


[Home](#)
[CEO Hotline](#)
[Viewpoint](#)
[Classified Ads](#)
[Archives](#)
[Metro.net \(web\)](#)

Resources

[Safety](#)
[Pressroom \(web\)](#)
[Ask the CEO](#)
[CEO Forum](#)
[Employee Recognition](#)
[Employee Activities](#)
[Metro Projects](#)
[Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)
[Archives](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Research Center/Library](#)
[Metro Classifieds](#)
[Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)
[Policies](#)
[Training](#)
[Help Desk](#)
[Intranet Policy](#)

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Services to be Planned for Michael Davidson, Metro Rail Maintenance Specialist

By GAYLE ANDERSON

(Dec. 2, 2008) Michael Davidson, an experienced rail technician who joined Metro Rail in March 2001, was found dead in his Lancaster home by a concerned co-worker on Nov. 26. He was 57 years old.

"His sudden passing comes as a shock to everyone here at the Red Line," said ATU Local 1277 Shop Steward and fellow maintenance specialist Rafaele Mastrangelo Jr. "He will truly be missed by all of us."

A former employee of the company that manufactured the Breda cars now in service on the Metro Red Line, Davidson brought special expertise needed for the maintenance of the cars, said Mastrangelo Jr.

"I knew Mike for 5 years," he said. "He was an outstanding worker who was very knowledgeable about the Red Line cars. He was a man well-liked by everyone. He was a kind, and considerate person . . . a man of wit and humor. I always enjoyed being in his presence."

Michael traveled around the country when he worked for Breda, said brother Andy Davidson who traveled here from Iowa, along with brother Tom, to tend to his brother's affairs.

Davidson, a Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam, was awarded an Air Force Commendation Medal for his service, said Andy.

"He learned electronics in the Air Force and went on to get his Bachelor of Science degree. I always said he was the equivalent of an electrical engineer - an electrical engineer without the degree!"

At the time of his death, he was living in a new town home in Lancaster that he had recently purchased.

"He'd rented for years," said Andy Davidson. "This was a brand new home - his first home. Michael had moved into the new town home just this October. The garage was full of tools. We had to rent a truck to move them out," said Andy.

Davidson was born Feb. 14, 1951, in Anderson, Indiana. He is survived by brothers Andy Davidson and wife Lea of Urbandale, Iowa, and Tom Davidson and wife Suzie of Pittsboro, Indiana.

Condolences may be sent to Andy Davidson, 14323 Greenbelt Dr, Urbandale Iowa, 50323 or e-mail Andy at adavidson@dc-grimes.k12.ia.us.

In lieu of flowers, family and friends may donate remembrances to the



Michael Davidson

Davidson Brothers Scholarship, which awards a graduating senior every year from Greenwood High School. The brothers attended the hometown high school while growing up in Greenwood, Indiana, and continue to support it.

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