



Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP

January 10, 1968 - August 24, 2023

Dr. Michael E. Morris passed away on August 24, 2023, at the age of 55. He is survived by his beloved wife Susan (nee Stocks) and loving son of Sandra Morris. Brother-in-law to Pat Kealey, John (Sandra) Stocks and Katie (Stan) Hogan. Uncle to Jessica, Jaclyn & Gideon. Cherished friend to Dr. Carlanna Hendrick.

Dr. Morris was an Associate Professor of the Department of Healthcare Policy, Economics and Management at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler. As a Researcher and Educator, Dr. Morris was well respected by his colleagues and students throughout his academic career. Prior to moving into academia, Dr. Morris had a successful 20+ year career in healthcare management and management consulting. Dr. Morris gave 110% to every endeavor and spent much of his time dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the assistance of others who had the same desire. He is sure to leave a lifetime's worth of knowledge and has influenced the lives of many with his kindness.

Dr. Morris was an avid dog lover. He was involved with animal rescue, fostering and volunteer animal transport organizations for stray animals. He was a devoted puppy Dad to Cooper, Katie, Rosie, Annie and Rudy. He will be greatly missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Mike's honor to: The SPCA of East Texas (www.spcaeasttx.org) 3405 E NE Loop 323, Tyler, TX 75708 or The Big Dog Rescue Project (www.bigdogrescueproject.org) 605 W. Dickson St., Ste, 201, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023 at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 31. 2:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP



Stewart Family Funeral Home - August 31, 2023 at 02:17 PM

SP

Michael, may your gentle soul find rest in the savior's bosom. I treasure the memories of our 4 year grind at University of Florida. The jokes, laughs, encouragement, projects, numerous discussion sections. Your calm demeanor, insights, and your years of experience were valuable. May your Soul Rest in Peace. Sam Peasah

Sam Peasah - August 31, 2023 at 04:06 PM

MA

“ How heartbreaking...I was searching for Dr. Morris' profile online today to get in touch with him. He was on my dissertation committee during my PhD. He was a very kind and sweet man. Always had a smile on his face during interactions. I feel sad to know that he has passed on.

Mir Ali - January 31, 2025 at 09:28 PM

ZS

“ Here are our wonderful leaders of the future: Rohit, Sam, and our lovely Michael. We all benefitted from your warmth and kindness, Michael. You have all our love. Xxxx



Zoë Swaine - September 06, 2023 at 08:19 AM

GL

“ Dr. Morris was a well respected colleague and while we only worked on a couple of project together at the UT Tyler Health Science Center, I could tell he was a very humble, caring, encouraging and enthusiastic person.



Mike...you will be missed, from one fellow paramedic to another...thank you for your service, we will take it from here

Prayers, positive thoughts and healing energy being sent that way!

Greg LaMay

Greg LaMay - September 05, 2023 at 10:51 AM

NB

“ I greatly appreciate the time that I was afforded with Dr Morris. I found him to be an incredibly giving and kind person who was eager to share with anyone any part of his wealth of knowledge. As an educator he understood some very complex ideas and would explain them gently in a way that was so much less intimidating than most would have. I am truly saddened by his passing, will miss his presence, and offer my sincerest hope of healing and peace to his grieving friends and family.

Nathan Burgess - September 01, 2023 at 12:43 PM

PA

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Pat - September 01, 2023 at 11:32 AM

KS

Beautiful wedding photos of my sister Susan and wonderful Brother-in-law Mike.

Katie Stocks - September 02, 2023 at 06:15 PM

MP

I am so sorry to read of Mike's passing. A lot of his friends from his Emory days are just finding out. He's probably laughing right now, saying 'you guys were always a little slow!' He was truly a gentle giant and a heck of a friend. He will be missed. Rest in peace, brother.

Mark Post - January 02, 2024 at 07:47 PM

ND

“ Dr. Morris was one of my dissertation committee members. We also shared an office for about two years, affording me the privilege of getting to know him more closely. I regarded him as a very wise person, still seeking his advice when needed. He was brilliant, kind, humble, and a true gentleman. I will really miss Dr. Morris. I have lost a long-term mentor and this is also a loss to the academia.

Neeraj Dayama - September 01, 2023 at 08:33 AM

AT

“ Ann c. T. planted a grove of 10 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.

Ann c. T. - September 01, 2023 at 12:49 AM

RP

“ Mike was a true creature of habit whose presence brought comfort and warmth to all who knew him. At his favorite restaurants—I suppose he had a couple in every city he ever lived in—he became a fixture, ordering the same beloved combination: a cheeseburger and a Diet Coke. Just as he found comfort in the familiar, Mike's consistent choice reflected his steadfast character and his ability to find joy in life's simple pleasures. But his devotion to routines didn't end at the dinner table; it extended to the way he nurtured friendships. Mike's commitment to friendship was unwavering. He was the friend you could always count on, the one who offered a helping hand without hesitation. His reliability and support were as dependable as his daily order. Just like the familiar taste of his cheeseburger, Mike's friendship provided a reliable source of comfort, reassurance, and camaraderie. His legacy will forever remind us of the beauty of consistency and the enduring value of true friendship.

We had a running joke: what will it take for Mike to change his food order? Turns out that it is that comforting consistency we will miss the most. So soldier on, Mike: fair winds and following seas.

Rohit P - August 31, 2023 at 10:05 PM

PG

“ Mike was a wonderful Brother-in-law & Uncle to our family. He certainly won over our parents & they were happy Susan found such a caring man. He will be greatly missed. Rest in Peace Mike.



Pat , Jessica, Jaclyn & Gideon - August 31, 2023 at 07:41 PM

BR

“ I'm so thankful to have worked with Mike on CTSA-related projects. Always a gentleman and a bearer of positive thoughts - he helped the team grow and learn. I will miss hearing his voice in our meetings, but his influence and kindness will live on. My condolences to his family. Thank you for sharing him with us. Belinda Reininger



Belinda Reininger - August 31, 2023 at 06:03 PM

KB

“ Kim Bush lit a candle in memory of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP



Kim Bush - August 31, 2023 at 05:50 PM

KB

Dr. Morris, so sad to hear of you not being with us any longer. I appreciate the many project activities we worked on together. May you rest in peace. Prayers for the Morris family. Peace, Love, and Blessings, Kim

Kim Bush - August 31, 2023 at 05:53 PM

HB

“ I worked with Dr. Morris on a project shortly after he joined the faculty at UTHSCT. He was such a pleasure to work with and so friendly, supportive, and encouraging. I am so sorry for your loss, Morris family.

Heather Bailey - August 31, 2023 at 05:35 PM

KE

“ I am so grateful to have had Dr Morris as a Professor in my journey to completing my MHA with UT Tyler. He truly cared about his students. He was gracious with his time and talents. Thank you to his family for sharing him with us.



kelly - August 31, 2023 at 03:25 PM

TW

“ Tammy Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP



Tammy Wilkerson - August 31, 2023 at 03:08 PM

TD

“ Tammy Dry lit a candle in memory of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP



Tammy Dry - August 31, 2023 at 02:56 PM

TJ

“ Tatjuana Jiles lit a candle in memory of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP



Tatjuana Jiles - August 31, 2023 at 02:54 PM

GD

“ *Dr. Morris brought joy, happiness and laughter to all he met; he will be sorely missed by everyone. Sincerest sympathies to his family, friends and colleagues during this difficult time.*

Grace Dickey - August 31, 2023 at 02:48 PM

JM

“ *Michael and I went to the same school, he was a great guy. I am so sorry to hear of his passing.*

Jack Harris Mandeville - August 31, 2023 at 02:35 PM

GB

“ *I only knew Mike as a good neighbor but will miss his friendly smile and enjoyable conversation. May God grant the peace and comfort that surpasses all understanding to all who mourn his passing.*

Gordon Bryson - August 31, 2023 at 02:00 PM

BC

“ *I always thought of Michael as a gentle giant. He spoke softly but with authority. His kindness was legendary. His life was a great testament to his mother, Sandra Morris, who taught him well how to be a friend, how to care for others, and how to live his life. His intelligence was off the charts, it seemed, but he never made anyone feel inferior with his smarts. He will be missed so much by so many.*

Becky Crawford

Becky Crawford - August 31, 2023 at 01:42 PM

CH

I never met Mike, I knew him through conversations with his mother. I know he was loved so very much. He was respected and everything a mother could wish for in a son. I was with his mother one afternoon and Michael called. He was accidentally on speaker and I heard this manly voice go "hello little mother ", so very fondly and lovingly. I know his mother's heart is broken. Peace of heart to all.

Carolyn Harrington - August 31, 2023 at 02:22 PM



“ *Mike was not only a great colleague, but an amazing friend. We worked together as faculty at UAMS. He was always so encouraging and positive. I valued his friendship.*

You will be missed my friend. I will miss our chats.

Saleema Karim - August 31, 2023 at 12:46 PM

RW

“ *I had the honor of being Mike's professor across multiple courses during his tenure as a PhD candidate at UF. Mike consistently distinguished himself as one of the best students I have had the privilege of teaching. However, beyond his academic performance, what set Mike apart was his personality, always with a smile and reflecting kindness and a positive attitude in all his interactions. I can vividly recall a moment when he affectionately addressed me as "our beloved professor"; this just an example of his genuine regard for those with whom he interacted.*

Through the years, we remained in contact, and I am very proud of Mike's successful career in academia and his contributions to the healthcare management field. I will greatly miss my beloved colleague and friend, Mike.

Robert Weech-Maldonado - August 31, 2023 at 12:27 PM

DC

“ Mike was a calm and supporting influence to everyone he worked with; always willing to help and show kindness. He will be greatly missed.

David Criswell - August 31, 2023 at 11:47 AM

DD

“ Dr. Morris would grace us with his presence with a beautiful smile. He was always so nice to our Technology group. Our heartfelt sympathy to his family and it's our prayer that you'll always remember and feel the presence of his gentle spirit. May he rest eternally in Heaven. We will truly miss him!

Darlene Davis - August 31, 2023 at 11:26 AM

CH

“ Dr. Morris showed me kindness and patience in a time when I was new to my role and uncertain about myself. I was always comforted in his presence and felt like I had a friend in the room. I am grateful for the brief time I was able to work with him.

Chaynee - August 31, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 31, 2023 at 07:58 AM

LT

“ Lillian T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.

Lillian T. - August 31, 2023 at 06:43 AM

KE

“ Mike was a kind, gracious southern gentleman. He was a brilliant scholar with a sharp memory. Mike would remember the names, faces and stories of everyone he met. He loved nurturing young minds. He was a fiercely loyal friend and a supportive colleague. He had a knack for recognizing people's talents and bringing people together to collaborate. He was always a voice of reason in the room. I will miss my friend.

Kim Elliott - August 31, 2023 at 12:14 AM

YT

“ I am very grateful to have known Mike and work with him for the last 4 years. He was very kind, reliable, humble, patient, and witty. He will be terribly missed. My deepest condolences and prayers to his family, friends, colleagues, students, and mentees during this tough time. May he rest in eternal peace.

Yordi Tiruneh - August 30, 2023 at 11:33 PM

TB

“ I only knew Mike for 5 months, but he had a huge impact on me. He was an awesome colleague and was always so kind and helpful. I was so impressed by his research abilities and his understanding of data analytics. I was looking forward to learning from him. My thoughts are with his friends and family. May his memory be a blessing.

Theresa Byrd - August 30, 2023 at 10:05 PM

SP

“ *Dr. Morris was nothing but kind and always had a smile on his face when we saw him in the office, his presence will be greatly missed. Our sympathy and prayers for his friends and colleagues and those who knew him well.*

Sarah Phillips - August 30, 2023 at 09:26 PM

JL

“ *Michael, you were always a reserved, humble, gentleman, but you had a profound effect on many in our lives. The memories flood me so much so that I couldn't pick just one or even a few. You are missed, my old friend, and remain in our minds and hearts until our time has come. Rest easy, my friend. Until we meet again.*



John E Lee - August 30, 2023 at 09:24 PM

OM

“ *Octavia M. purchased the Garden Cross for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.*



Octavia M. - August 30, 2023 at 05:47 PM

JL

“ With deepest sympathy to the family, friends, colleagues, and students of Dr. Morris at this time of loss. He was an individual of high integrity, deep intellect, subtle wit, and gentle demeanor, and we were lucky to have him on our faculty. Jeff Levin

Jeff Levin - August 30, 2023 at 05:47 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 30, 2023 at 05:09 PM

AD

“ Dr. Morris was my preceptor. He was very kind, supportive, and understanding. He will be missed.

Adjubi Darko - August 30, 2023 at 04:44 PM

HN

“ Worked very closely with Dr. Mike Morris on the UT Tyler Faculty Senate over the past two years. His cool headedness, positive demeanor and critical thinking brought a lot of quality, depth, insightfulness and balance to our discussions. He will be greatly missed!
May the good Lord grant him rest and peace/consolation to his family, friends and all those he worked closely with.

Harrison Ndetan - August 30, 2023 at 04:43 PM

RH

“ Dr. Morris was a warm and likeable person who always seemed to bring a light energy to the room. I pray his family is comforted by sweet memories of time spent.

Ronica Harper - August 30, 2023 at 04:35 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 30, 2023 at 04:06 PM

CB

“ Dr. Morris was a respected colleague and teacher. He will be missed.

Cynthia Ball - August 30, 2023 at 03:50 PM

TB

“ Michael and I grew up together - We went to the same school and lived in the same neighborhood. Great guy - Never heard him speak a negative word.

Tom Barnett - August 30, 2023 at 02:07 PM

CW

“ Dr. Morris was my professor. Times I wanted to quit the program, but he assured me that I was doing just fine. He was such a sweet person and I am sure he will be missed by all.



Christie Williams - August 30, 2023 at 01:52 PM

JB

“ Michael and I grew up together and kept in touch. He was so smart, kind and funny. I will miss his friendship. I always thought his students were so lucky to have him.

Jane Hoke Buell - August 30, 2023 at 01:29 PM

JS

“ We spoke almost every day. Your compassion, heart, love, wit and especially you yourself will be missed so very much Micheal. You were a best friend to me, my brother. I miss you so.

janie shoemake - August 30, 2023 at 01:14 PM

MK

So sorry, Janie. So heartbreaking to hear this news.

Mary Thrower Kulp - August 30, 2023 at 01:59 PM

DK

“ Dr. Morris was a dog lover and very much involved in dog rescue. The Department of Healthcare Policy, Economics and Management has made a donation to Big Dog Rescue in Mike's name.

Dr. Michael H. Kennedy - August 30, 2023 at 01:00 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 30, 2023 at 12:17 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 30, 2023 at 12:11 PM



“ Jay M. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.

Jay M. - August 30, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ Orachun S. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.

Orachun S. - August 29, 2023 at 08:29 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 29, 2023 at 05:32 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 29, 2023 at 03:52 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Michael E. Morris, PhD, MPH, CHFP.



August 29, 2023 at 10:35 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michael Edward Morris.

August 28, 2023 at 11:38 PM



“ Annesha W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael Edward Morris.

Annesha W. - August 28, 2023 at 11:08 PM