



## Michael Joseph Swords

May 18, 1955 - January 26, 2021

Swords, Michael Joseph age 65, passed away peacefully at home on January 26, with his wife by his side, following a courageous year battle with Pancreatic Cancer. He was born on May 18, 1955 to Richard & Betty (Seibert) Swords in Mansfield, OH. He lived in Ohio until the family moved to New Brighton, MN in 1971. He graduated from St. Anthony Village HS in 1973 & the U of M Carlson School of Management in 1983. In his earlier years he worked for Montgomery Wards, Watson-Forsberg, owned & operated Swords Construction & for the past 25 years worked for Friendly Chevrolet. He married his high school sweetheart Mary (Meister) Swords on July 31, 1976 & from that day forward, they shared a love that few are blessed to experience in their lifetime. He was a loving husband & an incredible dad to Tim & Christi whom he was so proud of. He cherished being Papa to Evelyn & father-in-law to Katie. Mike was an amazing man who inspired us with his determination & will to live. He continued to work from home while undergoing treatment, completed his to-do-list, & made it past his goal of a year since diagnosis. He enjoyed spending time with family & friends, traveling, golfing, attending festivals, the MN State Fair, collecting memorabilia, & getting a good deal. Regardless of how you knew him (family, friend, customer), we were blessed to be loved by this wonderful man & will forever miss & cherish the love, values, work ethic, & memories he shared with us. He will be deeply missed & forever loved by his family & so many others whose lives he touched. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Mary, loving children son Tim (Katie) &

daughter Christi, 2 granddaughters Evelyn Swords & baby Swords due in April, mother Betty Swords, sister Kathe (Ted) Leon, brothers Steve, Bob, & Dick (Vicki), uncle Dick (Lynn) Seibert & aunt Ann Zulliani, brother-in-law Bill (Julie) Meister, sister-in-laws Judy Murphy & Kathy Meister, & special nieces, nephews, & cousins. Preceded in death by his father Richard, brother David, & in-laws Al & Ardyth Meister. A private Mass of Christian burial will be held on Saturday, February 6 at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Assumption. The link for the live stream is: [youtu.be/...](https://youtu.be/...) A celebration of life will be held later in 2021 when it is safe to gather. Rest in peace, Sweetheart. Washburn-McReavy.com Northeast Chapel 612-781-6828

# Tribute Wall

PM

“ *Mary and Mike's family,  
We just learned of your loss of Mike today, as we were in contact with friendly Chevrolet.  
We would Like to share our story of knowing Mike over the past 20 years. Years ago as we started our building business (Tristar Homes) , we came to know Mike at friendly Chevrolet. We were starting our business and needed trucks and cars for ourselves and employees. Over the years we have bought and sold only through Mike. We want you to know that Mike was so kind and caring and always wanted to know about us personally and not just to sell a car or truck. We got to know him and told everyone we knew about him and how fair and kind he was as a salesperson . He treated us so well . He shared his love of golf with us and for the short times we sat together we knew how much he loved you all. When we came in to buy our granddaughter her first car, Mike guided us as if it was for his daughter. He told us what we should get because his daughter's safety meant so much to him that he got the same car for her. (I believe it was a Chevy cruise)  
We trusted Mike so much and when we heard of his diagnosis, we were so saddened for him and you all. We knew how hard he fought. We loved talking with him and he was always so patient. We want you to know that he had to have touched many many people's lives just though his work. He passed away on my birthday (Patti-January 26) Just found that out today. I hope that you will find peace and healing and though you dont know us, we will remember him always. Our friendly Mike! May God bless and keep you and sorry we didn't know about his passing until today.  
Patti and Dan Mundt  
Tristar Homes*

---

**patti Mundt** - March 06, 2021 at 12:42 PM

BS

“ Dear Mary,

*I am so sad. I didn't know what was going on, and that's my fault. I remember years and years ago, like in the early '80's maybe, when a huge group of us were up north at Mark Iannazzo's cabin I think. We slept everywhere. In the morning, you and Mike got up and started cleaning around us. I saw you two, working side by side, laughing and playing. I thought... ahhhhh! THIS is what marriage is! I have measured every relationship I've ever had against that memory. So, thank you to you and Mike. I'm sending all of the peace, love and light I possess to you now in this hardest of times. All my love, Beth Soll*

---

**Beth Soll** - February 07, 2021 at 10:14 PM

TB

“ *The OBR team: Brian, Sarah, Maggie, Jason, Becca purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael Joseph Swords.*



---

**The OBR team: Brian, Sarah, Maggie, Jason, Becca** -  
February 02, 2021 at 03:56 PM



“ *I have a memory of being at Michael and Mary's at a Christmas Eve gathering with all of the Swords. There was a Christmas Exchange game, that was hilarious. We were so honored to have been invited, and love your family so much! My heart goes out to each of you with your loss of Michael! Love Mark and Sue Theorin*

---

**Susan Theorin** - January 29, 2021 at 08:45 AM

ER

“ Dear Swords Family,  
WE are deeply sorry for your loss. I hope you  
an take comfort in knowing that Michael is no  
longer in pain and is now resting in peace.  
Libby & John Ryder



Elizabeth ryder - January 28, 2021 at 02:16 PM

RS

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Robert Swords - January 28, 2021 at 10:23 AM

ER

beautiful photos!

Elizabeth ryder - January 28, 2021 at 02:18 PM

SK

Mary and family I'm so sorry for your loss. It's been a long time since  
I've got together with him but I have great memories with him. He was  
a good friend.  
RSVP Mike

Scott Koch

Scott Koch - January 31, 2021 at 11:46 AM

MS

Thank you, Scott. I know Mike considered you a good friend even  
though it had been a while since you saw each other. you and I have  
both lost our loves way too soon.

Mary

Mary Swords - February 09, 2021 at 01:43 PM