



ROBERT "MIKE" HOLSOMBECK

March 11, 1956 - January 4, 2026

Robert "Mike" Holsombeck passed peacefully at the age of 69 years old with his family by his bedside. Mike grew up in Oak Grove, Alabama, and lived in Birmingham for the majority of his life. He retired from the Jefferson County Personnel Board after working for 23 years. He was born with Cerebral Palsy and loved living independently, that never stopped him, he had a strong will for "I can do anything", he never ceased to amaze us. He was affectionately known as a shining light in the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing him. Mike was an avid Alabama Crimson Tide Football fan and never missed watching any games, nothing made him happier than watching sports on television.

He is preceded in death by his parents, John Holsombeck and Jean Holsombeck. He is survived by his brother Don Holsombeck (Kristi) and sister Leslie Holsombeck, cousin/brother Stephen Coker. Nephews, Ethan Holsombeck, Camden Holsombeck and cousin, Kenny Coker (Cindy) Ella, Corbin and Willow and many special friends, Denny and Nancy Woodard, Rhonda and Robin and life long friend Jamie Duffel. Mike was a member of Ezra Baptist Church.

The family would like to acknowledge Self Skilled Nursing, Courtney Wheeler

and the entire staff, they did an amazing job taking care of Mike for the past 5 years. Family would also like to thank Southeast Hospice and a special thanks to his nurse Vanessa.

The family will receive friends at Peoples Chapel funeral home in Hueytown on Saturday, January 10, 2026, from 1:00 PM until 2:00 PM. The funeral service will be at 2:00 PM at the Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Oak Grove First Baptist Church Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The Lemley Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of ROBERT "MIKE" HOLSOMBECK.*



The Lemley Family - January 09 at 04:43 PM

JD

“ *I am sorry for your loss. I met Mike about 58 years ago and have always remained friends. I will miss him very much.*

Jamie Duffel - January 07 at 12:53 PM

KH

“ *I am so sorry to learn about Mike's passing. I met him when working for his wheelchair providers Med-South/Alabama Wheelchair years ago. He was such a great guy. We shared a love for Alabama football (I guess that last game put him over the edge). We had many lengthy conversations over the years (usually over my failure to comprehend what he wanted me to know) but he was always patient and together we pressed on. It was kind of like playing a game of \$100,000 Pyramid, he kept repeating things in different ways and we'd both celebrate when I'd get the right answer. I always admired his determination and ability to overcome the challenges CP threw his way. I considered him a friend and he will forever be a bright spot in my memories and I know he will be missed. Roll Tide Mike! Until we meet again!*

Kelli Harlan - January 06 at 07:04 PM

“Mike Holcombe was a dear friend to everyone at the Jefferson State College Baptist Student Union. We loved and were inspired by Mike and we all share amazing memories of his determination and antics.

I get a big laugh out of one memory in particular. I asked Mike one day if he could fish. He just gave me that look like I was an idiot. Of course, he could fish. So, one day I took Mike to a spot I knew to “bank fish” for Blue Gill.

We got all set up and I cast out the hook and bobber with a nice juicy worm and handed the rod over to Mike. Now, if you’ve hung out with Mike for any length of time, you’ve probably noticed his tendency to jerk back suddenly when surprised. This hyperreflex response was all part Mike’s Cerebral Palsy and what might have been viewed as a liability or embarrassment in some situations turned out to be an advantage when fishing for bream.

It was a slow day of fishing that afternoon so most of our time was spent chatting and bantering back and forth about the Crimson Tide, but Mike never took his eye off the bobber. Oh, he looked like he was paying attention to the conversation but there was always a side glance on that bobber. It took a while but at some point a big ole Blue Gill came along and pulled his rig deep under water.

To this day, I’ve never seen a faster reaction time or a greater commitment to setting a hook. The shock of that long awaited moment resulted in a deeply embedded hook and a fish sailing toward us with significant velocity.

I had previously speculated what Mike would do after setting a hook as I couldn’t imagine how he would be able to turn the handle of the reel to retrieve his catch. It turned out, he didn’t have to. At this point, we were both throwing our hands in the air like windmills trying to dodge the aquatic missile heading our way.

*Now, these events occurred years ago, so some of my memories are a bit fuzzy. It's possible I may have exaggerated some of the details of this story but trust me when I say, Mike would have loved that,
too. I can just see him throwing his head back in laughter.*

It's true, there wasn't a thing Mike couldn't do. It might have been clumsy but it never resulted in embarrassment, only deep, chest heaving laughter.

Mike, I look forward to laughing with you again in eternity.

Gregory Jones - January 06 at 01:52 PM

JC

“ *Knew Mike from Winnataska. We laughed over the last few years of the stuff we did there, such as throwing him off the high dive! He loved it! Such a positive attitude, no matter what. Condolences to the family.*

Johnny Coker - January 06 at 01:31 PM

CF

“ *my Winnataska buddy. We shared so many laughs together. Rest in God's loving arms
Mike*

*Hugs,
Carolee Lewis Followill*



Carolee Lewis Followill - January 06 at 01:26 PM