



Michael Casallas



7/10/61 – 12/14/2025

It is with deep sorrow that the family of Michael Casallas, Lance Corporal, United States Marine Corps, of Kintnersville, PA announces his passing on December 14, 2025, at the age of 64 due to complications from Sepsis. Michael was surrounded by family at the time of his passing, held in love until the very end.

Michael is preceded by his beloved mother Maria (2023) his father William (1981), and his maternal grandmother Flora (2006). He is survived by his devoted sister, Flora, who stood faithfully by his side through every season of life—through strength and struggle, health and illness- ensuring that his medical and mental-health needs were always met. She was his advocate, and his rock.

Michael is also survived by his maternal uncle, Ciro, who represented a living bridge to his mother, to family traditions, and to the enduring values of respect, connection, and heritage. Michael will forever be missed by a wide circle of cousins, friends and caregivers.

Michael was born July 10, 1961, in Cali Colombia South America. In 1969 (age 8), he immigrated to Pennsylvania to reunite with his parents. His parents' goals for their children were to pave the way to the American dream. His parents worked tirelessly to provide a happy home with a loving environment, travel experiences, and educational opportunities. Michael's sister obtained a doctorate in clinical psychology and he

proudly enlisted in the United States Marine Corps shortly after graduating from Lansdale Catholic High School in June of 1981.

Shortly after entering the Marines, Michael's father passed away in October of 1981. Michael struggled with the adjustment of losing his father at a young age, being a new Marine, and adjusting to the military life amidst grieving. The stress proved overwhelming and his mental health issues emerged, leading to a series of difficult life events and misfortune.

He was stationed in Camp Lejeune during the years when toxic contaminants were present in the water supply, though this was not known at the time. He later developed autoimmune illness, and was honorably discharged. Nearly a decade later he was diagnosed with Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) resulting in a VA hospital and VA nursing home stay of 4-consecutive years in rehabilitation recovering from GBS. By the time he discharged, he faced life with limited mobility and was wheelchair-bound.

Despite adversity Michael was never bitter. He carried himself with resilience and a signature dry wit. He often joked saying, "Once you're handicapped, you'll never go back," or pointed to his handicapped placard and said, "Hey, look—a picture of me."

Michael had a good eye for detail, and impressive memory. Often times if a person reminded him of a famous person, he would point it out. Usually, it was an obscure famous name, and when Googled, the resemblance was spot on!

He was a very good artist (self taught), however, when his hands started to shake due to the side effects of his medication, he stopped drawing.

Most friends thought he suffered silently. He never said, "why me?" He surrendered to God's plan, and said to himself, "I have no choice, so I'll make the best of what I have and accept God's plan."

Michael enjoyed playing chess, reading, trivia games, watching TV, movies and music, especially Elvis Presley, and his family thought it be fitting that his tomb-stone say, “Michael has left the building.”

Unbeknownst to him, Michael touched many lives in quiet but lasting ways. Through humor, faith, and perseverance, he inspired others to face adversity with grace.

On Monday, Dec. 22, 2025, the family invites all to gather and celebrate Michael’s life—not his suffering. Guests are asked to wear white symbolizing hope, resurrection, joy, and eternal life in Christ. The belief that death is not the end, but a passage into God’s light.

Service Agenda

Viewing: 9am to 10:20am

Mass will immediately follow the viewing.

St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church

51 Lansdale Avenue

Lansdale, PA 19446

Burial: 1:45pm to 2:20pm

Washington Crossing National Cemetery

830 Highland Road

Newtown, PA 18940

Michael will receive full military honors, including:

- An honor guard detail**
- Folding and presentation of the U.S. Flag**
- Playing of TAPS**
- Rifle salute (fired three times to represent: Respect, Honor, and Final Farewell**

NOTE: For those attending the Burial only, please arrive no later than 1:40 PM. After you turn into the Cemetery entrance, please follow the road a short distance to the Cemetery Office. This will be our meeting point. (You will not have to find a specific grave in the Cemetery)