

MICHAEL EUGENE VAN DEVEER

1946 - 2015 |Obituary| Condolences



Mike Van Deveer, 68, of Columbus, WI passed away peacefully in his home on Tuesday January 27, 2015. A memorial service will be held in the spring, date to be determined. Mike was born in Oak Park, IL on April 26, 1946. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree from Eastern IL University and continued on to receive a Master Degree in Physical Education and Drivers Education. Mike taught at Geneva High School, Geneva, IL for 32 years. He coached track and cross country; was awarded "IL State Coach of the Year" twice; and inducted into Geneva High School Hall of Fame. Mike enjoyed poems by Robert Frost, trips to Florida and relaxing in his hammock. He was also proud to have completed 4 marathons in his lifetime. He had a special place in his heart for dogs and had many a friend - Tacoma, Rocky, Dickens, Beau, Bucko, Denver to mention a few. Mike is survived by his sister Bonnie Bendig and Bill Bendig (husband) and his brother Joe Van Deveer and Sandy Rishel (wife) and two nephew's Chris Van Deveer and Bill Bendig. Mike is preceded in death by his parents, Eugene G. Van Deveer and Bonita Marie Van Deveer and brother Don Scott Van Deveer. Mikes kids were his students; he was a great coach and teacher. The life lessons he taught will never be forgotten. The family wants to give a special heartfelt thanks to the amazing support Mike received from many family and friends and the staff from Agrace Hospice. Special mention to his dear friend Barb and to Jeanne and Avery who assisted Mike with loving care and comfort in his last days. In lieu of flowers a memorial fund will be set up in Mike's name to support the continued research in Alzheimer's. Please send condolences and/or donations to Joe Van Deveer W12191 Lange Rd, Columbus, WI 53925. And think of him as living in the hearts of those he touched, for nothing loved is ever loss, and he was loved so much. Jensen Funeral & Cremation, Columbus WI, jensenfuneralandcremation.com, 920-623-5850.