



Michael "Mike" John Lawrence

May 23, 1929 - July 26, 2016

Michael John Lawrence age 87, of Albia, passed away on July 27, 2016, at his home under the care of Care Initiatives Hospice.

Mike was born May 23, 1929, in Manchester, England. He graduated from high school in England and served a 7 year apprenticeship for tool and die. Mike served his country in the British Royal Air Force from 1946-1951. On January 5, 1952, Mike was united in marriage to Barbara Elizabeth "Betty" Mazey in Honeybourne, England. To this union two children were born Vicci and Michael.

Mike and Betty both left England and moved to Canada with their young daughter Vicci and then to Kent, Ohio in 1959. They arrived in Albia in 1961 and has been their home ever since. Mike worked at Chamberlains as a die maker until starting his own business, L&S Tools in 1966, in Albia retiring in 2006. He also co-founded Hawkeye Molding and Iowa Aluminum in Albia. Mike was a co-founder and influential in helping build the Albia Sports Complex. He received several awards throughout the years. Including Business of the year and in 1985 Mike was named Man of the Year, by Governor Terry Branstad.

Mike served on many boards. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church of Albia where he served on the trust committee and was the Past

President of the Albia Country Club. Mike also served on the Albia Chamber of Commerce for several years, Monroe County Professional Management Board and the A-C-B-C board since 1982. He enjoyed retirement, being outdoors, sailing, golfing, flying, cooking, and traveling. Mike and Betty spent the last 16 winters in Florida. One of Mike's greatest joys in life was spending time with family, friends and watching his grandchildren's sporting events, especially his grand-daughter Jena's softball teams.

Mike is survived by the love of his life of 64 years, Betty Lawrence of Albia; a daughter, Vicci Norman of Ottumwa and a son, Mike (Tonya) Lawrence of Albia; 5 grandchildren, Jesse Norman of Colby, Kansas, Cassie Norman of Ottumwa and Ariel, Macy, Jena Lawrence of Albia; 3 great grandchildren, Kylie Norman, Ricky Monohon and Lilah Norman of Ottumwa. Mike is also survived by several nieces, nephews and numerous friends.

He is preceded in death by his Mother, Mary Kiddlington Lawrence.

Celebration of Life Service will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with a luncheon that will be held at noon on Friday, August 12, 2016, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Albia with Mike's family present.

In lieu of flowers memorials have been established to the Monroe County Sports Complex, Albia Public Library or to the Albia Booster Club for Softball.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG 12. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church
1117 Benton Ave East
Albia, IA 52531

Funeral Luncheon

AUG 12. 12:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church
1117 Benton Ave East
Albia, IA 52531

Tribute Wall



“ *Michael "Mike" John Lawrence*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Michael "Mike" John Lawrence*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" John Lawrence.*



August 11, 2016 at 10:09 PM



“ *Dear Betty and Family,*

You and Mike have left a trail of good works in Albia. I wanted to send sympathy to each of you at this time of his death. He added much to the quality of life in Albia. Rowena Hardinger.

Rowena Hardinger - August 10, 2016 at 07:04 PM

DW

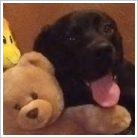
“ Betty, Mike, Vicci and the entire family..just wanted you to know that you have been in our thoughts and prayers since the loss of Mike. Dad (Sonny) and Mike spent many years on many committees together and of course the Sports Complex was at the top of the list. Sonny had very high respect for Mike. Mike was a leader, a very hard worker and always wanted to do more for Albia. Most importantly Mike and the entire family were very special to us and has always been like family. Dad was very sadden to learn of his death but we shared some great memories with each other last week as he smiled knowing Mike was at peace. The Lawrence family will always have a special place in all our hearts.
Sonny Williams and family

Deb Williams - August 02, 2016 at 10:05 PM

JS

“ Mike sr. Was a great man and would do anything for anyone . Will be greatly missed. R.i.p.

jamie stone - July 30, 2016 at 06:37 PM



“ Deepest condolences to the Lawrence family...are prayers are with you all.

From;
The Claeys'...John, Jonah, Jocelyn, Brooklyn

John Claeys - July 30, 2016 at 06:26 PM

CV

“ My heart is heavy. You are all in my heart and prayers.
Love Carol Ann Della Vedova

Carol Ann Della Vedova - July 30, 2016 at 08:45 AM

JW

“ Betty, Mikie, Vicky and family. Tom and I just discovered the details of your loss and have been reminiscing with great sadness in our hearts ever since! Not only did we share are children growing up together but have a lot of memories of the times when we were boating, or the club's dances, and the times that we have the opportunity to fly with Mike. He was a true example of a gentleman in every sense of the word. And a person who earned our greastest respect. Please know you are in our hearts and we are sending prayers and love your way. Judy & Tom

Judy White - July 29, 2016 at 11:06 PM

JV

“ John Palmer, Cathy (Palmer) & Leon Veldhuizen purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Michael "Mike" John Lawrence.



John Palmer, Cathy (Palmer) & Leon Veldhuizen - July 29, 2016 at 05:54 PM

KD

“ All my thoughts & prayers to your family. Mike gave my husband, Jack, (a northern Iowa guy, but new to this area) his first job in Albia. It was at L& S Tools. Jack & I first met Mike through their love of flying at the Albia airport many decades ago, in the early 70s. They became friends, Jack & I have been over to Mike & Bettys home, where I met Betty for the first time. (along w/a couple of really cute lil kids, Vicci & lil "Mikey", a real ball of fire & full of energy at age 3! I loved to hear Betty talk w/ her English brogue. Shes a lively, fun & wonderful lady! (i still remember her recipe for "haggus pudding" she jokingly added to her church cookbook! When i read the ingredients. I crossed off the recipe & wrote "ick!, & unbelieavable!"- still have that cookbook to this day! Mike, was a kind & great guy who enjoyed so many things in life. He was an excellent businessman, and was a genuine community supporter. I've worked w/his daughter-in-law, Tonya, to obtain health assistance at times for my mother. Mike will be sorely missed, but i will always treasure the great memories!

*Karen Templer Deimerly
& my late husband, Jack Deimerly*

Karen Deimerly - July 29, 2016 at 11:37 AM

RR

“ My thoughts and prays are with the Lawrence family in this their time of loss "God Bless".

The family, City of Albia, Employees and others (who didn't even know Mike) have a lost a "Great Person". A Person who dedicated his "Whole" life to not only his family and employees but to the City of Albia and the children of Southeast Iowa. It was through his efforts and others to bring the Albia Sports Complex to Reality. Children throughout Southeast Iowa and others from beyond have enjoyed this "Great Facility" for years and will for years to come. A "Noble Man" a "Quiet Man" who never asked or expected any Lime Light for what he gave back to his community. "GOD MADE A GOOD ONE HERE"! A man who had a sense of humor and could get you laughing. I remember times back playing golf with Mike and Bill Lucas in the 70's - if you didn't have a good time with these 2 guys something was wrong because they could get getting going for sure.

I also want to Thank Mike and Betty for always making our Reed Family feel at home through the years. We have had a lot of fun. I remember when my wife and I got engaged to be married back in 1977, the first place we went to tell everyone the news was at Mike and Betty house.

I will always remember this "Great Person" and what he done for all of us!

God Bless!

Rob Reed

Rob Reed - July 29, 2016 at 08:12 AM



“ I'm saddened by the news of Mike's Passing. I knew Mike, Betty and their Son Mike through my Parents Vincent and Bonita Simmons. We had many good times at the old Albia Country Club and will cherish them forever. May God Speed and Bless his Soul. His Journey Continues. His Voice is forever etched in my Mind. A Great person and a Great Husband and of course a Great Father Figure. A Great Personality that will be missed but not Forgotten. God Bless his Soul.

Andy Simmons
Fulton Il



Andy Simmons - July 28, 2016 at 04:11 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May you see him through yourself as you go through life-- reminders that he is part of you now and forever. Our deepest sympathy to your precious family. Sondra and Paul Meyers



Sondra Meyers - July 28, 2016 at 02:50 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael "Mike" John Lawrence.



July 28, 2016 at 12:42 PM

KK

“ If a person's wealth is determined by the family they leave behind and the values they have inside of them, Mr Lawrence left this world a very rich man. I only met him one time but I could tell he was a great person. I will always remember him saying how he could figure out a person from his handshake and how rough it is tells how hard they work. I hope I gave him a good handshake that day! To Mike and his great family and his sister I just met , my deepest sympathies go out to all of you!

Keith Kube - July 28, 2016 at 12:22 PM

KS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Mike's passing. My mother, Mary Lucas, worked for Mike for years. He had such kind words to say about her when she passed away. My thoughts and prayers go out to Betty and children.

Kathy (Lucas) Slofkosky

Kathy Slofkosky - July 28, 2016 at 10:52 AM

PH

“ Betty, Vicci, Mike and families,
We are sincerely sorry to hear of Mike's passing. We have developed a friendship with Mike and Betty over the years and especially enjoyed times spent together in Florida playing cards, sharing dinners and birthday celebrations with the Albia connection group.
We are grateful for those times....always filled with laughter.
We share your loss. Our thoughts are with you.

*With love,
Patty & Tom Hannam*

Patty & Tom Hannam - July 28, 2016 at 10:45 AM

DR

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Mike, I wouldn't know where to start. Mike and Betty have always been more like family. They have been part of our family celebrations and events ever since I can remember. Mike was a great friend to my Dad and I remember enjoying them laughing and being ornery together. Our family was very blessed to have Mike in our lives. We love you all.

Debi Reed - July 27, 2016 at 05:13 PM