



Michael R. Knorek

June 18, 1928 - March 25, 2011

Michael R. Knorek, devoted husband, father, granddad and self-proclaimed greatest euchre player in the world, passed peacefully to join his beloved wife Friday, March 25, 2011 at the age of 82.

A native of Rossford, he played basketball and football for the Bulldogs before accepting a scholarship to play basketball at the University of Detroit, where for a short period he played alongside his brother Lee. After injuries cut short his basketball career, he enlisted in the army during the Korean War despite a draft exemption because his height made him difficult to outfit for combat. After the war Michael, the son of Michael and Domatilla (Minnie), stepson of Katherine and brother of Lee and Daniel would marry Margaret (Peggy) Collins. Together they would have three children, Colleene, Maureene, and Michael Lee, and the three of them will attest to his never missing a single one of their games, recitals, bees or other childhood event.

An extraordinarily social man, Michael loved being around people, whether it be in one of the many bars he owned or co-owned, his career in food service sales and management, or at card table playing gin, euchre or poker. An eternal optimist, Michael's golf career was noted mostly for his futile attempts to clear water hazards at distances well beyond his range, prefacing each unsound swing with the phrase "God hates a coward." But his real love affair with the water came as a boater where he could round up his family and take

to the waters of the Maumee River and Lake Erie with stops at Cedar Point, Put-in-Bay, Kelly's and West Sister Islands. His time on the water provided his happiest moments with the exception of the time he spent with his grandchildren Olivia, Ethan, Joshua and Claire.

Besides his three children, Michael is survived by his grandchildren along with numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and the "angel" of his life in his last years, Chung He Nichols, whom he called Sunni.

A Memorial Mass will take place Tuesday at 11 a.m. in All Saints Church, 628 Lime City Road, Rossford, where the family will receive friends beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will be private.

Tribute Wall



“ *Maureene,
I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
Mary Ludwig###imported-begin##Mary Ludwig
acmeeaves@aol.com###imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *We wish to send our sympathy to the family. Mike was a gentle giant of a man. I can remember his calming nature in dealing with Patrick and Maurice Collins. He was truly loved. I have added Mike to the Hibernian prayer page at www.tolaoh.com Until we meet again Mike, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. God speed and thanks for the memories.###imported-begin##Maury & Penny Collins mauryc@tolaoh.com###imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heart goes out to you, I have many fond memories of your Father and of course your Mom. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Your Cousin Jack###imported-begin##Jack Collins jackpar0713@yohoo.com###imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *"In the end, it's not the years in your life. It's the life in your years." ~ Abraham Lincoln*
Uncle Mike we will all miss you!! Thanks for always teaching us how to put more life in our years!!###imported-begin###*Amy Knorek akwah oo@att.net*###imported-end###

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Your dad and mom were very good friends of my parents. My dad passed 2 years ago, but Mike still kept in touch with him regularly. Boy did they have wonderful times and many stories from their younger years. My mom felt especially saddened when she saw it in the paper this morning. Our deepest sympathy from the Smith family.*###imported-begin###*Pam Smith-Barber psb521@aol.com*###imported-end###

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heartfelt prayers and condolences go to all of the family. What a guy. My memories are of his humor and happiness. A great loss.*###imported-begin###*John L. Knorek jlk@torkildson.com*###imported-end###

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear about your father, my thoughts are with you, take care.*###imported-begin###*Lorraine Rush*###imported-end###

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mike, Colleen and Maureen,

I got a call from my dad this morning telling me your father passed away on Friday. I'll tell you a flood of emotions followed the sad news. 82 years is a long time and from what I remember the obituary perfectly describes your dad; always smiling and joking around asking me when I would get my pipsqueak dad to play him in Tennis, always there to shuttle us to a basketball practice, or take us to a Goaldiggers hockey game. Your dad was the gentle giant making life fun. I think I shared this with you Mike, before at our 20 year HS reunion, but my two daughter love hearing about my childhood best friend, you of course, and all the things we experienced (exploring the frozen Maumee river and the islands, the Maumee River Yacht Club, Cedar Point, the train bridge, filter hill, etc.) living in that small corner of South Toledo that seem so foreign to their world today. Your family meant the world to me as a kid and my loving memoires of your mom, dad and entire family run very deep. Death is a mix of joy and sadness but what else could it be? I wish you and your family all the best during this tough time.

God Bless,

Jude Mariea###imported-begin##Jude Mariea jude.mariea@atmose nergy.com###imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Maureen and family,

Wanted to send our love, thoughts and prayers to you and your family. We are deeply saddened to hear of your loss. Megan wished to tell Olivia the same. What a beautiful tribute to your father (and grandfather).

Cheryl and Mark Herr and family (Megan, Mary Grace and Thomas)##imported-begin##Cheryl Herr and Family##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ we are very sorry for your loss. he sounded like quite a guy. i know you will continue to have fond memories of him throughout the coming years.##imported-begin##bob and stephanie gersten##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Maureene,
I am so sorry about your Father. I will keep you and your family in
my thoughts and prayers.
Love Traci*

*Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am in a thousand winds that blow,
I am the softly falling snow.
I am the gentle showers of rain,
I am the fields of ripening grain.
I am in the morning hush,
I am in the graceful rush
Of beautiful birds in circling flight,
I am the starshine of the night.
I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room.
I am in the birds that sing,
I am in each lovely thing.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I did not die.##imported-begin##Traci (White) Savely
t.savely@yahoo.com##imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *We're so sorry to hear about your loss. I remember Uncle Mike
always had a kind word to say and he was always there for his
family.##imported-begin##Marie (Collins) Melancon and Melanie ma
riem0710@gmail.com##imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ We would like to extend our sincere sympathy to the Knorek family for the loss of your beloved father. You can all be very proud of the love and support you shared with him during his life and especially in this past year.

You will remain in our prayers.##imported-begin##Bob and Jan Vogt##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Mike Knorek. What a truly genuine man and coach. Mike was my first baseball coach in Rossfords Little League. We played our games at Huffman field on Eagle Point Rd. I can still remember Mike bringing members of the old Milwaukee baseball team, Gene Conley, to our practice. He also took us on our first road trip to Rising Sun Ohio. I'll never forget you Mike and may God be with you.##imported-begin##Jim Connell ndj connell@yahoo.com##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Please except our condolences.##imported-begin##Neil A MacKinnon III neilangusIII@aol.com##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Mike

I was unable to get to the church today, so want to send my deepest sympathies. I always enjoyed chatting with your dad - about you, about sports, or just about life. Best wishes to you and your family.

Carl Wagner##imported-begin##Carl Wagner cwagner@rootlearning.com##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Collene, Maureen and Mike,

Our thoughts and prayers are with your entire family, may your dad rest in peace with your mom. They are smiling down proudly on you all, their work here is done!

Sincerely,

Kevin, Molly, Cori, Tony, Mariah and Derek Branyan##imported-begin##Molly McHugh Branyan molly@danberry.com##imported-end##

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the Knorek family.##imported-begin##Lee A. Manera Meiser lameiser@yahoo.com##imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Maureene, Olivia, Ethan, Colleene, Joshua, Claire, & Mike,
Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this bittersweet
time. As you know, time helps heal the pain and emptiness. Soon
your memories will be of only happy times with your very special
father and grand dad!*
*Sending love, Laurene, Pamela, Cynthia & Jerry##imported-
begin##The Sutko Family Isutko@pagodared.com###imported-
end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I just found out about your Dad's passing. He was a giant of a man
to me growing up (literally and figuratively). I have fond memories of
Island Avenue and all the fun the kids had as the parents had
parties and lived life fully. I am appreciative of your parents not
calling the police when John Gordon and I nearly burned down your
garage. We had so much fun exploring in that garage. I am sure
your Mom and Dad are reunited in heaven. Heaven's gain is our
loss. My condolences to you.##imported-begin##Patrick Hickey phic
key@wls4kids.org###imported-end##*

March 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM