

# Police Specialist Michael John McLaughlin PS-150 (1947-2018)

Mike was born December 4, 1947 to self-employed painter, and later Cincinnati Assistant Chief, John Matthew and June Elizabeth (Schweikhart) McLaughlin. Mike's grandfather, James McLaughlin, was a Cincinnati Firefighter. When Mike was 4 years old, John joined the Cincinnati Police Division. Mike attended Western Hills High School, graduating in June 1967; by which time his dad was a Lieutenant in the Crime Bureau.

After high school, he worked as a delivery man for Christensen's Meats on Glenway Avenue. Having lost that job with a broken leg, he took a job during March 1968 selling shoes at Baker's Shoes on Glenway. On December 15, 1968 he took a position with the City of Cincinnati Sewer Department as a wastewater sampler/gauger.

Mike joined the Cincinnati Police Division as a Police Recruit on February 28, 1971. While attending Recruit School, his father was promoted to Assistant Chief. Recruit McLaughlin was promoted to Patrolman on June 27, 1971, issued his father's Patrolman Badge Number 650, and assigned to District 1 (310 Lincoln Park Drive). Six years later, he transferred to District 2 (3295 Erie Avenue). On March 23, 1980, Officer McLaughlin transferred to the Fraud Squad at Criminal Investigation Section. On September 18, 1988, he was promoted to Police Specialist. He eventually became the Division's expert on Gypsy Crime and a certified polygraphist. Specialist McLaughlin retired January 30, 1994 with 25 years of service to the City and 40 letters of appreciation and/or commendation – including six from Cincinnati Police Chiefs and one from the Director of Safety.



Specialist McLaughlin was hired by the Museum Center at Union Terminal as Security Director during 1995. He retired 18 years later during 2013.

He was also a long-time and charter member of the Blue Knights, a law enforcement motorcycle club. During 2008 he joined the Warthogs Motorcycle Club, a law-enforcement-based club known for its charity rides supporting police, fire, and veteran organizations.

Near the first of 2011, Specialist McLaughlin was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer of sufficient severity that few options were available to him other than external beam radiation treatment. Then he was diagnosed with Stage 4 Kidney Cancer. Though terminal, he fought a courageous battle against both fronts for 7 years. During February 2018 he went to an emergency room with a broken, cancerous leg. By March 18, 2018 he was put under hospice care. He passed away at St. Elizabeth Hospice, on March 27, 2018 at the age of 70.

Specialist McLaughlin is survived by his wife, Ellen (Blackburn) McLaughlin; children, Lisa McLaughlin, Christina (Mark) McLaughlin-Bentley, Tim McLaughlin, Jill (David) Battin; 15 grandchildren; a great grandchild; and sisters, Linda (Tom) McLaughlin, Julie McLaughlin, and Debbie McLaughlin.

A visitation will be held 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at the [Floral Hills Funeral Home](#). An FOP Service will be held at 3:30 p.m. A funeral service at 4 p.m. A Celebration of Life reception will be held at 5 p.m. at the [VFW Hall Post 6423](#) at 4435 Dixie Highway in Elsmere.