



Michael John Ray Kimball

July 28, 1964 - December 28, 2025

Michael John Ray Kimball, 61, passed away on December 28, 2025 in Vallejo, CA at home with his dogs, Doc & Wyatt in attendance. He left behind a legacy of creativity, adventure, and extraordinary artistic achievement.

Born with an adventurous spirit and a mind that never stopped imagining, Michael built a remarkable career as a sound designer for television, film, and video games. His innovative work earned him multiple Emmy Awards and an Academy Award, honors that reflected not only his immense talent but also his relentless dedication to his craft. Michael had a rare ability to shape emotion through sound.

Outside of his professional accomplishments, Michael was happiest outdoors. He loved fishing, traveling, and spending time in nature, where he felt most at peace. His stubborn streak—one of his most defining traits—was matched only by his creativity and his willingness to chase new experiences. Those who knew him will remember approached life with both intensity and heart. Michael is survived by those who loved him deeply: Jeannette Leone Kimball, Leslie Kimball, David Kimball, Derek Kimball, Ashley Smith (Josh Smith), Beau Smith, Elizabeth Stead, and Michaela Drown. His presence in their lives was a gift, and his memory will continue to guide and inspire them. He will be profoundly missed.

Tribute Wall



“ Thank you Lord for blessing my life , with my brother Michael Kimball 🙏🙏
Thank you for 35 years brotherhood [a friend thats sticketh closer than a brother]
My Condolences to his wonderful family, Jeannette, Ashley and all his other loved ones , May Gods presence comfort you all in this time ...love you forever my brother Michael Kimball 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Vince Zermeno - February 03 at 09:38 PM