



Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein

December 24, 1959 - November 4, 2025

The staff at Heishman Funeral Home, Inc. sends condolences to the family of Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Mitchell L. Rubenstein, 65, of Edinburg, VA passed away Tuesday November 4, 2025, at his home. The family will receive friends Saturday November 8, 2025, from 10:00am-2:00pm at Valley Funeral Service in Edinburg, VA. Burial will take place at Culpeper National Cemetery on Monday November 10, 2025, at 12:00pm.

CSM Rubenstein was born December 24, 1959, in New York, son of Rachelle Lustig Rubenstein and the late Sidney Rubenstein.

Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Mitchell L. Rubenstein entered the United States Army in December 1980. After completing Basic Training, and Military Police School at Fort McClellan, Alabama, he then completed Basic Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of Airborne school, he went to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas for 10 weeks for Patrol Dog handlers School. He served as an Airborne MP Dog handler with the 188th Military Police Company (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, NC. Ten months later he was back at Lackland Air Force Base, TX for Explosive Detection Dog handler School. Sergeant Rubenstein was deployed and served with his unit during the invasion and rescue "Operation Urgent Fury" in Grenada from 29 October

1983 thru 05 December 1983 as an Explosive Detection Dog handler. SGT Rubenstein closed out his active duty career with the 118th MP Co. (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC as a Sergeant E/5, and had to leave his K-9 "Beau" behind, whom he handled since 1982.

Upon re-enlisting in the Army Reserve in June 1984, SGT Rubenstein was assigned to the 812th MP Co. Orangeburg, NY as an Assistant Squad Leader. He later became a Squad Leader after being promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. SSG Rubenstein left the MP Corp to pursue a 11B Infantry MOS as a Drill Sergeant. After completing the Drill Sergeant Academy he then completed Basic Infantry School at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. SSG Rubenstein was then promoted to Sergeant First Class and served with the 78th Training Division, at Lodi, NJ as a Senior Drill Sergeant and received the 78th Division's "Iron Mike Award" for the Outstanding Drill Sergeant of the year 1989.

SFC Rubenstein returned to the MP Corp in September 1990, with the 306th MP Battalion as the Security/Intelligence NCO then became the acting First Sergeant, then promoted to First Sergeant of the 306th MP Battalion. 1SG Rubenstein was later assigned to the 800th MP Bridge as the First Sergeant. While attending and completing the Sergeants Major Academy in the Class of 95 1SG Rubenstein was assigned to the 340th MP Co as the Operations NCO, as a Master Sergeant for one week before being promoted to the rank of Command Sergeant Major and taking over the reins of the 354th Transportation Battalion as the Battalion CSM. CSM Rubenstein returned to the MP Corp after completing his four year tenure with the 354th Trans Bn as CSM Rubenstein returned to the 306 MP Battalion and retired from the military March 2002.

CSM Rubenstein is a graduate of Nassau Community College, New York City Police Academy, FBI Sniper/Observer School, Nassau/Suffolk County

Defensive Tactics Instructors School, New York State BMP State Certified Instructor, Nassau County Motor Officer School, Nassau County Radar/Lidar Course, Drill Sergeant School, Infantry School, Airborne School, Patrol Dog handler, and Explosive Detection Dog handlers Schools, Advanced NCO Courses, and Sergeants Major Academy Graduate class of 95.

CSM Rubenstein's Awards/Decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with (1) Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Award with (4) Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Award with (1) Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Grenada), Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, NCOES-4, Army Service Medal, Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbon, Novice Airborne Wings, Drill Sergeant Badge, Excellence in Competition Badge (EIC Bronze) for Pistol 1995, and Rifle 1996, and the 78th Division Outstanding Drill Sergeant of the Year "Iron Mike Award."

CSM Rubenstein has been volunteering as a Coach for his son's youth league football team, Instructor to the State of Virginia's Hunter Safety Program and Treestand Safety Team, Honor Guard member for both the VFW and American legion, and currently serves as the Virginia Past Commander and various roles for the VFW Post 2447. CSM Rubenstein has been the President of the following organizations the Blue Knights Chapter VA16, and the 118th MP Company Airborne Association's President and originator of the Association.

CSM Rubenstein resides in Edinburg, VA with his wife, Suzanne who is also a Retired CSM, and their two children, daughter, Casey and son, Sidney. CSM Rubenstein is a Retired Police Officer formerly of the Hempstead Police Department with over 21 years of faithful service and last assignment was with the Traffic Division as a Motorcycle Officer, The Department Defensive

Tactics Instructor and Training Officer for the Departments Ceremonial unit.

Also surviving are his siblings, Scott, Sherry, Merry, and Seth, and his brothers in law, Bobby Stumpf and Danny Stumpf.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Tunnels to Towers, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, New York 10306 or VFW National Homes, 3573 S. Waverly Rd., Eaton Rapids, MI 48827.

Online condolences may be left at www.valleyfs.com

Arrangements are in the care of Heishman Funeral Home, Inc., Valley Funeral Service Branch, Edinburg.

Cemetery Details

Culpepper National Cemetery

501 E. Chandler St.
Culpepper, VA 22701

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 8. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Valley Funeral Service
14116 South Middle Road
Edinburg, VA 22824
(540) 984-3700
secretary.valleyfs@yahoo.com
<https://www.valleyfs.com>

Graveside Service

NOV 10. 12:00 PM (ET)

Culpepper National Cemetery
501 E. Chandler St.
Culpepper , VA 22701

Tribute Wall

SS

“ I was stationed with Mitch at the 118th MP Company ABN, Ft. Bragg. I deployed with him to Grenada where I really got to know him. I attended Mitch and Suzanne 's wedding at West point. Sue was a dear friend of mine when I met her during my Desert Storm Deployment. I recently became a lifetime member of Mitch's VFW Post, even though I reside in Buffalo, NY. I love my Brother Mitch and can't imagine the rest of my years without him.

SSG Kimberly Sobus - March 17 at 07:03 PM

C1

“ Commander Gorla Kenney, VFW Post 10654 lit a candle in memory of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell Rubenstein



Commander Gorla Kenney, VFW Post 10654 - November 17, 2025 at 10:54 AM

MM

“ Sue, our deepest condolences to you and your family! Mitch was always full of life and he's gone too soon

Maria Michalski - November 14, 2025 at 09:22 PM

SP

“ This is a terrible loss. Ilene and I had the pleasure of knowing Mitch and his family when they lived in NY. Mitch was wonderful and given all he did in his life he couldn't have been a nicer or more gentle soul. Our prayers are with you all.

Steven Patrizio - November 10, 2025 at 01:22 PM

VR

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mitch was such a good neighbor and friend, especially when Monty died suddenly. He would meet the coffee bean delivery truck when Monty couldn't be there and when we got a huge snowstorm right after he died, Mitch was at my house plowing me out. He took me to the VA to learn if I was eligible for benefits. He always had a hug and a smile and was an awesome grill master. Hugs to you all. Vicki

Vicki Ruckman - November 08, 2025 at 09:35 AM

SB

“ SGM (R) Brian Harris and MSG (R) Bell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

SGM (R) Brian Harris and MSG (R) Bell - November 07, 2025 at 05:10 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.



November 07, 2025 at 05:10 PM

BA

“ Bo Allen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Bo Allen - November 07, 2025 at 02:51 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.*



November 07, 2025 at 02:51 PM



“ *Mitch was a great friend. I will miss his humor and willingness to tell me his unfiltered thoughts. He will be missed beyond measure.*

Todd Taylor - November 06, 2025 at 10:24 PM



“ *Terri, Sandy, Lou purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.*



Terri, Sandy, Lou - November 06, 2025 at 07:23 PM



“ *I served with Mitch in the 306th. He was a good and knowledgeable Command Sergeant Major. Rest in Peace. My prayers and condolences to Sue who was another good soldier as well. Major AL Garbarino*

AL Garbarino - November 06, 2025 at 05:18 PM

LC

“ Love & sympathy, Kelsey Barnard Clark planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Love & sympathy, Kelsey Barnard Clark - November 06, 2025 at 02:44 PM

LC

“ Love & sympathy, Kelsey Barnard Clark purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.



Love & sympathy, Kelsey Barnard Clark - November 06, 2025 at 02:44 PM

BM

“ Bill and I have known Mitch and his wife Sue for many many years. He was a really good man just like his dad. They were a couple of wonderful people. Our most sincere condolences go to his family.. he will be missed by many.

Bill and Dee Michell - November 06, 2025 at 12:03 PM

RL

“ When my life abruptly and sadly changed direction a few years ago, Mitch was one of the first people to make me laugh through the tears. He and Sue made the days a little brighter and lighter with their friendship and support. I pray that Sue and the family find peace in the good memories of a good man and the lives they've touched.

Robin Layman - November 06, 2025 at 11:27 AM

LC

“ Love, Karen & Samantha Cuomo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Love, Karen & Samantha Cuomo - November 06, 2025 at 11:13 AM

LC

“ Love, Karen & Samantha Cuomo purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.



Love, Karen & Samantha Cuomo - November 06, 2025 at 11:13 AM



“ To honor and celebrate the life of a great and honorable Husband, Father, Soldier, Police officer, and a big and invaluable Friend! Someone who welcomed my wife and me like family members after we had moved from another country to the U.S. The memories of the good times we shared with Mitch and his family will be forever etched in our minds and hearts! Fly high, my dear Paratrooper friend! Heaven is your next Landing Zone!



Marcelo Gonçalves - November 06, 2025 at 10:41 AM

MG

“ Marcelo & Milena Gonzalez planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Marcelo & Milena Gonzalez - November 06, 2025 at 10:08 AM

MG

“ *Marcelo & Milena Gonzalez purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.*



Marcelo & Milena Gonzalez - November 06, 2025 at 10:08 AM

CG

“ *To honor and celebrate the life of a great and honorable Husband, Father, Soldier, Police officer, and a big and invaluable Friend! Someone who welcomed my wife and me like family members after we had moved from another country to the U.S. The memories of the good times we shared with Mitch and his family will be forever etched in our minds and hearts! Fly high, my dear Paratrooper friend! Heaven is your next Landing Zone!*



COL. Marcelo S. Gonzalez - November 06, 2025 at 10:04 AM

TF

“ *The Fream Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.*



The Fream Family - November 05, 2025 at 10:22 PM

FP

“ Mitch was a great person to work with in the VFW. He will sadly be missed by all who know him. RIP my friend.

FRANK PAINTER - November 05, 2025 at 10:19 PM

HR

“ Hal R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Hal R. - November 05, 2025 at 07:14 PM

DW

“ Mitch, honored to have served with you. Until Valhalla brother.

Dan West - November 05, 2025 at 06:34 PM

DW

“ Dan W. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Command Sergeant Major Mitchell L. Rubenstein.

Dan W. - November 05, 2025 at 06:31 PM

CH

“ Both of us are so saddened to hear of Mitch's passing. He was a breath of fresh air to our VFW Post 2447. His sense of humor was definitely off the charts, and you were guaranteed to be laughing during any conversation with him. I was tending bar the first day he came in the Post, and that was the start of our 'joking relationship.' It started with both of us saying ;"you talk funny, you're not from around here", and just went crazy from there. He always had a smile on and always spoke when he saw you. He always talked about new recipes he tried, shared tips on cooking, and even taste tested some dishes for me. He always talked about his wife whom he dearly loved and his children , who he was so proud of. His passing has left a vacancy here that can never be replaced. Rest easy, "Fart Man."

Cheryl and Randy Huffman

Cheryl Huffman - November 05, 2025 at 05:29 PM

JT

The moment I met Mitch in 7th grade I had a crush on him. He didn't have a crush on me but we became lifelong friends. He always made me laugh and feel loved. A life well lived ...He will be greatly missed. Our deepest sympathy to All



The Tricarico and Pappas Family

Joan Tricaarico - November 08, 2025 at 08:43 AM

GM

I am deeply saddened to hear that Mitch has passed. Mitch has been a customer and friend of mine since he purchased his Gold Wing trike. I had just recently performed some services for him in late April and he was his old happy, funny self. Mitch could always bring a smile to my face regardless of the mood of the day. He will be dearly missed and I offer my sincere condolences to his family. Rest easy Mitch.

Gary Mork

Gary Mork - November 12, 2025 at 07:13 PM