



## James Michael McFarland

July 18, 1958 - September 8, 2023

James Michael McFarland, (Big Mike), age 65, died at home, in Fairfax City, VA on September 8th, of complications of Spina Bifida. He was born in Keene, NH, lived in Kensington and attended Exeter schools, before moving to Virginia in 1976, where he graduated from Fairfax High School in 1979. He was employed by Fairfax County Public Schools as a Transportation Attendant for students with Special Needs for 23 years. He is survived by his mother, Ellen Fox Wygal of Manassas, VA and his brother, Jonathan Sanborn and family of No. Kingstown, RI. Also his uncle and aunt, Frederick and Gail Fox of Harrisonburg, VA. Additional family includes cousins Jon Fox and family of Rochester, MN and Ben Fox and family of Barnard, VT. Mike is also survived by his longtime friend and Aide, Tamara Herrera and family of Springfield, VA. Despite the many challenges of Spina Bifida, Big Mike managed to live a full life, including a life long love of anything with wheels-from hot wheels to Monster Trucks. He attended concerts (Pink Floyd), Monster Jams and shared many adventures with friends-(perhaps better left unmentioned). Big Mike was a gentle soul, a good listener, who loved his family and friends. He will be missed. Cremation will be handled by Pierce Funeral Home. Anyone wishing to contribute in his memory may donate to the Cause of their choice, or to the Spina Bifida Association, 1600 Wilson Blvd, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 222090

# Tribute Wall



“ *My heart goes out to you. I did not know "Big Mike", but we also had a child with Spina Bifida. Kyleene was 23. She has been watching over us for the last 16 years.  
I pray that you find peace and comfort in knowing you have great memories.  
He loved you very much, I am sure. ❤️*

---

**Vonnie** - September 14, 2023 at 11:43 AM