



Michael J. Claboe

July 25, 1939 - March 13, 2017

Michael Jeffrey Claboe peacefully passed away surrounded by his family at his Hillsboro home on Monday, March 13, 2017 at the age of 77, Mike's personality remained strong throughout his fight with cancer, renal and heart failure.

In 1939, Mike was born in Seattle, Washington to John L. Claboe and Ruth N. (Smith) Claboe. He was second of six children. His father's profession moved the family from Seattle to Whittier, Alaska, before resettling in Seattle where Mike excelled in football and basketball at West Seattle High School. Upon graduating high school in 1958, Mike attended Wenatchee Junior College, University of Idaho, and Western State College on football scholarships. He graduated from Western State College of Colorado in 1963 with a BA in Business Administration. After graduation he served in the US Navy. Mike was hired by Texaco in 1964 and worked as a sales representative and a regional manager while playing semi-pro football for the Lake Oswego Thunderbirds.

In 1968, Mike married Sharon (O'Connell), had a son (Jon) and a daughter (Amy). In 1971 he purchased Bill's Texaco at the corner of Allen and Hall in Beaverton where he was a mainstay in the business community for over 40 years. Mike prided himself on great customer service, and loved visiting with his loyal customers over the years. Mike later expanded his business by purchasing service stations in Progress and Aloha. The station in Aloha is still in the family today.

Mike was an avid golfer and fisherman, and loved tending to his Helvetia farm where he grew Christmas trees, grapes and raised cattle. But above all, he loved his family. Mike attended every athletic event his children participated in and supported their athletic programs. A doting papa, Mike spoiled his grandchildren rotten.

Mike is survived by his wife Sharon Claboe; his children, Jon Claboe and Amy Westerfield; his son-in-law Kirk Westerfield; grandchildren, Sydney and Luke Westerfield; sisters Patricia Turner and Kirsti Arndt; and brother Daniel Claboe.

A grand celebration of life will be held a future date. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Comfort Hospice and please visit Hillside Chapel's website at <http://www.hillsidechapel.com> to share your memories of Mike.

Comments



“ To me, the "Chief" personified strength, toughness, integrity, honesty, loyalty, and the biggest heart imaginable. You could just feel the love he had for his family and friends. He called it how he saw it, which is unheard of anymore, or so it seems. I loved his honesty and sincerity. I always knew where he was at which I respected and admired very much. It's those convictions and beliefs that made him the man everyone loved and respected. His passion for life and commitment to his values transcended him. To know Jon and Amy is to know the "Chief". I have so many fond memories and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to know him and all of the Claboes. Miss you "Chief"!

Tim Schwarz - May 15, 2017 at 03:37 PM



“ Jon has been our mechanic and my personal friend for a number of years. I was impressed by Jon's integrity and when I met his dad, I saw where it came from. Mike was "bigger than life" and a "straight talker". Loved his hard working, "can do" attitude and generous spirit. I absolutely loved talking to him. Once when Jon was hunting, we were in a big bind when our vehicle broke down and we had to get up to Ft. Lewis for a bit event we were involved with. Sharon got me in touch with Mike and he took over. It was such a relief. I just lost my own father last September under heart-breaking circumstances so when I heard about Mike's passing from the guys at the station, I immediately got a picture in my mind of the two men of integrity meeting for the first time in heaven and it helped alleviate the loss. Most of all, I am so thankful he is not in pain anymore! Sharon and Jon, you are much in my thoughts and prayers.
Robin Clement

Robin Clement - April 07, 2017 at 06:12 PM



“ Mike was my favorite client when i was working at a bank. He always came with smile and great little stories to share with us. He brought grape juice that was squeezed from grapes he harvested. I will remember him forever... Rest in peace. I will miss you, Mike.

mirye - April 06, 2017 at 01:16 AM



“ I grew up with one of Mikes nieces, so as a little girl I just remember him being very layed back with a dry sense of humor. Ok, he was a little scary only because I could never tell if he was joking or not!:) But then he would light up with a smile and a laugh and I knew I was ok:) I ended up getting married to a man who already had met Mike through the gas station business and my husband grew very fond of Mike! My husband as well has a dry sense of humor and would love to, "give Mike crap" as he would say:) Mike was so loved by friends and family... what a lucky guy:)

Summer McCallum - March 30, 2017 at 11:28 PM



“ I would like to share my condolences with the Claboe family. I will always remember Mr. Claboe fondly for his big personality. May he rest in peace.
Lovingly,
Ivy Safranski

Ivy Safranski - March 28, 2017 at 08:47 AM



“ We met Mike at the service station and were customers for many years. I enjoyed brief chats with him while the tank was filling. He always had something interesting to comment about if only briefly. Always appreciated his straight forward and honest approach to any necessary repairs or purchases we required. I'm sorry that his health deteriorated so badly along with the obvious pain. Such a nice guy and fine gentleman, he will be missed. Our condolences to the family.

Bob & Kathy Cochrane

Bob Cochrane - March 28, 2017 at 12:02 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Mikes passing. We enjoyed years of daughters competitions, playing together and against each other. It was always fun to kid back and forth about who had the better team. God bless him, and his family in this time of grief.

Jim and Kim Safranski

james e safranski - March 26, 2017 at 12:18 PM



“ I always enjoyed my visits with Mike. He was a good friend and competitor for many years in the service station business. I will miss his big smile and laugh. Our condolences to Sharon and the kids.

Ken Dailey

ken dailey - March 26, 2017 at 11:27 AM



“ My wife always called Mike a 'gentle giant' and I am grateful to have called him my friend for over 40 years. My best memories are of our many fishing trips to Alaska and the great times Mike, Rick, others and I had. Mike was a man of principal, he was a hard working and fair business owner, he was unabashedly conservative, who wasn't afraid to tell anyone how our great country should be run...I loved that about him!

He was deeply loyal to his friends and above all he loved his family.

Mike was one great guy who it was my honor to have known.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you Sharon and family.

Brian and Tess Ratty

Brian and Tess Ratty - March 25, 2017 at 01:42 PM



“ Mike has been my Friend since the later 1960's when we both worked for Texaco. Although a lot of years have passed we have remained friends. That is the true test of friendship to have years pass and when you catch up it was like yesterday. I was fortunate to see Mike at a gathering in Helvetia last August. I am glad I made the trip and Thank Gene Knudson for organizing the group. Mike is one of the really good Men, whose family was most important to him. He and Sharon were there in the most difficult time in my life and I will forever be grateful. I will miss his candor and loyal friendship. God Bless you Sharon, Jon and Amy. Rick Jacobson

Rick Jacobson - March 25, 2017 at 11:21 AM



“ Our condolences to the family at this sad time. Mike was a proud, hard working, family man. May your good memories bring peace and comfort. Sincerely, Linda and Greg Layne

Linda Layne - March 22, 2017 at 10:32 PM



“ so glad you are no longer in pain, I will miss you and your taunting ways Voice

joyce kirlinn - March 22, 2017 at 07:53 PM



“ my best friend in the world, will miss him for the rest of my life. Bill

bill kirlin - March 22, 2017 at 07:50 PM