



J. Michael Miles

May 24, 1944 - September 16, 2010

A wise, compassionate and beautiful man passed away on Thursday at his home in White Bear Lake. He treasured his family and was deeply cherished in return. Michael was a beloved husband, an incredible father and an affectionate and playful grandfather and uncle. As an only child he was the light of his parents' lives, John and Maxine, who preceded him in death. He showered love on all around him, especially his wife Shirley, his children Jennifer Miles, John (Jodi) Miles, Brian (Jill) Olson and Jillayne (Dan) Packowski and his grandchildren Sydni, Makenna, Easton, Clarisse, Colin and Connor. Michael was an amazing intellectual. He was a voracious reader, a masterful chess player and what a sense of humor! His timing and mischievousness could get anyone laughing. He relished spending time in nature. Michael always felt closest to God immersed in the scents, sounds and beauty of creation. He is now in a perfect fishing spot, blissfully trolling in pristine waters. His wisdom and zest for life made him a gifted leader. He empowered and encouraged his colleagues and staff to grow and thrive. He was a business leader who could adapt and relate to the multiple aspects and challenges of free enterprise and the workplace. Michael's law career started at the Attorney General's office where he was an Assistant Attorney General for almost 20 years. He moved on to the Greater Minnesota Corp. after which he went into private law practice. His full potential was realized at Space Center where he began as General Council but after 5 years was the first non-family member to be made President and CEO. For the next 10 years he led

the company and employees to great success. Michael felt very blessed and his desire was to give back to the community. He began his service to others as a young boy and continued throughout his entire life. A few of the organizations closest to his heart are: The Council of Crime and Justice where he was active on the board for 21 years, with two terms as Chairman. The State Fair Foundation, four years on the board with two years as Chairman. The Science Museum of Minnesota, on the board for two terms. The Lee and Rose Warner Nature Center; he was Chairman for two years. St. Scholastica, serving on the board for one year. He also facilitated the agreement between the City of St Paul and The Conservatory. While the loss to his family, friends and the community is overwhelming, his legacy of love, generosity and kindness will inspire generations. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, September 25 at 11AM (with a gathering beginning at 10AM) at ST MARY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 4741 Bald Eagle Avenue, White Bear Lake. Private family interment St. Mary's Cemetery. Memorials in his honor can be made to The State Fair Foundation, The Council of Crime and Justice or The Mayo Clinic Foundation.