



Edward "Mike" Mullen

July 14, 1936 - March 1, 2020

On Sunday, March 1, 2020, Edward "Mike" Mullen, loving husband and father of three children, passed away at the age of 83.

Memorial services will be held on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Storm Lake. Burial will take place on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at Mt. Zion Catholic Cemetery in Fonda. Visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at the CHURCH. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Mike was born on July 14, 1936, in Fort Dodge, Iowa. He was raised in the last-end Irish neighborhood of Fonda, Iowa, along with the O'Briens, Murphys, McCartens, Kellys, Larkins, Beckers, Kuhls, and Tiedemans.

Mike graduated from Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) High School in Fonda in 1954 and from Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa, in 1958. After college, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and the Army Medical Research Lab in Fort Knox, Kentucky, was his assignment for two years. The lab was known for training monkeys, which were sent on rockets before manned flights.

Mike married Sandra Lee Kruchten on December 30, 1961, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Fonda, Iowa.

Mike worked for Geigy Pharmaceutical Company (Waterloo, Iowa) and the Upjohn Drug Company (St. Cloud, Minnesota) as a sales representative. After graduating from the North Dakota State University School of Pharmacy in Fargo, North Dakota, he worked as a pharmacist for forty-seven years.

He began his pharmacy career at Rexall Drug Store in Spencer, Iowa, where he worked from 1969 to 1976. In 1976, Mike moved with his family to Storm Lake to work at Storm Lake Drug for George Appleseth. In 1980, he opened and operated Medical Arts Pharmacy in Spencer, Iowa, commuting from Storm Lake until 2000. In 2000, he decided to sell his pharmacy and base his work again in Storm Lake, where he worked with Ed McKenna at HyVee Pharmacy until retiring in 2016.

Mike was a member of Alpha Phi Omega fraternity (Loras College), Nu Sigma Nu (University of Iowa), and Rho Chi (North Dakota State University). He was a member of the Knights of Columbus (Waterloo and Spencer, JC (Spencer), and Lions Club (Storm Lake). St. Mary's (Storm Lake) was his church of attendance.

Mike played baseball and basketball for OLGC (All-Diocese Basketball 1953-1954), Champion of the N.W. Senior Golf Association (2003).

He was a true Bison, NDSU of Fargo, ND, and a loyal Duhawk of Loras College, Dubuque, IA.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Edward J. and Grace J. (Eaton) Mullen, his twin sister Rose Ann and infant brother Phillip.

He is survived by wife Sandra; three children, Ann, John, Steve (Amy); six grandchildren, Ariana, Elizabeth, Leanna, Allison, Joseph, and Megan; siblings Frances Mullen Timassy, John P. Mullen (Carol), Grace (Mullen)

Blume; brother-in-law Doug Kruchten (Lillian); 14 nieces and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Zion Catholic Cemetery

Fonda, IA 50540

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church -- Storm Lake
320 Seneca Street
Storm Lake, IA

Service

MAR 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church -- Storm Lake
320 Seneca Street
Storm Lake, IA

Tribute Wall

PK

“ Paul Kelly lit a candle in memory of Edward "Mike" Mullen



Paul Kelly - March 12, 2020 at 04:32 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - March 08, 2020 at 03:20 PM

TR

“ Our thoughts and prayers to Sandy, Ann, John, Steve and families! Mike always had a smile! He is in a better place now and at peace!

Tim & Jill Reilly - March 08, 2020 at 01:28 PM

CW

“ To the family of Mike Mullen, I am sending my thoughts and prayers to you as you mourn the loss of a great guy! My brother, Jim Kuhl and I grew up next door to the Mullen family in Fonda and what a delightful neighborhood we all had, playing baseball, football and assorted other games on our vacant lot and all over the block. Kick the can, Hide and Touch and roller skating occupied our summer days.

Jim and I arrived in 1944 to live with aunt Marge and uncle Lex and Mike did his best to make us feel welcome. He taught me how to skate, ride a bike, play baseball and football and be a normal kid. We built a great snow ramp on Mullen property for sledding every winter. I spent hours with Rose Ann and Frannie at the house. Those were wonderful times of growing up.

I was able to see Mike at work in Spencer a few times and the catch up visits were fine. I am hoping to make my way to Storm Lake for services and a brief visit with family.

Mike had a gentle spirit and was always kind and warm in his dealings with folks. I know he will be missed.

Carol (Kuhl) Wassmuth

Carol Wassmuth - March 08, 2020 at 08:28 AM

JB

“ John & Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this difficult time! Many fond memories John as good buddies back in the early days at Sacred Heart & being over at your house! Your Dad was a great guy, Eternal Rest Grant Unto him O'lord 🙏🙏
Take Care!!

Jeff, Julie Bates & Family
Morton, IL

Jeff Bates - March 07, 2020 at 01:09 PM



“ *I was a nurse at clinic in Spencer where Mike served as pharmacist. He was such a kind and thoughtful and helpful man. Sending my sympathies! Dianne*

Dianne Binder - March 06, 2020 at 09:28 PM



“ *Sandy,
 We are so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our prayers!
 Coleen and Doug Imming*

Coleen Imming - March 06, 2020 at 09:02 AM



“ *Sorry to hear of the loss of Mike. Got to know him when he had his pharmacy at Spencer and missed him greatly when he left. He was a super nice guy! Sorry for your loss.*

Nancy Hill - March 06, 2020 at 08:23 AM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - March 05, 2020 at 12:49 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - March 05, 2020 at 11:35 AM

BT

“ God bless you, Mike, You were a man I admired, always. You were a man with a friendliness unique to you. You were the mellow guy with not a mean bone in your body. You honed your nature on the playgrounds of Queen Street. I recall a story of a game on Kuhl's lawn, where a well hit baseball landed in Jerry and Nell Obrien's living room. One of the Fitzgerald boys retrieved the ball to a teasing question from Jerry, "Whose going to pay for the window?" (Emmet Fitz, allowed his kids to "charge" things down town at Obrien & Nevin Hdw. Store). The response from the lad was, "Charge it". There is no doubt in my mind, Mike, you were in that game. You moved with your family to 5th and Franklin, kitty-corner from the home where your Dad grew up; where "the rock" was a meeting place for generations. I was barely out of diapers when I sat with RoseAnn, watching sporting events on the street. (There were no vacant lots nearby). You, Marijean, RoseEllen, RoseAnn, Fr. Ed., Frances, Moose, Johnny, Nubs, Joe, and Terry, left a lasting impression with me, that warms my heart to this day. So, celebrate, Mike, as we celebrate your kindness, your goodness, your heavenly reward. Give my folks a hug. And tell Maryjean, I chuckled, when she recalled a day when I was a particularly noisy little pre-schooler, and her Dad asked, "Who is killing Billy, I hope?"..... May God bless Mike's family, Sandy, Ann, John, and Steve..... as they have been blessed with Mike's place in their lives.

Bill Tiedeman - March 04, 2020 at 02:27 PM

MN

“ Sandy and Family, I have three wonderful memories of Mike. First he is the brother of one of my dearest friends (Frances) and, since I spent a lot of time in their home, he was the older brother that teased us a lot. Then there are the memories of Mike and Bill Brown (now Dr Brown, my dentist for years) spending a summer from UI teaching us swimming lessons at the Fonda pit. And the most recent memory - I'm walking at Valley West Mall one Sunday afternoon and a voice calls my name - there sat Mike, being a good patient husband as Husbands are asked to be, while you were off shopping. We sat and visited for some time. It's always so great to catch up with Fonda friends.
Thinking of all of you in this time of grief and may Mike rest in the arms of Our Lord for all eternity.

MaryAnn Carey Nielsen - March 04, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Edward "Mike" Mullen.



March 04, 2020 at 11:41 AM

DM

“ Dave Merten lit a candle in memory of Edward "Mike" Mullen



Dave Merten - March 03, 2020 at 10:29 PM

JM

Thanks Dave! We appreciate it

John "J.D." Mullen - March 05, 2020 at 04:23 PM

PP

“ *Mike was my oldest friend. We went through grade school and part of High School together at OLGc. I ended up at Loras because of Mike. He spent most of a summer in California with my family and we have been in contact at least at Christmas over the years. Sandy I was able to be at your wedding on a cold December day in 1961 but I am not able to travel from Florida to celebrate Mike's life regrettably. I was shaken but thankful for Steve's call today. Sandy, my deepest sympathy to you and all your family. I will make a memorial gift to Loras College in Mike's memory and have Masses offered for Mike. Life is fragile at this age. I hope Mike will look up Terri and say hello for me. I am sure he has attained eternal peace also. RIP Mike.*

Philip Peterson - March 03, 2020 at 05:40 PM

LB

Sandy, Ann, John, and Steve, my deepest sympathies to you. I spent many days at your house when you lived in Spencer. Mike always had smile, and such kindness to him. May God bless you with His comfort and peace. Cherish your loving memories, and photos of Mike. Lisa Andersen Buchan, Spencer IA

Lisa Buchan - March 06, 2020 at 06:49 AM

RS

“ *Our prayers to Sandy, Ann, John and Steve and families. So enjoyed Mike and our visits and the fun photo experiences over the years. He was always ready for a visit and a check in on happenings in Fonda. Enjoyed sharing stories of Mike's mom who was a special neighbor. God's Peace to you all.*

Randy and Marilyn Schmitt - March 03, 2020 at 05:35 PM

ML

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Mullen family. May God wrap his arms around you and give you peace.*



Mary Margaret Lange - March 03, 2020 at 01:39 PM

PG

“ *OUR LOVE & PRAYERS TO YOU SANDY, ANN, JOHN, STEVE, WIFE & ALL THE MULLEN & KRUCTEN FAMILIES. IT'S A CINCH WE USED TO HAVE A LOT OF FUN, ESPECIALY IN THE SUMMERTIME. NOW HE HAS NO MORE PAIN OR SUFFERING. MAY HE RIP. PEACE, LARY & PATTY (TIEDEMAN) GUNVILLE STORM LAKE, IOWA*



PATTY GUNVILLE - March 03, 2020 at 01:10 PM

MB

So sorry for your loss Sandy. My thoughts and prayers are with you all

marie Breon - March 03, 2020 at 04:08 PM

BI

Sorry Sandy and family to hear about Mike. May God be with you in your time of sorrow. Mike was a special classmate at OLGC and a friend for many years

BEULAH Imming - March 03, 2020 at 08:39 PM

PC

“ *Mike was always so friendly and had a huge smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. I always enjoyed time talking to him. God Bless Mike Mullen*

Pegi Cavanaugh - March 03, 2020 at 12:51 PM

NG

“ *Norlin Gutz lit a candle in memory of Edward "Mike" Mullen*



Norlin Gutz - March 02, 2020 at 08:38 PM

DJ

“ *Deb And Kevin Jesse lit a candle in memory of Edward "Mike" Mullen*



Deb and Kevin Jesse - March 02, 2020 at 05:43 PM