



Michael & Frances Ford

July 2, 2025

Michael Alan Ford

August 30, 1946 - July 2, 2025

Michael "Mick" Alan Ford, 78, of Collegeville, Pennsylvania, passed away of natural causes on July 2, 2025.

Mick was born on August 30, 1946, at West Point, New York, to Master Sergeant Alfred J. Ford and Mary A. Ford (née Carroll). His father's long military career in the U.S. Army meant that Mick spent much of his childhood moving frequently—living overseas in Germany and Greece, then stateside in Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, and eventually Pueblo, Colorado. After graduating from high school in Pueblo, he briefly attended college as a music major before enlisting in the United States Army in February 1966. Mick served with distinction in Vietnam as part of the 101st Airborne Division and was honorably discharged in 1969.

Back in Pennsylvania, Mick began a new chapter with his first wife, Catherine Smith. Together, they lovingly raised their son, Ryan. In 1970, Mick also embarked on what would become a long and distinguished career in public service with the Pennsylvania State Police.

Trooper Ford graduated from the Pennsylvania State Police Academy in 1970. He began his tenure with Troop J in southern Chester County, where he also volunteered as a firefighter with the Longwood Fire Company for 13 years. In the second half of his career, Mick found fulfillment back at the Pennsylvania State Police Academy in Hershey. His role as an instructor at the Academy later led to unique opportunities, including serving as Supervisor of the Mounted Unit and helping to establish the Ceremonial Unit. Among his proudest contributions was organizing and leading the training of the State Police Academy classes at Fort Indiantown Gap in 1991-an experience he often described as one of the most meaningful of his career. Mick retired as a Lieutenant in 1996 after 26 years of dedicated and faithful service.

Frances Miller Ford

July 10, 1944 - July 2, 2025

Frances "Fran" Miller Ford (née Frances Elaine Miller), 80, of Colledgeville, Pennsylvania, passed away of natural causes on July 2nd, 2025.

Fran was born on July 10, 1944, in Oakland, California, to Captain Jack and Dorothy Miller (née McLeod). Alongside her sister Dottie, Fran's early years were shaped by her father's Navy career. Military life brought the family to various locations including Australia where she spent her high school years and had some memorable adventures. Fran went on to study at the Corcoran School of Art, where she developed her natural artistic talents and subsequently took her first job as a graphic designer.

Fran married and soon welcomed three daughters-Mandie, Kate, and Emily-whom she raised with love and creativity. She filled their childhood with gardening, homemade popsicles, sewing and baking lessons, while involving

them in 4-H, gymnastics, track, neighborhood events, and so much more. Faith was also important to Fran. She and her family were very involved in their congregation's Sunday school, acolyting, choir, and church community events. Alongside her service to the PTA and school board, Fran nurtured joy in the everyday-gathering friends for bridge, leading lively game nights with family, and often sitting at the piano to play some of her favorites like "Greensleeves".

As the kids grew up, Fran secured a job as a secretary-first at a church and next at a software company. With her signature resourcefulness, dedication and care, she worked her way up through several positions and on to SAP where she worked for 18 years before retiring as the Senior Director of Proposals. Fran became active in her local Episcopal church where she served faithfully in many capacities. Whether in group settings or individually, Fran's congregation knew her as a mentor and a woman of faith.

Together in Life and Legacy

On September 20, 1988, Mick and Fran found lasting love and married in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Over the course of their 36-year marriage, they built a life rooted in love, humor, and resilience-devoted not only to each other but to their children and grandchildren. Fran embraced Mick's son, Ryan, with gratitude, just as Mick embraced Mandie, Kate, and Emily. They treasured their six grandchildren-AJ, Aurora, Zach, Jack, Jonah, and Elliot-and took great joy in staying connected with each of them, from their earliest days through their college years. Their relationship brought out the best in both of them. Grounded in deep affection and mutual admiration, theirs was a natural partnership that made even the ordinary feel meaningful. They thrived in time spent together-whether working side by side on home improvement projects, running their own deck-building business, meticulously crafting dollhouses

and miniatures, playfully competing at trivia, charades, and Catch Phrase, or setting off on one of their famously spontaneous "left-turn trips" with no destination in mind.

In the end, Mick and Fran left this world the same way they so often explored it-together, side by side. They passed peacefully at home, in the place where they had built not just a life, but countless beautiful memories. For those who knew them, it feels only fitting that their next adventure began the same way so many of their favorite journeys did: with no map, just the comfort of each other's presence. As they continue their travels hand in hand, their love and laughter are forever carried in the hearts of those they leave behind.

They are survived by their son, Ryan M. Ford; daughters Amanda M. Howard, Kathryn E. Gouéry, and Emily S. Boatwright; and grandchildren Alan L. Boatwright Jr., Aurora F. L. Pittard, Zachary Y. Gouéry, Jack H. Boatwright, Jonah D. Gouéry, and Elliot C. Gouéry. Mick is also survived by his brothers, Alfred J. Ford and James P. Ford.

Services and Remembrance

A joint memorial service for Mick and Fran will be held 10:00AM on July 14, 2025, at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church followed by a reception with light refreshments.

Please note that seating in the sanctuary is limited. Additional seating will be available in the fellowship hall, where the service will be livestreamed. The livestreaming will start a few minutes before the service begins and will also be available here: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsOaks/>

Inurnment with military and state police honors for Mick will take place later that day at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

Order of Services on Monday, July 14th, 2025:

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church - 126 Black Rock Road, Oaks, PA 19456

8:30AM-10:00AM Visiting hours with family

10:00AM-11:30AM Church service

11:30AM-12:30PM Refreshments

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery - 60 Indiantown Gap Road, Annville, PA 17003

2:30PM-3:00PM Committal Service - Inurnment of Michael A. Ford

Follow signs for Admin Building and park behind Admin Building by 2:15PM

American Legion Post 272 - 507 N. Mountain Road, Linglestown PA 17112

3:30PM-6:30PM Celebration of Life / Collation

In honoring Mick and Fran's legacy, the family welcomes stories, memories, and photos

from those who knew them. Donations in their memory may be made to Saint Paul's

Episcopal Church (<https://stpaulsoaks.org/donation/>) and American Legion Post 272 (<https://chaplinscorner.com/>). (donation button for Post 272 is halfway down the page).

Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc. Condolences may be offered online at www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 14. 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
126 Black Rock Road
Oaks, PA 19456

Memorial Service

JUL 14. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
126 Black Rock Road
Oaks, PA 19456

Light Refreshments

JUL 14. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
126 Black Road Road
Oaks, PA 19456

Graveside Service

JUL 14. 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
60 Indiantown Gap Rd
Annaville, PA 17003

Celebration of Life

JUL 14. 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

American Legion Post 272
507 N. Mountain Road
Linglestown, PA 17112

Tribute Wall



“ Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael & Frances Ford



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - July 13, 2025 at 04:56 PM

SM

“ Mick sitting at the cashier table for attic treasures. He was missed last year at the table. I nominated Fran for vestry and she said I am too new but I said no you are not we need new ideas and boy did she implement a lot of them. They both will be missed. Susan and Jane Mano

Susan J Mano - July 09, 2025 at 11:49 AM

AH

Thank you for writing Susan and Jane ☐
St. Paul's was such a big, beautiful and valuable part of their lives.

Amanda Howard - July 15, 2025 at 09:03 AM

RL

“ Dear Boatwright, Ford, Gouéry and Howard families: So sad to hear of the passing of Frances and Mick. My prayers are with the entire family as you work through this difficult time. I met Mick when I came to work for ADTS (1989). I had the opportunity to work classes in the PA areas alongside Mick, who took the time to break in a new guy. He was always a gentleman who was concerned with those who worked alongside him. He was a source of many stories and knew how to work and have fun at the same time. It was a pleasure to know him and work with him over the years. I hope you have many happy and fond memories to reflect upon, which will bring laughter to your hearts.

Richard “Uncle Dick” Lambert
Captain #1524 (ret'd) - Illinois State Police - Dist. 03/Chicago/Troop
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FBI-NAA #149

Richard Lambert - July 08, 2025 at 10:08 PM

AH

Dear Mr. Lambert, thank you so much for writing. It is so good for us to hear story after story of what a valuable role Mick played in the lives of people he spent time with.

Thank you for your prayers and we are also sorry for your loss



Amanda Howard - July 15, 2025 at 09:06 AM