



Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald

March 17, 1951 - November 23, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that Mrs. Brenda Ann McDonald and her family announce the death of her beloved husband, Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald, 74.

Mr. McDonald entered into rest on Sunday, November 23, 2025. The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

A funeral service to honor his life will be held at 3 o'clock on Friday, November 28, 2025, in The Chapel. The Rev. Danny Holley will officiate, and Mr. Donald Byerly will deliver the eulogy. The family will receive friends immediately following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his honor to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 7023, Merrifield, VA 22116-7023, or the charity of one's choosing.

Mr. McDonald was born on Saturday, March 17, 1951, in Hartsville, SC. He is the son of the late John Angus McDonald Sr. and the late Jacqueline Hilton McDonald. He grew up on Prestwood Lake and graduated from Hartsville High School. The youngest of his family, he was lovingly nicknamed "Sweet Baby" by all who adored him. He spent his childhood working (playing)

alongside his father on the family farm, learning the value of hard work, humility, and taking pride in a job well done.

An avid outdoorsman, Michael loved water skiing, hunting, boating, and especially fishing—both on the lake and in the ocean. Sheepshead were always his favorite to catch. He married Brenda A. McDonald on April 22, 1972, and from the very start, their love carried the warmth and ease of a summer day. Together they built a life filled with deep love, meaningful travels, and memories they cherished for a lifetime—always laughing, cutting up, and finding joy in the simple moments they shared.

Michael worked for many years at Carolina Power & Light before retiring and beginning a second career in car sales, where his deep knowledge of cars—and his ability to diagnose an issue just by hearing a description—made him truly gifted. Above all, he was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who brought calm, comfort, and steady reassurance to those around him.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda A. McDonald of Hartsville; his son, Michael L. McDonald II of Florence; and his grandchildren, Savanna G. McDonald and Jackson L. McDonald of Florence. He is also survived by his brother, Carl H. (Mary Mac) "Mac" McDonald of Hartsville, and sister-in-law Linda M. (Kenneth) Hyman of Hartsville. He was predeceased by his parents, John Angus McDonald Sr. and Jacqueline Hilton McDonald, and his brother, John A. "Little Jack" McDonald.

He will be remembered for his gentle spirit, warm heart, and the simple, joyful moments he shared. His love and calm presence will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his loving wife, Brenda A. McDonald of Hartsville, SC; son, Michael L. McDonald II of Florence, SC; brother, Carl H. (Mary Mac) "Mac"

McDonald of Hartville, SC; sister-in-Law, Linda M. (Kenneth) Hyman of Hartsville, SC; grandchildren, Savanna G. McDonald of Florence, SC, and Jackson L. McDonald of Florence, SC

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, John A. "Little Jack" McDonald of Hartsville, SC.

A Tribute from His Grandchildren, Savanna & Jackson McDonald:

Some of our favorite memories with our Papa were made on the water, where he taught us the patience, joy, and quiet -- the magic of fishing. Jackson will never forget the day he caught his very first fish with Papa—how Papa's smile stretched wider than the lake itself, proud not of the catch, but of the moment they shared. He showed us how to hold the line steady, how to respect the lake, and how to appreciate the simple things that make life beautiful.

Savanna's sweetest memories are found in the warm, easy mornings spent in the kitchen with Papa, making pancakes side by side. He was a wonderful cook, and somehow those pancakes always tasted a little better when he flipped them. Whether in the kitchen or out on the water, he brought a gentleness that made everything feel calm, safe, and steady.

Some of our best summers were spent with Papa at Ocean Lakes Family Campground in Myrtle Beach. We rode around on the golf cart, went to the beach, spent time with family, and made the kind of memories that stick with you forever. Those trips were always something we looked forward to, and they were some of the happiest times we shared with him.

We grew up riding around with him in his beloved El Camino, listening to stories, learning about cars, and just enjoying being together. He had a way of

slowing the world down—making even the smallest moments feel special.

Papa gave us more than memories. He gave us comfort, confidence, and a sense of peace that will stay with us for the rest of our lives. In every ripple of the water, every cast of a line, every quiet morning, and every shared story, a piece of him will always be there.

We love you, Papa. Thank you for the laughter, the lessons, and the love.

You will always be with us.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV 28. 3:00 PM (ET)

The Chapel of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home
306 W. Home Avenue
Hartsville, SC 29550

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown - Pennington - Atkins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - November 26, 2025 at 03:40 PM

PB

“ *Phillip Brunson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Phillip Brunson - December 03, 2025 at 05:51 AM

JH

“ *Jerry Hall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



jerry hall - November 29, 2025 at 05:02 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - November 28, 2025 at 12:00 PM



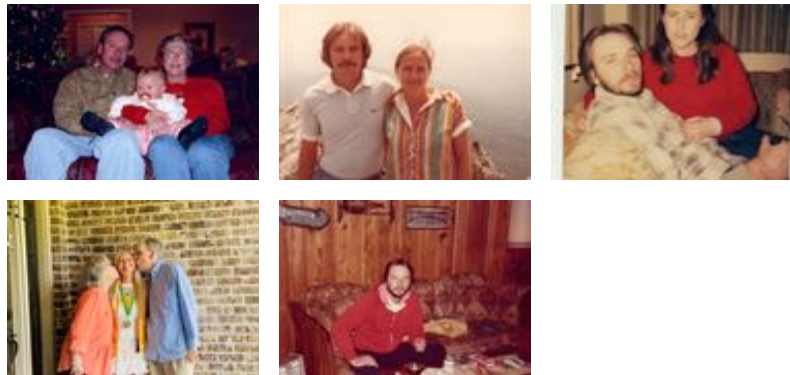
“ *Crystal Minnehan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Crystal Minnehan - November 28, 2025 at 08:44 AM



“ 52 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - November 26, 2025 at 03:36 PM

MB

“ *Mary Braswell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Mary Braswell - November 25, 2025 at 03:26 PM

GI

“ *My condolences to the McDonald family during this difficult time. Very sorry for your loss.*

George Gagne II - November 25, 2025 at 03:11 PM

MR

“ *Mike Reaves lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Mike Reaves - November 25, 2025 at 12:18 PM

MC

“ *Brenda, we are so sorry to hear about "Sweet Baby". May the Lord comfort you during this time of sorrow 🙏🙏🙏*
Gail & Maxie

Maxie Cantley - November 25, 2025 at 11:58 AM

PW

“ *Brenda and Ladd,
So sorry to hear of your loss! Sending prayers
and much love your way. Phyllis Mims
Watson*



Phyllis Mims Watson - November 25, 2025 at 11:51 AM

AS

“ *Andy Shirley Surfside Beach SC
My Condolences to the Family & Friends !*



Andy Shirley Surfside Beach SC - November 25, 2025 at 09:40 AM

WJ

“ *Wayne Jeffords lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Wayne Jeffords - November 25, 2025 at 08:07 AM

TB

“ *Tammy Barefoot lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Tammy Barefoot - November 25, 2025 at 06:30 AM

BG

“ Our deepest condolences to Brenda and family. Prayers for peace and comfort.

Bess and Don Gore

Bess Gore - November 24, 2025 at 09:17 PM

TH

“ Terrie Wilson Heffner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



Terrie Wilson Heffner - November 24, 2025 at 08:00 PM

TH

Prayers for all.

Terrie Wilson Heffner - November 24, 2025 at 08:00 PM

MN

“ Mike & Brenda Northcutt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



Mike & Brenda Northcutt - November 24, 2025 at 07:56 PM

JG

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.



Jeff Galloway - November 24, 2025 at 07:38 PM

CS

“ Mac so sorry to about about sweet baby

Cooper Lee Segars - November 24, 2025 at 06:48 PM

TS

“ So sorry for your loss. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers 🙏
❤️

Traci Singletary - November 24, 2025 at 06:15 PM

GT

“ George Timmons lit a candle in memory of
Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



george timmons - November 24, 2025 at 05:57 PM

EF

“ Eddie And Becky Funderburke lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby"
McDonald



Eddie and Becky Funderburke - November 24, 2025 at 05:45 PM

DS

“ Danny And Phoebe Stokes sent a virtual gift in
memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby"
McDonald



Danny and Phoebe Stokes - November 24, 2025 at 04:45 PM

DS

“ *Diane Sheffield-Wilkes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Diane Sheffield-Wilkes - November 24, 2025 at 03:52 PM

SH

“ *Sandra And Larry Huggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Sandra and Larry Huggins - November 24, 2025 at 02:11 PM

LL

“ *Lori Lesieur lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Lori Lesieur - November 24, 2025 at 01:48 PM

LF

“ *Lance Funderburk And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Lance Funderburk and Family - November 24, 2025 at 01:17 PM

JE

“ *Jonnie Thomas Estermyer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



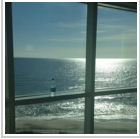
Jonnie Thomas Estermyer - November 24, 2025 at 12:28 PM

CG

“ *Connee Gamble Grantham lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



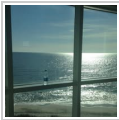
Connee Gamble Grantham - November 24, 2025 at 12:21 PM



“ *Bill Stokes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Bill Stokes - November 24, 2025 at 11:47 AM



Angela & Bill

Bill Stokes - November 24, 2025 at 11:47 AM

SN

“ *Sherrill Northcutt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Sherrill Northcutt - November 24, 2025 at 10:59 AM

VB

“ *Violet Bragdon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Violet Bragdon - November 24, 2025 at 10:13 AM

CH

“ *Charlene Hodges lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Charlene Hodges - November 24, 2025 at 09:34 AM

LL

“ *Lawrence & Cindy Lowe sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Lawrence & Cindy Lowe - November 24, 2025 at 09:07 AM

KA

“ Kimberly Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



Kimberly Anderson - November 24, 2025 at 08:24 AM

RW

“ Ron Wall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



Ron Wall - November 24, 2025 at 07:58 AM

RS

“ Rebecca Skinner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



Rebecca Skinner - November 23, 2025 at 09:13 PM

BM

Brenda and Family, so sorry for your loss. May God bless and comfort you all.

Bubba Morrison - November 23, 2025 at 09:38 PM

DN

“ David Newsome lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald



David Newsome - November 23, 2025 at 08:35 PM

GG

“ Brenda and family, Ee are so saddened to learn of Seeet BabiesPassing. Prayers are lifted for family and friends !



Gene and Teresa Gibson - November 23, 2025 at 08:28 PM

BB

“ Brenda and Ladd Sweet Baby was a true friend of mine. He will be missed. Always remember he is in a better place than we are. Love and prayers. Rodney and Beth Byrd.

Beth Byrd - November 23, 2025 at 07:50 PM

KL

“ Brenda, Ladd and family, so sorry to hear of your loss. Memories are forever! Love and hugs! Kathy Lawhon

Kathy Lawhon - November 23, 2025 at 07:39 PM

VW

“ *Brenda, I just found about Sweetbaby's passing.... I'm so sorry.....I know Andy has greeted him in heaven..... praying for you and your family.*



Vickie Williams - November 23, 2025 at 06:24 PM

AW

“ *Anna Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Anna Williams - November 23, 2025 at 05:57 PM

TG

“ *Brenda,
Sorry to hear about Sweet Baby . He was a
one of a kind good friend.*



Tony Grant - November 23, 2025 at 05:50 PM

KK

“ *Kenny Krueger lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Kenny Krueger - November 23, 2025 at 05:45 PM

HN

Sending love and healing prayers for the family 🙏☐ he was one of a kind 😊 he will be missed 😭💔

Hayley Northcutt - November 23, 2025 at 06:04 PM

LW

“ *Letitia G Ward lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael Ladd "Sweet Baby" McDonald*



Letitia G Ward - November 23, 2025 at 05:28 PM

BF

Brenda and family so sorry for your loss . My deepest condolences 🙏 to all you.

Brenda D Floyd - November 25, 2025 at 07:38 PM