



## Gerald Michael McGrath

April 15, 1941 - August 29, 2016

Gerald Michael McGrath was born on April 15, 1941 and peacefully passed away on August 29, 2016, with his daughters Madaline Makler and Nicole McGrath at his side. He was 75 years old. McGrath was a beloved member of the Santa Barbara Mission and joyfully celebrated his Catholic faith. He worked as a public defender for the Santa Barbara Public Defender's Office for 35 years and retired in 2007. McGrath loved serving juvenile clients, doting on his grandson Benny, Irish music, and telling stories with friends and family.

He is survived by his daughter Madaline Makler, his son-in-law Bill Makler, grandson Benjamin Michael Makler, and daughter Nicole McGrath. He also leaves behind his brothers and sisters Philip McGrath, Mary McGrath, Brad McGrath, Annette McGrath Swift, Vince McGrath and Maureen McGrath, their spouses, and many nieces and a nephew.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate his life on Thursday September 1st at 7 p.m. at the Welch-Ryce-Haider located at 15 E. Sola Street. On Friday September 2nd a funeral mass will be held at 11am at the Santa Barbara Mission.



# Comments

---



“ My dear Mike!

It gives me great joy to have this opportunity to write these few lines to one who has been a true Friend from the time I was fortunate enough to know you through our work with the less fortunate. Even after moving on to pursue my career you continued to follow up with me whenever we met at St Barbara's, always interested in how I was doing. You were supportive of everything I chose to do and even played a role in my commitment to get involved with the religious education of the children in the Parish. You truly were inspirational, Mr. McGrath! I love how we both share our Faith in The Lord!

My children remember you and have the fond memory of your presence at our youngest family member, Gianni's, baptism eighteen months ago.

Thank you, my good Friend, Mike and please save me a place in the heavenly kingdom!

With love,  
Rose Marie

**rose marie bristol** - September 03, 2016 at 03:21 PM

---



“ Dear McGrath,

I want you to know that I'll never forget you. I'll always remember your kindness and the way you welcomed me into your home. Some of my fondest memories in Santa Barbara were with you and your family. One of my favorite things about you was your refusal to speak ill of others, saving your feelings of discontent for injustices against marginalized people. I count you as one of the people I'm lucky to know who lives by his creed as much as any human can. You inspired me in many ways, personally as well as professionally. I am so grateful to you for introducing me to your two amazing daughters, whom I count as lifelong friends. Thank you for everything, Mcgrath. With much love, Maya.

**maya sorensen** - September 01, 2016 at 07:17 PM