



Michael Joseph Roach

October 6, 1953 - November 30, 2020

Roach, Michael Joseph 67, died of lung cancer on November 30, 2020. Born to Margaret "Shirley" and Edward Roach on Oct 6, 1953 in Newark, New Jersey. Predeceased in death by his parents and sisters, Ellen Earth and Kea Roach. Survived by Ellen's best high school friend and his wife of 35 years Louanne Bernadette Hipp. Survived by his siblings Stephen (Sandra), Mary Roach, Sue Roach (Roger Hahn) and many nieces and nephews. He graduated from the International School of Brussels (ISB). From the University of Minnesota he earned a Bachelor's Degree (BA) in Agriculture and a Professional Engineering (PE) degree. Joined the Peace Corps and was in El Salvador during the civil conflicts. He was a quick study with music. He was a vocalist, played the piano, clarinet, flute and some mean drums. He was the solo flutist in his high school Christmas program. Considered a career in music, but choose academia instead. Was an excellent motorcyclist. Loved to travel, loved maps and driving the country roads. Picked up languages quickly and was fluent in Spanish. Was an avid reader of political and historical biographies and Patrick O'Brien seafaring novels. He was a very intelligent and witty guy. In high school, he took on the challenge to memorize and recite a poem that delighted all his classmates - he recited the "Yarn of the Nancy Bell "a 4 line, 23 verse humorous mariners poem. There was no class time left for anyone else! Was very proud to be recognized as a well respected and rather unique PE, in that he had the gift of gab. He enjoyed the legal challenges of any construction claims, and with his professional

documentation could hold his own in court. He will be missed by all that knew him! Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall

LS

“ Hello, Louann. I was saddened to find Mike’s obit in the newspaper. Please accept my sincere condolences. I think about you often and remember the days we spent together on DFL campaigns. Mike always had an opinion and an interesting perspective on daily events. I hope you are doing well. Linnea



Linnea Sodergren - December 07, 2020 at 08:57 AM

DS

Mike was a clever and humorous guy. I own my success in getting an Engineering degree to him. He persuaded me to apply to the U of M and was my mentor and roommate for 2 years. I also enjoyed going on motorcycle trips with him years ago.

Dale Studenski

Dale Studenski - December 14, 2020 at 09:29 AM