



Michael Radovich

December 22, 2020

Michael Ralph Radovich, 68, of Fort Collins, and long-time resident of Erie, Colorado, died Tuesday, December 22, 2020.

Mike was born August 20, 1952 in Denver, one of three children born to parents Walt and Rosemarie Radovich. He was very astute and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado before working as an Electrical Engineer at Ball Aerospace for his career.

In his youth he biked, golfed and played racket ball. Mike was a vinyl record collector and a lot of 60's memorabilia, including music posters. He also loved to travel – that was his passion since retirement.

Michael is survived by his sister, Kathleen (Dan) Robinson, brother Walt (Luann) Radovich, one nephew, three nieces, two great-nephews, seven great-nieces, many cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Mike loved the 60's and always referred to himself as "Groovy Dude". We'll miss you Groovy Dude!

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Mike: https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?47319.donation=form1&df_id=47319&mfc_pref=T&_ga=2.85109145.1089832548.1609106933-809741533.1606331489

Comments



“ I first met Mike when he was still in high school and I came to the Radovich home with my college roommate, his sister Kathy. An early memory was a winter outing to Gart Bros Sports Castle with Mike skillfully driving the infamous family pink Cadillac. It was an uneventful trip until we left the Castle and a car crashed into the Caddy at the first stoplight. The other driver said the Cadillac's fin was in his lane, but he was in fact going too fast for the snowy road conditions. Mike was nervous, but handled everything with skill.

Over the years I remember Mike as a quiet guy with a mustache or other facial hair, who loved his cars, his caps and music.

Jane Barlow - January 25, 2021 at 02:10 PM



“ I have so many memories of Mike and I speak for many others from our team. Mike was a part of our family at Colorado National even though he didn't actually work with us. I came to know Mike over 8 years ago and can say that we had some ups and some downs. What I will take with me the most is his sense of humor and ease. He always would tell me he was groovy, which cracked me up. I knew Mike was always in for a good time and that he loved wearing his flip flops, taking his cruises and going to Hawaii. We would always joke that he was sun tanning nude on his balcony that overlooked the golf course. Mike was a creature of habit and that included making me laugh daily. The time that passed by when his memory started to fade, will never replace how lucky we were to have known his smile. I have posted some pictures of Mike with some friends and joking around with some of the team. May you rest in peace and know you were loved.

Julie and the team at Colorado National Golf Club.



Julie Poursadigh - January 07, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ Memories of Mike

My memories of Mike take me back to our freshman year at the University of Northern Colorado when we roomed together in Harrison Hall and later in an apartment off-campus with two other friends. Back then, we had many long discussions about life, played sports until sundown, and spent way too much time thinking up practical jokes to play on our unsuspecting roommates. Even as a young college student, Mike had his routines. For example, it seemed, every morning he would walk, or drive, to get some Hostess Twinkies. He also loved his ice cream; but always made a point to save some for Oscar, our bachelor pad cat at our State Farm Road apartment. Actually, Oscar was my future wife's cat that I took care of since her apartment did not allow pets. But Mike "put me to shame" in providing the loving affection that animals crave. Quiet and understated, Mike graduated from the University of Northern Colorado with a degree in Fine Arts. He was extremely artistic, loved music and loved to dance. When he danced, I remember he always wore bowling shoes. He said that a person could dance and slide on the floor so much better in bowling shoes. Quirky, yes, but he was probably right! (Of course, we teased him unmercifully for this; but he always took the teasing in stride.) For many years he drove a classic pink 1959 Cadillac with the big fins in back. And if he had trouble getting the car to start, he would kick the battery and the car would always miraculously start after that. Like so many gifted artists, Mike was multi-talented and after graduating from the University of Northern Colorado, he embarked on a long career in electrical engineering at Ball Aerospace. I have so many fond and happy memories of Mike during our college years together. Janine & I wish we could have been there for him during his struggle with Alzheimer's disease. We will miss him very much.

Terry Polifka
College Buddy & Life-Long Friend



Terry Polifka - January 05, 2021 at 07:33 PM



“ My Memories of Mike

I first met Mike when I moved in across the hall from him in May of 2011. Mike was a quiet neighbor, polite and would always offer to help when he encountered me in the hallway carrying up my groceries.

Over the years, as Mike's memory started to fade, we became closer. Mike would knock on my door with a puzzled or worried look on his face. One time he thought someone had broken into his unit and wanted me to come over to see.

Nothing was missing but one of his things was moved.

As time went on his visits became more frequent, sometimes for the same thing just hours apart. Kathy and I were in touch and I knew Mike's diagnosis...so when he came to my door multiple times because his garage door kept opening I assumed he'd pressed the button on the remote (which he kept in his pocket) accidentally. We'd go down to look at the garage to check, double check and triple check it. I tried to explain that he must be pressing the remote as he walked up the stairs. Poor Mike, confused as he was, insisted he didn't think he had.

Well, vindication came for Mike when he moved out of his unit and his garage door continued to open sporadically. Must have been another garage was programmed with a similar code.

Laughter and tears followed that discovery!

I knew things were getting bad for Mike when he knocked on my door with his cellphone in one hand and his keys in the other and asked me what they were. After I told him, we talked (well I talked) about the weather a little and then he asked me again what they were.

I told him and his reply broke my heart...he asked me why I knew that and Kathy knew that but he didn't. So then I talked about his Alzheimer's and how hard it must be for him. He looked so lost and so scared.

In the beginning I appreciated Mike as a good neighbor but over the years I grew to love him.

I saw the progression and devastation that hideous disease can cause a person. And when Covid hit the country and Mike's regular restaurants started to shut down his routine was disrupted and his world fell apart.

Mike could no longer live alone. It wasn't safe for him and his inability to remember frightened him. It was time for him to go into care but when he left I cried my eyes out.

I had come to love that sweet, gentle man so much. I still do and I always will.

Diane Sullivan
Friend and Neighbor



“ Mike and I grew up together. We are/were good friends, attended UNC and were roommates for a year. He was my brother from another family. Our parents, Walt and Marie, and Marv and Sharon Schwindt were very close. We had many dinners at each other's houses, great camping trips and Glenwood Springs outings. Mike was in my wife, Lorie's and my wedding party. We enjoyed skiing, golfing, biking, volleyball at Wash Park, concerts and Rockies games together. We shared several dinners with another friend at the Capitol Grill in Golden as we all got older. We kept in touch for 65 years. It was really good to chat with Mike and reminisce when we talked in early March 2020. I will miss "the Rader" and forever remember him---love ya Mike.

Rick Schwindt

Rick - January 02, 2021 at 02:14 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Rick - January 02, 2021 at 02:10 PM



“ What a blessed life I've had.
Growing up with. Bob, Dave, Mark, Rick, Mike and Walt.
Being the only girl was special in many ways.
Mike was like a cousin to me. We had many great times together.
I will remember his smile and soft spoken voice.
Rest In Peace

Carol Schwindt Byrd - January 01, 2021 at 05:27 PM



“ Carol Schwindt Byrd lit a candle in memory of Michael Radovich



Carol Schwindt Byrd - January 01, 2021 at 05:14 PM



“ My condolences to Mike's family. Mike was a kind and gentle man. I will never forget a car trip I had with Mike as he drove over Independence Pass in his old Cadillac. That was truly a 60's experience!
Bob Schwindt

Bob Schwindt - January 01, 2021 at 12:30 PM



“ I have so many wonderful memories of the "Groovy Dude", Michael. I met him at The Post in Lafayette, Colorado after talking about our mutual adoration of Marilyn Monroe. Michael and I are both Leo's, and maybe that's why we got along so well. He was the most generous, caring, selfless, loving man I have ever know. He will ALWAYS be in my heart. Love forever, Nancy

Nancy Ayars - December 28, 2020 at 08:17 PM