseball games, beach vacations and many other adventures with his family. One of his most cherished memories was a special Make-A-Wish trip to Seattle, where he met the creators of his favorite video game, Halo, an experience that he and his family treasured deeply.

Michael was also a devoted movie enthusiast who loved Marvel and Star Wars. He had a deep love for music, enjoyed staying up late playing video games, and most recently spent hours exploring new interests on his iPad. Through his love of online gaming, Michael formed friendships with people from around the world.

In his 31 years, Michael lived a beautiful life filled with far more adventures, joy, and meaningful moments than we could have imagined. His witty, sly, and sarcastic sense of humor brought joy to all those who knew him.

Michael was cherished by his parents, whose love and devotion made his life full. A special and heartfelt thank you is extended to his mother, who dedicated her heart and soul to his care, well-being, and health throughout his life.

He was a proud and devoted uncle to Leah (4) and Owen (1.5). He made sure they knew the rules and tried his best to keep them in line, even while they climbed on him, tugged at his hair, and filled the room with joyful chaos. He also adored his dog, Cooper, who brought him comfort and companionship.

Though our hearts are heavy, we will forever cherish the warmth, love, and joy Michael brought into our lives. Michael will be deeply missed and endlessly loved. He left an imprint on our hearts that we will treasure forever. We are all better people for knowing him.

He is survived by his parents, Brian and Mabel Bermes; his sister, Andrea (Eric Schmittgens); his niece and nephew; his maternal grandmother, Maria "Cuca" Elizondo; his godparents, Marisa and Martin Connelly; his aunts and uncles, Mayra and Phil Stanley, Martha and Humberto Corral, Rey and Mary Elizondo, and David Bermes; as well as many beloved cousins (Christina, Marisa, Mandy, Tess, Richie, Kacy, Max, Allison, Franci, Rey, and Amanda) and many friends. He shared an especially close bond with his cousin Max, who was not only family but one of Michael's closest friends. Their bond was one of loyalty and patience, and something that he always cherished.

Michael was preceded in death by his grandfather, Reynold Elizondo Sr.; his grandmother, Mary Bermes; and his childhood dog, Buster.

In lieu of flowers, please honor Michael with donations to The Michael Bermes Memorial Scholarship at Waubensee Community College supporting students with physical disabilities pursuing a college education. <https://www.waubensee.edu/about-waubensee/waubensee-foundation/how-give> Checks can be mailed to Waubensee Community College Foundation (Route 47 at Waubensee Drive, Sugar Grove, IL 60554)

Visitation will be at The Daleiden Mortuary (220 North Lake Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506) on Wednesday, February 25th from 4-7pm. A Memorial Mass will take place at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church (620 Fifth Street, Aurora, IL 60506) on Thursday, February 26th at 10am. Interment will follow at Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olivet Cemetery

278 Ashland Avenue  
Aurora, IL 60505

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary  
220 N. Lake Street  
Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 631-5500  
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com  
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

## Memorial Mass

FEB **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church  
620 South Fifth St.  
Aurora, IL 60505

## Graveside Service

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FEB **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Olivet Cemetery  
278 Ashland Avenue  
Aurora, IL 60505

# Tribute Wall

IK

“ To my special friends/neighbors, may Michaels light always be shining strong and bright in your hearts. Love, The Klespitz's Jima, Imelda and Ian



IMELDA KLESPITZ - February 25 at 05:25 PM

TH

“ Tammy and Guy Hankins purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michael Joseph Bermes.



Tammy and Guy Hankins - February 25 at 02:25 PM

MF

“ Maria Luisa Elizondo and family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Michael Joseph Bermes.



Maria Luisa Elizondo and family - February 24 at 09:06 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Michael Joseph Bermes.



February 23 at 01:03 PM

CS

“ Charles Segler purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Michael Joseph Bermes.



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**Charles Segler** - February 19 at 02:54 PM

CS

“ Charles Segler purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Michael Joseph Bermes.



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**Charles Segler** - February 19 at 02:54 PM

RB

“ Brian & Mabel,

*We're so sorry for your loss. Hoping that all of the memories you have of Michael help to comfort you in the days ahead.*

*Ron & Bev Bennett*

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**Ron Bennett** - February 19 at 09:53 AM

CT

“ Mable I remember the first days when you and your family were first informed about Michael’s illness. The initial shock was devastating to you all. It was truly inspiring watching your strength as a mother to move from fear and disbelief to a mother of strength and determination to provide Micheal with the very best life he could have. My prayers go out to you and your family in this time of deep sorrow. God bless you and your family.

Chris Trombley - February 17 at 10:08 PM

RF

“ Rubén González and Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Michael Joseph Bermes.



Rubén González and Family - February 17 at 06:46 PM

RF

“ Rubén González and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Joseph Bermes.

Rubén González and Family - February 17 at 06:46 PM

IB

“ Michael, you were a ray of sunshine every time you came in for physical therapy. I will miss you so much. You worked hard and did the best you could during our sessions. I loved talking to you, you were so intelligent and pretty much knew a little something about everything. I could ask you anything. The world lost a sweet, kind, gentle soul. Rest in peace my dear friend and enjoy your time with Buster.

iyemen Bhanpuri - February 17 at 10:04 AM

AR

“ We love you, Michael. We have faith that you are flying high in heaven and reunited with Grandpa Rey, your Grandma Mary, & Buster. You exemplified what it means to be courageous and strong. We could always count on you for a well timed joke or laugh in any situation. Until heaven. ☐

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**Amanda Robinson** - February 17 at 07:08 AM

RS

“ Rosemary Sandoval lit a candle in memory of Michael Joseph Bermes



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**Rosemary Sandoval** - February 16 at 09:02 PM