

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MICHAEL'S PLACE PRESENTS "HIDDEN FIGURES" FOR ANNUAL  
"NIGHT AT THE MOVIES" FUNDRAISER**

*Special Appearance, Firsthand Account of Space Travel by Astronaut Capt. Jerry Linenger*

TRAVERSE CITY, MICH., MARCH 22, 2017 – Michael's Place, northern Michigan's only non-profit grief support center, is excited to announce a very special viewing of the Academy Award-nominated film *Hidden Figures*.

The film will be shown as part of Michael's Place's 8<sup>th</sup> annual *A Night at the Movies* fundraiser at the State Theatre in Traverse City on Friday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m.

"In school, we learn how John Glenn was the first person to ever orbit the Earth. *Hidden Figures* is a unique, untold story of this world-changing event," said Mindy Buell, Michael's Place executive director and CEO.

Retired U.S. Astronaut and NASA insider Capt. Jerry Linenger will be making a rare northern Michigan public appearance to introduce the film and provide a firsthand account of his own space travels.

"Michael's Place is grateful to all of our generous sponsors that make this event possible, and especially excited to have Capt. Jerry Linenger on hand to lend his exceptional expertise," said Buell. "In addition to funds raised from ticket sales, their support helps us to continue our mission of providing grief support services at no charge to those in need."

*Hidden Figures* tells the incredible story of Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson - brilliant women working at NASA, who served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race, and galvanized the world. The visionary trio crossed all gender and race lines to inspire generations to dream big.

Tickets are \$25 each, or buy 3 get 1 free. Cost includes admission, popcorn, and beverages.

Purchase online at [www.stateandbijou.org](http://www.stateandbijou.org). Or, at Michael's Place, [231-947-6453](tel:231-947-6453). \*(buy 3 get

1 free offer only redeemed at [231-947-6453](tel:231-947-6453) or State Theatre box office) All proceeds directly support Michael's Place programs and ensure that these services remain at no cost to our community.

Presenting sponsors for the event are North Bay Produce, The State Theatre, and Chemical Bank.

"We are incredibly appreciative of Michael Moore, The State Theatre, our sponsors, and the volunteers, who again are partnering with us to make *A Night at the Movies* a success," said Chris Denno, founder and president of Michael's Place. "Their support allows us to provide innovative and compassionate programs designed to help those who are grieving."

### **About Capt. Jerry Linenger**

Captain Jerry Linenger is a retired United States Navy flight surgeon and NASA astronaut. Jerry Linenger endured a trying space mission where he faced chaos, low oxygen, the worst fire ever to occur in space and a language challenge with fellow crewmembers who spoke only Russian. During his mission aboard Mir, he logged fifty million miles in more than two thousand Earth orbits. At the completion of his mission, he had spent more continuous time in space than any American male.

### **About Michael's Place**

Michael's Place is a grief support center for children, teens, adults. The organization gives those who grieve a voice to share their story, care and support to survive their loss, and hope to begin to live again.

For more information, visit [www.MyMichaelsPlace.net](http://www.MyMichaelsPlace.net) or call [\(231\) 947-6453](tel:231-947-6453).

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