



Michael Henry Segar

August 23, 1946 - February 26, 2023

Michael Henry Segar of Bonita Springs, Florida, passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 26, 2023, with his wife Karen, daughter Emily and son Michael Thomas (Tom) by his side. He was 76 years old, led a full and happy life with integrity, and was deeply loved by his family and friends.

Mike was born August 23, 1946, to Dellin and Helen Segar of Wells, Minnesota, where he grew up with his brother, Tom. He took tremendous pride in his hometown and enjoyed telling stories about his adventures growing up in Wells. Whether cruising Main Street on Friday nights, spending time with friends, or helping his Dad at Segar's Mobil Service Station, Mike had great stories he loved to share about his youth.

For several weeks each summer, he would stay with his cousins on their farm in Austin. Mike loved his cousins and everything about farm life, including the chores and under-aged driving. His granddaughters were particularly fond of his more mischievous stories, like when his Mom sent Mike and his brother Tom to Iowa to smuggle bootlegged cases of Oleo margarine (illegal in Minnesota at that time) back into Minnesota for Easter.

Mike graduated from Wells High School in 1964. Mike attended two years at Mankato State University, and in 1966 he and Karen McGill were married in Wells. They raised their two children, Emily and Tom, in the Anoka, Minnesota area. Mike was devoted to his family and worked incredibly hard to build a wonderful life for them, beginning as a young delivery truck driver and finally retiring as a Regional Manager for an industrial foundry supply company.

Mike was exceptionally good at his job as a salesman, but he viewed work only as a means to an end. He lived for his time with his family, especially family vacations, which he would begin diligently planning right after the Holidays every year. He was always excited when new brochures would come in the mail from the many chambers of commerce he wrote to. Those trips are seared into the memories of his kids not because of where they went, but because these trips were when he seemed happiest and most relaxed -- spending extended family time together with just the four of them.

Mike loved to fish. He was always most excited when either Tom or Emily would catch one, no matter what the size. They spend countless hours on lakes, with Mike making up silly songs that he would sing to the fish, trying to convince them to bite on Tom's hook. He was always joking that this might be the day they finally catch "that big elusive Eel Pout". Thankfully, they never did.

He loved Sunday evenings, which were Homemade Pizza Night for about the last 40 years. He loved playing with his kids and was especially delighted in teaching them to play basketball. Mike was proud to have been on the Wells basketball team when they went to the State Championships in 1963. Em and Tom were never quite that good, but a thousand hilarious games of Horse or Pig championship tournaments happened in the Segar driveway, often going on long after sunset.

Mike loved Emily and Tom's closest friends, and always asked for updates about them and their lives. While his kids were growing up, Mike was, hands-down, the "coolest" Dad any of their friends had ever met. While most of their friends' parents listened to 50's, country, or classical music, Mike would greet their friends wearing his KQRS tee shirt. With his album collection including bands like Fleetwood Mac, Heart, Pat Benatar, and Boston, Emily, and Tom were the envy of a lot of teenage friends. But he also enjoyed singing in the church choir at the United Methodist Church in Anoka, and was a founding member of the "South Street Boys", a men's choral group -- the name was his idea.

Mike lived in an industrial sales world but had the heart of a farmer. He loved growing things and became a master gardener, making his garden larger each year until there wasn't any more space to till. Mike didn't just put seeds in the ground – his gardens were a visual work of art, meticulously planned over the winter, when the basement was converted into a greenhouse with hundreds of seedlings. He didn't just think through things like plant height and sunlight – he thought through the placement of plants by color, and how they would be complimentary, even framing the garden like a painting with flowers. If he was home, there was never a weed in sight. If he was on a business trip, there were last-minute moments of panic when Emily and Tom finally got around to doing the weeding they had been assigned.

Mike also loved to create things with his hands, and eventually discovered his talent for woodworking. Like everything else, he threw himself into learning all that he could and perfecting his craft. If a woodworking shop could also be a visual work of art, his was. He was fastidiously organized and took pride in taking care of his tools and everything he owned. He built beautiful furniture, clocks, and anything he thought a loved one might need that he could create. When he and Karen moved to Florida, he turned a small utility shed into a tiny shop. He loved spending time crafting small pieces like breadboards, trivets, candle holders, and things that had practical use and giving them as gifts or donating to fundraisers.

Mike was a wonderful father and took personal pride in every accomplishment that Emily and Tom ever achieved, including marrying the people they did, whom he loved dearly. When his son-in-law, Tadd, was quoted or written about in a news article, Tadd usually learned about it first from Mike, who read 3 newspapers front to back daily. He considered his daughter-in-law, Michelle, to be smarter and more trustworthy than any of his physicians and trusted her implicitly with all of his medical decisions; she frequently had to remind him that she was a Pharmacist, not a physician.

Mike was a fantastic grandpa to his four granddaughters, Kate and Stella

Segar and Madeline and Hannah Johnson. His and Karen's best times together were at the cabin at Big Sandy Lake, when Tom and Emily's families would all gather together many weekends over the summer, or when the girls would remain behind to spend time with Grandma and Grandpa alone. He adored his girls. He built things for them, he was always looking for ways to help them, and constantly worried about their well-being when there was absolutely nothing to worry about. There was no sound in life that he loved more in life than the sound of the four girls laughing together.

Mike was a big man with a giant heart. He was strong, clever, and highly intelligent. He took an interest in everyone he met, and loved to ask questions about their lives and hear their stories – which must have made more than a few wait staff fall behind in delivering food to other tables.

Together with Karen, Mike lived out his retirement precisely like a person should -- doing the things he loved most, with and for the people he loved most; his immediate family, his closest Wells high school friends, and dear friends he made at Southern Pines in Bonita Springs, Florida.

Mike is survived and will be deeply missed by his wife Karen Ann Segar, daughter Emily Marie Segar-Johnson and son-in-law Tadd Johnson, son Michael Thomas Segar and daughter-in-law Michelle Modrijan, granddaughters Madeline Johnson, Kate Segar, Hannah Johnson, and Stella Segar; and cousins, many nieces and nephews, and dear friends.

A small private gathering will be held this summer in Minnesota to celebrate his life. In lieu of flowers or gifts, please spread a little kindness today. That's what Mike would want.

Tribute Wall



“ *Michael Henry Segar*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Dave & Mary Loftness - March 03, 2023 at 10:43 PM



British Isles Cruise - 2018 from Dave & Mary Loftness

Dave & Mary Loftness - March 08, 2023 at 08:32 PM



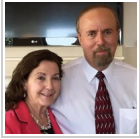
“ *My deepest condolences to Karen and the Segar family. I was the rookie at Carpenter Brothers where Mike was a Regional Manager when I first met him in 1993. He was a great coworker and friend, and we enjoyed many lighter moments and laughs during our time working together. Karen, I enjoyed meeting and talking to you over the years at our annual sales meetings in Door County, WI. Mike will be missed. Tom and Debbie Gaeding*

Tom Gaeding - March 03, 2023 at 10:29 AM

TD

“ My sincere condolences to Karen and Mike’s family. I worked with Mike for many years. Not only was he a great salesman, he was a good friend. Lots of good times and memories.

Tom Davies - March 03, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ So sad to hear of Mike's passing. I have fond memories knowing Mike over the years. Our many years together at Carpenter Brothers and before that we managed to get together and fish the lakes of Minnesota. It shows how precious life is and how the years just fly away. I pass on my condolences to Mikes family.
John Serra Retired Carpenter Brothers Inc.

John Serra - March 03, 2023 at 10:11 AM

MM

“ Sorry to hear about the family’s loss. I had the opportunity to work with Mike numerous years and enjoyed our business relationship. Prayers to his family!

mike Morrison - March 03, 2023 at 07:52 AM

NK

“ Karen and family, John and I send our most sincere condolences. Mike was a good friend and we enjoyed being in the "group" who were always together at dances and social gatherings. We attended many parties at your lovely home. Mike will be very much missed in Southern Pines where he was an active member and was always there with a helping hand. Rest in peace Mike. Many blessings to the family. 🙏



Norma and John Kittredge - March 03, 2023 at 01:20 AM

BL

“Mike is my cousin. He spent many summers on our farm as a “wanna be farmer”, learning all he could from my brother Bill and my Dad. He learned to drive our old yellow truck that we hauled oats from the field to the grainary. That was a big deal for a teenage city kid. When Mike was traveling close to Austin as a salesman for his business he would take time to stop and visit the farm. Mike was a very caring cousin who tried to keep track of his older cousin. He was often giving me instructions of what I could do now that I am running the farm. The last idea was to buy cattle for me to raise for him. Karen and Mike always stopped every summer for a visit and he would go out and walk the farm to check on all the machinery and buildings then come in and ask about the old yellow truck. Karen was a fantastic caregiver and partner for Mike. I will miss his calls to check on me but I know he is safe and pain free! Love you Mike.

Barbara Lewis - March 02, 2023 at 09:57 PM

NK

“I'll never forget going down to visit Karen (my grandpa Gary McGills sister) and Mike around my 16th birthday. Mike was always so funny and so kind no matter what. I will forever cherish the time in Florida to be with both of them. Mike is definitely unforgettable.

My deepest condolences to Karen, their children, and great-grandchildren

Nicole Kratz - March 02, 2023 at 09:32 PM

CM

“ Karen, so sorry for your families loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

May all those memories ease the pain in your hearts.

*Sending hugs,
Larry and Cyndy*

Cyndy Mattick - March 02, 2023 at 03:52 PM

TF

“ I was shocked and saddened to learn of Mike's passing. My first contact with the Segars was when Emily and Tom appeared in my Sandburg Middle school classroom.

I later discovered that they also attended the United Methodist Church of Anoka where Mike eventually joined the Chancel Choir and men's chorus. In fact it was Mike who coined the phrase "South Street Boys" (a takeoff on the church address) for the men's singing group I directed.

We discovered that the Segar family owned a cabin across the lake from us and we would often stop by vehicle or boat to visit.

Mike loved to tell stories of his hometown of Wells, MN.

He lived a full life of love and devotion.

Rest well, Buddy. ❤️

Tom Fischer

Anoka MN

Tom Fischer - March 02, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael Henry Segar.



March 02, 2023 at 11:19 AM