



## Michael Plautz

January 8, 2012

Plautz, Michael James Age 68, of Minneapolis, died Jan. 6, 2012. Survived by wife of nearly 47 years, Gloria; daughter, Andrea (Scott Folland); granddaughters, Zoe and Stella; siblings Patrick (Kay), Mary Jo (Randy) Fox, Eugene (Sharon) Djubenski, nephews, other relatives and friends. Preceded in death by parents Michael Daniel Plautz and Mary Bernice Snedic Plautz Djubenski and stepfather Roger Djubenski. Graduate of the University of Illinois School of Architecture, co-founder of RSP Architects, author, teacher and Renaissance man. Memorials preferred to PSI ([www.psi.org](http://www.psi.org)), Wolf Ridge ELC, or Doctors Without Borders. Private interment Lakewood Cemetery. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 14, 2 PM with a visitation one hour prior to the service all at: [www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com) Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 West 50th St. & Hwy 100

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gloria, I spoke to Lynn today and she told me about Michael' s death. You and Andrea have my sympathy. Hope you are doing well in spite of your great loss. Val Peterson, Lake Havasu City, AZ*

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February 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mike's tennis buddies in Santa Fe just found out. We knew about the illness but his wonderful spirit never altered when he was with us. We already miss him and send our condolences to all his family and friends.*

~

*Michael Maremont,*

*Santa Fe, New Mexico*

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**Michael Maremont** - January 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Dear Gloria & family: We got the sad news, and it takes a while to accept it. Our sincere sympathy. Michael will be remembered as a colleague, partner, professional adversary (with a smile), but above all as a friend - with whom you could share your thoughts, concerns & always get encouraging advice. Eternal memory!

~

*Basil Filonowich,*

*seattle, Washington*

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**Basil Filonowich** - January 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Gloria, I'm so sorry to hear about Michael. Heaven got a great man. He will always be with you. I was glad to be one of the people he knew. Love to you and your family.... Jim and Connie Morgan

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January 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ *My family in America! Because Michael loved Slovenia and our language, I have to express my thoughts in Slovene. Nihce ne more verjeti, da je da je dalec, lahko tako blizu. In da lahko tako boli nekaj, kar se je zgodile tisoce kilometrov stran. Michala sem prvic srecala, ko se nišem hodila v šolo, sedaj pa sem prešla že 50! On je vzpostavil most med vami, moja družina v Ameriki in med nami tu v mali Sloveniji. Šel je z menoj prvi dan v šolo, nas obiskal, ko se je rodila naša Tjaša, nas povabil na prvo raziskovanje Toskane in na obisk v Ameriko. Koliko lepih trenutkov smo preživeli skupaj, koliko kotickov Slovenije smo prekrižarili skupaj. Kamorkoli se odpravim, povsod mi zastane korak in me prešine, tu smo bili skupaj, tu je Michael narisal eno od svojih mnogih cudovitih slik. Najprej je bil moj stric iz Amerike, nato pa še moj prijatelj. Gloria, Andrea, Patrick in Mary Jo bil je nekaj najboljšega, kar se je meni in moji sovnski družini zgodilo v življenju. Rada vas imam in vas vse skupaj želim cimprej objeti. Tako kot jaz mislijo tudi vsi moji! Marijana*

~

*Marijana Vugrin,*

*Kranj*

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**Marijana Vugrin** - January 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ Dear Gloria, I have been thinking of you and your family all week and send my warmest thoughts to you now. I was immensely sad to hear of Michael's passing; yet, gratitude so quickly overtook the sadness. I am deeply and sincerely grateful for the chance to know Michael and you -- and to have such creative and memorable opportunities to work with Michael, who was and will remain a wonderful inspiration.

~

*Heather Beal,*

*Edina, Minnesota*

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**Heather Beal** - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ To the Michael's family, Warren Jackson just notified me of Michael's death, and I am shocked and deeply saddened by the news. Warren and I were both disappointed not to see Mike and Gloria at the Greenwood High School 50th reunion last fall, but we had no idea he was ill. Mike was a great friend in high school, and Warren, Mike, and I had an unforgettable post-graduation canoe outing to the Boundary Waters Wilderness region, but then we each went our widely different ways, Warren to Alaska and I to Massachusetts, and never really connected again. Still, I never forgot Mike, and thought fondly of him and Gloria often, always thinking it would be great to reconnect, but never doing it. Please accept my heartfelt, deepest condolences on your loss, and know that I, too, miss him.

~

*Clif Fonstad,*

*Arlington, Massachusetts*

*Contact Me*

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**Clif Fonstad** - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

“Gloria/Andrea/Patrick, I know I am not telling you anything you don't already know but Michael was a truly great guy, He will be sorely missed. He has never been very far from my thoughts and especially so this last week since his passing. I don't use the term “great” lightly and would only use to describe a handful of people I have known in my life. Other descriptors for Michael that readily come to mind are talent, boyish enthusiasm, intellect, sense of humor, etc. One of the things I admired most about Michael was how non self-centered and what an “in-check” ego he had for someone with “Capital T” talent in almost every aspect of his life and being. Michael was a great joy to be around and someone you could just talk to and he would always seem to “get it”. Michael was instrumental in getting me to Minnesota and hence nearly everything that has happened in my life since 1980 if you look at it that way (a lot of good things, both personally and professionally). One of the other things that I will forever associate with Michael is just how hard he tried. Not so much perhaps at the things he was already good at but areas where he thought he could improve. Michael was not ashamed or embarrassed to not immediately be great at something and was willing to seek out others who might help him along on his path. To illustrate the point one of the few things that was better than Michael at was tennis and back in the 120 1st Ave North days we would sneak over to the Towers Condos tennis courts over the lunch hour, pick the lock on the gate and smack the ball around. Michael would invariably spray shots all over the place but it didn't deter or discourage him in the least. He was like a big puppy dog.... “Hit me another one!” he'd say and so it went. It didn't matter that balls weren't going in, he just loved the feeling of being outdoors and smacking it. Michael's contributions to both Art and Architectural are voluminous and speak for themselves, but I would still argue that he was a better person than either an artist or architect. The world is a diminished place without him. I will never forget him. My deepest condolences to you and all others who loved him. See you tomorrow.

~

*Bob Zakaras,*

*St. Paul, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Bob Zakaras** - January 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To the family of Michael Plautz, Six years older than I was a big gap when I knew Mike as the older brother of my classmate Pat in grade school and high school. He was always off doing something interesting, speaking in Slovenian, and making me wonder what else was possible in the world beyond Willard. Such a mystery for a much younger boy. Michael, thank you for that gift. May you find peace in remembering him and celebrating his life. My condolences for your loss. Jim Bayuk Pretoria, South Africa

~

James Bayuk,

Willard, Wisconsin

Contact Me

**James Bayuk** - January 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Gloria, I want to express my sincere condolences to you and you family on the passing of Michael. He will be remembered for his kindness, compassion, friendly spirit and his genuine love for people. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

~

*Doug Cooley,*

*Wayzata, Minnesota*

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**Doug Cooley** - January 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Gloria and Andrea, Nearly 40 years ago--before there was an RSP, Marianne and I sat in your warm and comfortable home on Dupont Ave. planning the home of our dreams--a dream that Michael's time and talents would bring to fruition. The watercolor interior drawings a glimpse of things to come in his lifetime and in your beautiful recent publication. We raised 3 kids in a home in which he so artfully captured our living events. We regret his passing and our failure to share with you the wonder of what he gave us so many years ago. But we rejoice each day in the knowledge that he shared his talents with so many others and that his creations will endure. Marianne and Phil Kanning, Shakopee

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January 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear Gloria, Our sincere condolences to you and your family on the news of Michael's passing. We will always remember the wonderful time we had with you and Michael when we visited Santa Fe in November. His smile, warmth and engaging personality were like a beacon drawing us in. The love and pride he had in his studio were clearly evident as he gave us the "tour." How I wish we could have had more good times together. Our love and prayers to you at this difficult time.

~

*Diane Sands,*

*Eden Prairie, Minnesota*

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**Diane Sands** - January 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“Gloria, I was so saddened to learn of Michael's passing and send my deepest condolences to you and your family. Michael was such an inspiration for me. His book "Draw" is such a wonderful, beautiful testament to his remarkable talent and his touching sensitivity to the world around us. I will keep his book close by my side to the end of my days. John Calvin Womack Stillwater, Oklahoma

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John Womack,

Stillwater, Oklahoma

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John Womack - January 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“Words can not express my sadness, I may have to draw it - he would understand. Mary Jo

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January 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Gloria and Andrea, The memories of Michael always will be cherished... I had a wonderful time with him at the book signing and had an opportunity to chat, to laugh, to look at the book together...All the best to you !Sincerely ,Elena P.*

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January 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AW

“Michael was the true Renaissance person; in this age of computerized technology, Michael never let go on eye and hand coordination, his painting, drawing and teaching skills, but enhanced our ability to observe nature, see ourselves, and create wonderful architecture and art in all dimensions. For me, he was a true role model, albeit, I didn't really get to know Michael until after our years at the University of Illinois. He will be sadly missed. Art Weeks, Artist; FAA, Univ. of Illinois, 1971

~

*Art Weeks,*

*Chaska, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

**Art Weeks** - January 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *our thoughts and prayers will be with you. michael taught me a lot, as he did so many others. i will miss himwith lovedoug*

~

*doug puryear,*

*santa fe, New Mexico*

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**doug puryear** - January 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ My sincere condolences to the family; I was so excited to see Mike at the "Versailles Reunion" in 2010. He was my favorite design crit at U of I. I'll never forget his legendary stories about traveling throughout Europe in the Volkswagen Beetle which inspired us all to go on the Versailles program. May God grant him the spiritual bliss that he so deserves.

~

*Marc Kalman Segel,*

*Evanston, Illinois*

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**Marc Kalman Segel** - January 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Let us now praise famous men."~~Agee~~Love,Vertins*

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January 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *brother, brother, burning bright, in the confines of the night...love Patrick*

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January 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Our deepest sympathy - he will be missed*

~

*Steve and Karen Sorensen,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Steve and Karen Sorensen** - January 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

S(

“ *What a beautiful and kind man; memories of eating, laughing, and playing at his house as a little girl.*

~

*Sara Tucker (Bennett-Steele),*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Sara Tucker (Bennett-Steele)** - January 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Your sweet, gentle way touched me deeply, your talent inspired. thank you for your encouragement, brother like support and unending friendship. I will miss you! Max Steele*

~

*Max Steele,*

*Kirkland, Washington*

*Contact Me*

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**Max Steele** - January 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Your sweet, gentle way touched me deeply, your talent inspired. thank you for your encouragement, brother like support and unending friendship. I will miss you! Condolences to Gloria, Andrea, Patrick and family. Max Steele*

*Contact Me*

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January 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM