

The Minnesota Star Tribune, July 5, 2026, p. CX1.

Nelson, Michael V.



71, of Brooklyn Park, MN, passed away on May 16, 2026. Michael was preceded in death by his parents Ivan, Shirley, and

Step-father Arthur and step-sister Debra. Survived by his loving wife Kathleen, and his sons Peter, Raymond, and William. As well as his siblings Sandra (John), Steven (Deborah) Barbara (Richard), David (Sharon), and Donna.

He grew up in Brooklyn Center and graduated from Park Center Senior High School and Hennepin Technical College. Michael worked for years in commercial construction including Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. Michael was an active member of Carpenters Union Local 322, and Business Agent for Northern Midwest Regional Council of Carpenters. In 2002 he was elected to the Minnesota Legislature, and served 22 years in the district that is now 38A. While in office he Chaired Government Operations, State Government Finance and Elections, and Labor Finance and Policy committees.

The Star Tribune ran a series of articles in 2003 on six freshmen Legislators. The articles showed Michael's clear and straight forward way of speaking. Michael's voice was heard, forging safety for our community transportation with the building of Hwy 610 and the Hwy 81, Hwy 169 and 85thAve N interchange. Michael was a life-long advocate for labor issues fighting for worker safety protections, government protections from misclassification, the right for home healthcare worker to organize, and in 2023 passed the strongest Labor Bill in many years.

Michael's way to relax was to read a good book, taking along walk in the woods and taking pictures of Ladyslippers.

Visitation 9:30am, Service at 10:30am on July 11th 2026, at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church, 5929 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Center, MN 55429.

www.Washburn-McReavy.com
Glen Haven Chapel 763-533-8643