



Mr. Michael Higgins

February 19, 1949 - April 5, 2026

Michael Blandard Higgins was born February 19, 1949, in Kansas City, Missouri to the union of Bernice (Mills) and Robert Higgins, Sr. He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Chesteen “Tina” Higgins Kilgore; and a brother, Everett Clark “Butch” Higgins.

He confessed a hope in Christ at an early age and was baptized at Friendship Baptist Church.

A lifelong area resident, Michael was educated in Kansas City, Missouri public schools. He graduated in the 1967 class of Central High School, where he excelled in football. After graduating, he married Bettye Morris, and to this union, one son, Jeffrey Brent Higgins, was born. The marriage was dissolved after nine years. He later met and, on December 5, 1981, married Jo Ann Crosby. To this union, one daughter, Nicole D’Ann Higgins, was born. Michael cared deeply for his family and withheld nothing he could provide to support the people he loved.

Michael always took great pride in his work, from his first job at A&P, where after approaching the manager’s booth to ask if they were looking for help, he was thrilled to be told to return the next day with a white shirt and tie. He enjoyed working for the grocery store chain for 14 years until the chain closed. He worked several other jobs, from First National Bank to Bendix (later

Honeywell). He retired in 2021 from Ford Motor Company after 30 years. In his time at the Claycomo plant, he developed many treasured and enduring friendships.

The truest definition of a sports fanatic, Michael loved them all, but especially Chiefs and Mizzou football. He could rattle off players and stats like no one else and would happily regale you with historic game highlights. In his leisure, he also enjoyed watching television talk shows and game shows, listening to his vast music collection, and reading his newspapers. Most of all, he loved any time spent with family.

Michael was a paragon of optimism, remaining full of faith and sharing his spirit of encouragement with all he encountered. On Resurrection Sunday, April 5, 2026, Michael was called home to glory.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his devoted wife, Jo Ann Crosby Higgins; daughter, Nicole D'Ann Higgins; son, Jeffrey Brent Higgins; brothers Paul Lester Higgins, Robert Clark "Buddy" Higgins, Jr., and Shawn Emil Higgins; sister, Robin Higgins-McCoy; brother in-law, Melvin Crosby (Narene); grandchildren Jamia Higgins, Janii Higgins, and Jalani Higgins; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026, 11am at Holy Light MBC. Interment Forest Hill Cemetery. Visitation from 10am - 11am at the church. Services conducted by Lawrence A. Jones & Sons Funeral Chapel. Condolences may be shared on our website.

Cemetery Details

Forest Hill Cemetery

6901 Troost Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64131

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Light MBC
2421 Indiana Ave
KC, MO 64127

Funeral Service

APR 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Light MBC
2421 Indiana Ave
KC, MO 64127

Tribute Wall

SL

“ *JoAnn & Nikki, Sending our sincere condolences to you and the family on your loss. Praying that God, family and friends will be present to provide the support and comfort needed in the days ahead. God bless.*

Stan Lister - April 14 at 09:46 AM



“ *Heartfelt Memories was purchased for the family of Mr. Michael Higgins.*



April 13 at 07:55 AM

TW

“ Dear Cousin Jo Ann and Cousin Nicky,

My heart goes out to both of you during this incredibly difficult time. I am so deeply sorry for the loss of your beloved husband and father, Michael.

There are no words that can truly ease the pain you're feeling, but please know that you are surrounded by love, prayers, and support. Michael was a special man whose life touched so many, and his memory will forever live on in your hearts.

I pray that God grants you strength, comfort, and peace in the days ahead, and that the love you shared with Michael brings you moments of comfort as you reflect on the beautiful memories.

Please know that I am here for you both, now and always.

*With all my love and deepest sympathy,
Cousin Terri*

Territerrain Williams - April 09 at 05:47 PM

AC

“ JoAnn and Nikki - we (your Cousins Gregory and I) praying for you'll. Again, so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. We are just a phone call away and please don't hesitate to call any time ~ any hour and for anything. Love YOU Both

Andrea Copeland - April 07 at 07:26 PM