



## Michael James Suckow

November 5, 1975 - June 10, 2018

On Sunday, June 10th, Michael J. Suckow passed away suddenly at the age of 42 while he was living in Beijing, China. He was born on November 5th, 1975 in Elizabeth, NJ to Jeffrey Suckow and Georgina Pitre. Raised near the bright lights of Keansburg Boardwalk, Michael was one of the three original members of the “Killa Bees” gang. He was a 1994 graduate of Keansburg High School. Michael was a West Point graduate and received his MBA in Finance at Columbia University. He worked for Merck Pharmaceutical Company and then taught economics at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. He loved playing chess, writing and telling stories, listening to trance music, and making his friends and family laugh. He also loved movies, military history, math, Japanese food and peanut butter ice cream, not necessarily in that order. He was an intelligent, generous and compassionate man with incredible resolve and determination who lived life his way. He had a huge heart and would literally give you the shirt off his back. A natural leader, he was a mentor to many of his friends and family and he really enjoyed being able to help people. Mike had an amazing way of lighting up a room with his unique sense of humor, his great storytelling, and his contagious smile and laugh. He made friends and connected with people wherever he went, largely through his gift for making others laugh and his fun personality. He was the funniest person we knew.

He is survived by his son Sora, his mother Georgina Pitre, father Jeffrey

Suckow, sister Anne Walsh and brothers Jeff and Paul. The wake will be held on Friday, July 6th from 7-9pm at Laurel Funeral Home, 201 Laurel Ave, West Keansburg. The funeral mass will be at 10:15am at St. Ann's Church, 311 Carr Ave, Keansburg.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Mike can be made online <http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/donate/> or by mail: Autism Society of America 4340 East West Hwy, Suite 350 Bethesda, MD 20814

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

JUL 6. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Laurel Funeral Home  
201 Laurel Ave  
Hazlet Township, NJ 07734  
(732) 787-0258

## Funeral Mass

JUL 7. 10:15 AM (ET)

St. Ann's RC Church  
311 Carr Avenue  
Keansburg, NJ

## Private Family Graveside Service

JUL 7 (ET)

St Catherine's Cemetery  
Sea Girt, NJ

# Tribute Wall

AS

“ (1)

*I know Michael in the year of 2015, while he was teaching at Beijing - actually I regret having to travel back and forth to Shanghai during the period since I really missed lots opportunities to reunite with him in person.*

*One early summer day in 2018, I received an i-message from his brother (Paul perhaps if I remember right) about his sudden death, and I was shocked speechlessly - cuz I just met him for an afternoon chitchat not long ago and I blame myself for not finding something might be wrong in his physical condition, for years.*

*It wasn't until 2 weeks ago when I finally visited New York City, where he pursued his master in Columbia, that I got the courage to share a condolence for him properly.*

*During the past 7 years, I always occasionally think of him - for his special sense of humor, brilliant personality and many other traits. I was just devastated to lose such a great friend in life who could understand me and I could share every thought with.*

*I guess people might all know he was teaching at university in Beijing, but some may not know he was also specifically teaching SAT/GRE in Beijing. With his strong academic background, exam abilities and most importantly his representation of American culture and fantastic world perspective, he was that shining beacon for the Chinese students who had hope going to study overseas and see the world themselves; he was that first window for them opened to understand USA from scratch.*

*Surely he was wearing that pair NB sneakers when he firstly met me, his loved ones for many years until they are no longer produced - he was this devoted to something he liked, as he also loves Hawaii - he recommended as perfect place go for your honeymoon, one can tell from his signature look with a Hawaii shirt plus NB.*

*You may also know he worked in a very renowned pharm company in US, actually with his background and natural leadership he could work in any good big companies and highly possible would make his way up to the management level, but he didn't chose this path. He was not materialist at all, the tacky pursuit of fame and money wasn't his life goal.*

*He came to Beijing China to experience a different life and take a break from his previous life, or fulfill his appetite for Chinese cuisine.*

*Many might also remember how energetic and high- spirited he used to be in his teenage years and West Point, but some may not know actually he changed a lot after he got back from the battlefield, both physically and mentally.*

*He told me about his back injury, which he continued to suffer badly until his death; also that nightmare he often had - everything was just different since then, though when I met him, I still saw some lights in his eyes and he didn't really look like his real age, he's still got that young chap charisma and magic vibe, however, he was just no longer the same boy in his West Point cadet uniform and that ugly sweater on xmas eve on the couch at his warm home. No matter how many remembered how fun to be with him at West Point, battlefield is no joke.*

*"Chubby" as he described himself when I firstly saw him, in fact, one can tell his physical condition declined a lot, due to medical reasons he couldn't keep working out in gym anymore, his body was under more and more pressure; and the nightmare never goes away. As shocked many of us are about his death, truth to be told, his physical condition was not positive already for long.*

*"Do you regret going to West Point and battlefield" I once asked him, he didn't answer directly but he was showing me a determined and peaceful expression on his face. I could just feel, he never regret the way he lived his life, and definitely not regret fighting for his country either. Only thing he hate was unnecessary war that has*

*ruined too many beautiful lives and happy families.*

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**Alexis Su** - March 03, 2025 at 07:50 AM

AS

“ (2)

*He shared things of his family with me sometimes, but the one thing I remember most clear was he said his mother, the remarkable Georgie (he called his mom this way with me), always buys fresh bread for them early in 4 or 5am, and how the house was always full of laughters and joy, no doubt he was raised in such a lovely family and by great parents.*

*Too pity I switched phone once and our chat history was just gone forever, yet I somehow kept something he shared with me in our last conversation: “I just want happy stuff, do things like a normal couple does, make fun of people that can’t afford Starbucks, leave a poop on the neighbors doorstep, eat frozen yogurt together, go shopping.” Yeah - he was joking about the poop part and you should laugh here.*

*But he ll never ever really make fun of any underprivileged people, he was someone who could show great empathy to the homeless ppl in McD on Thanksgiving; he was the one who always told me to appreciate life and just do whatever I need to do.*

*After I arrived in Manhattan midtown, NYC last month, I finally gotta to see for myself and truly feel the city he deeply in love with, I fell in love with NYC too unsurprisingly. He did look like a cool New Yorker but if you watch closely, he left himself a little bit of that NJ boy presence too. When I passed by Washington Square park, I wish I could just get off of car and find he was still playing chess there as before.*

*Xmas was the thing he mostly miss in Beijing China. He said xmas was never same outside home and US. Without that xmas tree in Rockefeller center and dazzling windows on 5th avenue, it was just not it. Even a hustling Chinese new year can’t be compared with his NYC Christmas. He was damn right - I think about this when I m standing on Rockefeller.*

*We all respect God's plan, when I was so angry about his plan on Michael, I have to believe it is God's way to relive Michael's pain and let his beloved boy be free from that nightmare for good and it's better to give that pain to us instead of Michael. I have to.*

*"Oh Captain, Captain, you'll be missed"*

*— Alexis In Beijing China, March 3 2025*

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**Alexis Su** - March 03, 2025 at 07:49 AM

EN

“ I don't know if this is the 8th time i posted so forgive me. Funeral posts should be much more forgiving. Suke would have bashed you.

*I met . Not actually . But he would be in line being me to play the arcade game Kicker . It's horrible u have to spell out video arcade game. We would battle for high score. I won. This was the early 80s. After that suke would send me pics of nude men cutting hair to my West Point P.O. box which let me be eternally embarrassed and scared to pick up my mail which Mike would know a few years later when I sent him crazy letters. And as for the killa bees down at seaside. Wearing the west point bright yellow rain gear. Oh god cuzin mark and paul. Killa bees. And i was in NYC on New Year's eve at 1130pm and mike wasn't partying he was playing speed chess. To cut it short suke is too smart to die. In a few yrs. He is gonna be at the Pavilion with Elvis and Tupac and say "Suckers". Mrs Suckow. I love u. You were so nice to us dirty keansburg kids. Anne mike told me the best quote about your husband whether it be true or not I tell it alot. "The internet. It will never catch on" and your brother was forever protectful of you . He never talked to my brother because he kissed you in 8th grade. That is honor. And stubbornness. But he would die for you. Jeff you were older. So you set the example for Mike. He always wanted to one up you. And paul. You two together were insane. Killa bees*

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**Evin Nieradka** - July 07, 2018 at 09:56 AM

PS

*Thanks Evin, I'm just seeing this. It means a lot to me and I will share with my mom.*

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**Paul Suckow** - November 29, 2018 at 01:10 AM

AW

*Thanks, Evin. I never saw this until today. I don't know what made me click on this link today but I'm glad I did.*

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**anne Walsh** - January 14, 2019 at 03:35 PM

AW

*And it wasn't actually my husband's quote, but was said by a former boss of his. One of our favorite quotes. 🤔*

anne Walsh - January 14, 2019 at 03:37 PM

EV

*Lol. Just went to the boardwalk with my dad today. I went to the ice cream stand and said, "is anne your boss?" Kid had no clue.*

evin - April 07, 2019 at 03:10 PM

RB

*“ Michael and I met when I was in the fourth grade for the first time on Forest Ave.. He and I instantly became friends because we shared the same intrest in music. The Cure and Depeche Mode, and we both loved to laugh/play pranks on one another. Our friendship grew very strong over many decades and I loved him very dearly. Today I will be saying my final good bye to him. It's going to be very hard but he will always be in my heart and memory. And the friendship we have will always be. I love you Michael Suckow. Please look over all of us family and friends that will always love you/miss you. And make us laugh from time to time and come to us in our dreams. Till we meet again fly high my friend/brother from another mother XoXoXoXo💔💔💔💔🥹🥹🥹🥹*



Richard James Brower - July 07, 2018 at 05:47 AM

LS

*“ Sending so much love and hugs to the Suckow family. Michael is going to be missed dearly by many. A great man gone too soon - I still cannot believe I am going to be saying goodbye to my friend tonight - seems so unreal.*



Laurene Smith - July 06, 2018 at 04:26 PM

EN

*Hey laurene. Mike was the coolest guy. And i hate ppl. This was a friend til the end*

**Evin Nieradka** - July 07, 2018 at 10:12 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Michael James Suckow.*



July 05, 2018 at 03:54 PM

PA

“ *Michael really liked this excerpt from a poem by Percy Blysshe Shelley:*

*"Nothing beside remain. Round the decay  
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare  
The lone and level sands stretch far away"*

**Paul** - July 04, 2018 at 04:28 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael James Suckow.*



July 03, 2018 at 11:26 AM