



Michael Dean Chadwick

January 15, 1953 - November 1, 2018

Michael Dean Chadwick, aka “Big Daddy” was larger than life. Writing an obituary for him feels like trying to put together a 10,000 piece puzzle in 30 minutes. There are no words to express the impact he had on the lives of everyone he met. He was such a generous man with an enormous heart.

Michael Dean was born in 1953 in Washington, D.C. He gave his life to Jesus at a young age. He lived at home with his mother and father until his dad passed away when he was 12. He had a troublesome adolescence that culminated in him leaving home at age 15. Michael Dean graduated in 1971 from Oxon Hill High School and traveled around working odd jobs. In 1977, he met Janice and told her that he was going to marry her the first day they met. Eight months later, they were married and their first child Kelly Anne was born in 1979. The family continued to grow with the birth of Katie in 1981 and Michael Dean II in 1984.

Michael Dean got his start in the building industry with Ryan homes in 1979. In true MDC fashion, he went straight up the ladder and began a successful career as a builder. He was an entrepreneur in every sense of the word and never did anything small. Despite the lack of college education or even knowing how to hang a shelf, he started Chadwick Builders in 1984 and built thousands of houses over the years.

In his early 30s, he re-dedicated his life to Jesus and started attending Heritage Baptist Church in Woodbridge, Va. He was always paying it forward in a big way. Because of his past experiences, he wanted to help other teenagers and impact their future. His idea was ambitious and many people told him he would never be able to get it done. Despite the odds, one year later in 1986, with the help of Joe Gibbs (former Washington Redskins coach) and countless others, Chadwick Builders built Youth for Tomorrow in Bristol, VA. This boys home is still operational today and has helped thousands of boys over the past 30+ years. He also did countless speaking engagements for Fellowship of Christian Athletes and other motivational talks throughout the years.

In 1992, he lost his only son Michael Dean Chadwick II. He was 8 years old when he went to be with Jesus. The loss was devastating. Janice and Michael prayed for another child. A year later, they endured a miscarriage at 4 months. In 1994, God blessed them with the birth of their 3rd daughter Krista Nicole. Shortly after Krista's birth, Michael Dean moved his family to Raleigh, NC and went to work for a local builder.

Despite the devastating losses and setbacks, MDC started his own company 1st American in Apex, NC. He sold it several years later and started land developing and speaking again. Katie gave him his first granddaughter Julia Shea with Blair Mitchell in 2001. Michael became a father figure to Blair and they developed a close bond that endured through the end of his life. Michael Dean introduced (and set up) Kelly and Geoff and they got married in 2002. Kelly and Geoff went on to give him three grandchildren- Seth Michael, Landon James and Savannah Grey.

Michael was extremely influential helping Josh Hamilton work through the same issues that had plagued him in the past and get back to baseball. Josh married Katie and went on to give three more grandchildren- Sierra Elise,

Michaela Grace, and Stella Faith. His youngest Krista married Dillon Brown in 2015 and on August 8, 2018, they welcomed their first son Chadwick Titus into this world.

Big Daddy was diagnosed in June 2018 with stage 4 cancer. On November 1, 2018, he entered Heaven's gates. Family and friends were by his side until he passed into the arms of Jesus. His favorite verse was Philippians 3:13-14 "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Please join us as we celebrate his life on Wednesday at 2:00 at Hope Community Church in Apex. The graveside service will follow this celebration at Swift Creek Church at 9300 Penny Road, Raleigh, NC.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the "Friends of Michael Chadwick" fund.

Cemetery Details

Swift Creek Baptist Church

9300 Penny Rd
Raleigh, NC 27606

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV 7. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

Hope Community Church Apex
2080 East Williams Street
Apex, NC 27539
<https://gethope.net/apex/>

Tribute Wall

KD

“ I had the pleasure of bringing “Big Daddy” to Methodist College (now University) every year as a FCA speaker while I was a student more than 15 years ago. I still have notes in my bible from his messages. I am so grateful for the impact he had on my life and the way God continues to use his story.

Kirbie (Britt) Dockery - November 12, 2018 at 04:54 AM

CD

“ I had the honor of meeting Big Daddy at Hope. He asked me if I was single and if I was interested in meeting anyone...he knew a guy. That guy was in a small group that Big Daddy lead. I said yes and that man is my husband today. We have been married for 7 years and have 4 beautiful children. We have an incredible life and it all started thanks to Big Daddy setting up on a blind date. I am very sorry to hear of his passing and I wish that I had known sooner to attend the service. But it brings me great joy to know he is with his heavenly father and reunited with his darling son.

Thanks Big Daddy! You will be missed!

Catherine Dobbins - November 08, 2018 at 02:52 PM

AH

“ Anybody who spent time with Michael D. Chadwick was a richer person for having done so. He was the most generous man I have ever met. Having graduated from Youth For Tomorrow, surrounded by people like Mike, Joe Gibbs, and other titans of business in our community; Mike was the one who really got it. He knew what most of us were going through and inspired us to make a big change in our lives.

I love you Mike. Thank you for all of the valuable life lessons you gave me and the other boys at YFT.

Andrew Hill - November 08, 2018 at 12:49 PM

IA

“ IRON ACADEMY purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.



IRON ACADEMY - November 07, 2018 at 08:52 AM

TF

“ Triangle FCA extends our condolences to the Chadwick family during this time. Michael Dean was a tremendous partner to and champion for our organization as he worked to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus. He will be missed but his legacy of impacting others for Christ will go on and for that we are grateful. Rest well Michael Dean.

Triangle FCA - November 06, 2018 at 08:46 PM

DM

“ Michael was very very good friend to me. He was very generous with his knowledge and always took the time to introduce me to others. He was a strong Christian with a big heart. I was proud to have him as a friend. Michael Dean Chadwick will be very missed.

David Manning - November 06, 2018 at 11:04 AM

DT

“ Dr Stevens & the Essential Health & Wellness Team purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.



Dr Stevens & the Essential Health & Wellness Team -
November 06, 2018 at 10:48 AM

MM

“ Michael Dean will be missed by his Builder friends and family, we all appreciate his support and wisdom for the community and the RWHBA
Rest In Peace Michael Dean,
Mark Massengill

mark massengill - November 06, 2018 at 08:41 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.



November 05, 2018 at 11:37 PM

“ *The paths we take in life are not always in our control, this was the case for me at 14 years old in the juvenile court system in Fairfax Virginia.*

I was a habitual runaway, being kicked out of my highschool, Military school and ran away from Youth for Tomorrow a boys home where Mike was President.

I was to be sentenced to long term jail time and Mike came to court to speak on my behalf and agreed (against Youth for Tomorrow policy) to allow me to come back to live at the home. He told me it would not be easy for me to return, but that it was the path that I was meant to take.

He believed in me enough for me to believe in myself and he did without hesitation and with a faith that I could not understand, but I knew it was something I desperately wanted.

This simple selfless act changed the course of my life till this day. I made lifelong friends, found a God of my understanding and began to live a life that I believe has purpose and meaning. I try to follow the example that he gave to me, while not a perfect one - but one of service, to pass along what was so freely given to me.

In the end it is how we affect the lives of those amongst us that lives on and creates something that we alone could never do. Mike seemed to do this for so many he encountered as he trudged this road to happy destiny.

I am forever grateful to have known this man, I know his family will miss him greatly and my thoughts and prayers are with them - but I know he left so much of himself all around them.

Christopher A. MacDonald

Christopher MacDonald - November 05, 2018 at 08:33 PM

JD

“ I just wrote a message and it only put my maiden name and not my married name. So in case someone wants to reach me it will have to be Jeannie Day.

Jeannie DuPre Day - November 05, 2018 at 07:45 PM

JD

“ I first met Michael's Dad, Perry, at their family grocery store. It wasn't long before some neighborhood kids started inviting me to a Bible club on Saturday nights at the Chadwick's house. I kept giving excuses but finally went and became a Christian that night. It was there that I met the children of the Chadwicks. Michael was only two years old and I was 13. I started attending their church Capitol Baptist church and literally watched Michael grow up. He will be greatly missed. Any family members or friends are welcome to contact me through Facebook. I would love to hear from any of them.

Jeannie DuPre Day - November 05, 2018 at 06:42 PM



“ I am so very sorry for the loss of Mike; he was a class mate of mine. My deepest condolences and prayer go out to the family.



Jeremy Ballance - November 05, 2018 at 05:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.*



November 05, 2018 at 03:33 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.*



November 05, 2018 at 02:06 PM



“ *We want to express our heartfelt sympathy to the Chadwick family – you remain in our prayers. We have known Mike for almost thirty years and remember Mike as a friendly, compassionate person, always willing to extend himself to help a friend. (Al and Nancy DeSantis)*

Al DeSantis - November 05, 2018 at 10:52 AM



“ *Vernon, Noel and the World Help Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.*



Vernon, Noel and the World Help Family - November 05, 2018 at 10:37 AM

EB

“ For fifteen years Mike Chadwick Ministries sponsored Boy Scout Troop 820 in Chapel Hill, NC. We still show his "Who's Watching Your Life" video to all of our Scouts for its important anti-drug message. Through this sponsorship Michael Dean was important in the lives of a lot of young men. Ed Bedford, Scoutmaster

Ed Bedford - November 05, 2018 at 06:45 AM

RM

“ Our heartfelt thoughts, prayers, and support go out to the entire Chadwick family. Michael was very influential and helpful to so many people. He made things happen. One memory that comes about is when he was in the hospital for something or other, and he was on the phone and it sounded like it was being suggested that some event or meeting be rescheduled...and he would have none of it. He was a hard charger.

Robert Miller - November 04, 2018 at 09:38 PM

RM

“ Out heartfelt prayers and condolences to Big Daddy Chadwick's family. He was an inspiration to many. I met Big Daddy through Coach Howle and our Bunn Football family. He was a blessing each time he came to our school when he shared Jesus and inspirational speeches with our young men. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Big Daddy, thank you for being an inspiration to me and all those who met you.

Rodney Medlin - November 04, 2018 at 07:10 PM

LC

“ Barbara and I (Larry Cooper) want to express our sincere sympathy to the Chadwick family. The whole Chadwick family have made an impact on us dating back to Capitol Baptist Church, Washington, DC. We would like to make contact with Michael’s brothers & sisters. Love, Larry & Barbara Cooper

Larry Cooper - November 04, 2018 at 06:24 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.



November 04, 2018 at 05:10 PM

RJ

“ My cousin and friend. Grateful for the time we had together. Rest In Peace ❤️

randy johnson - November 04, 2018 at 03:22 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.



November 04, 2018 at 02:11 PM

AH

“ *Big Daddy was one of the most loving and giving individuals I have ever met. My heartfelt sympathy to the Chadwick family. May God comfort you during this difficult time. Love and prayers ~ Angela Hardee*

angela hardee - November 04, 2018 at 01:03 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Dean Chadwick.*



November 04, 2018 at 01:02 PM

GS

“ *To the family,
I would like to send my warm Christian Love and Condolences. I also would like to share with you a comforting Promise that is found in God's word the Bible. At Matt 6v10, Jesus prayed that SOON God's Kingdom will rule over mankind and under that Kingdom, DEATH will be no more. Neither mourning, outcry, nor PAIN! (Rev 21v3,4 please read) These words are Faithful and TRUE!*



Good Samaritan - November 04, 2018 at 09:53 AM

KG

“ *Michael Dean was one of the most generous people I've met. He had that rare larger than life personality and he was fearless. With a great lust for life, he will be missed.*

Keith Greenwood - November 03, 2018 at 09:57 PM

CS

I knew Mike in high school and remember his friendly, cheerful demeanor and smile. Much sympathy to his family. Rest in peace Mike.

Carol Scott - November 05, 2018 at 11:01 AM

KR

I met Big Daddy through Marc Chadwick (nephew) Marc & I worked together in Virginia. When I told Marc I was going to move to NC he told me to see his uncle (Big Daddy). From the first time I met him Big Daddy treated me like family. He took me around showed me some houses gave me the "tour" of the area then offered me to have dinner with Janice and the girls and insisted that I stay with them for the weekend while I looked at houses. From that point on he/they were family to me. He appreciated all the good things in life and wanted to share it with others. He always helped those in need, his caring, and compassionate attitude was palpable! He was larger than life, most time he would tell you that himself. He was a character but he would always put your needs before his, he would give you the shirt off his back if he thought you needed it. Now I pray Big Daddy will have plenty of time to catch up with Michael Dean Chadwick II. Our loss is definitely Heavens gain. You will be missed.

Karen Ann Ramey - November 07, 2018 at 09:17 AM

BS

I was shocked and saddened to see the news of Michael's passing. Michael Dean was a blessing to so many people, including yours truly. Michael spoke at our Men's Ministry events a number of times, and his passion, love for the Lord, and incredible testimony left an indelible mark on my heart, mind and soul. I remember a very specific incident when our keynote speaker failed to show for a Saturday morning 'resurrection breakfast' of 250 people at Balentine's Cafeteria in Cameron Village, and I frantically called Michael at 5:30am the same day, waking up his wife Janice in the process. I will never forget Michael's words, after groggily answering the phone, and listening to my anxious explanation of the circumstances: 'Bob, when do you need me; I'll be there.' That was the first blessing of the morning, and Michael's powerful story was the second blessing, with more than 20 receiving Christ. Michael left his fingerprints on people across all walks of life.....and his impact will be witnessed far and wide when we reach the right side of eternity. My heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with Michael's family during this time for His healing touch, soothing balm, strength, comfort, grace and peace. Michael, THANK YOU for touching my life, and scores of others, in such a powerful way. Bye for now, we'll see you again. Blessings.

Bob Sackmann

Bob Sackmann - November 08, 2018 at 07:22 PM