



## Mike Poppens

September 10, 1936 - October 2, 2014

Marvin "Mike" Poppens, 78 year old resident of Little Falls, MN, passed away on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at his residence. A Memorial Service will be held at 11 AM on Friday, October 10, 2014 at Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls with a visitation one hour prior to the service.

Mike was born on September 10, 1936 at the family farm near Lennox, SD to the late Lucas and Tena (Naatjes) Poppens. He was an avid sports fan from an early age and attended Lennox High School where he excelled in basketball and baseball. He won the state American Legion Jr. Player of the Year award as a pitcher in 1953, leading his team to a state championship. He was equally fond of basketball, playing all four years of high school and averaging over 25 points per game. Mike pitched for two years with a minor league baseball team in Florida from 1955 to 1957, before injury shortened his career. In later years he became an avid golfer.

Mike was united in marriage to Cecelia Spencer on November 8, 1957 in Lennox, SD. Mike then began a 50 plus year career in agriculture including 20 years at Cargill, and then working for several other companies in sales and grain management. Mike and Cecelia moved to Little Falls, MN in 1994, where Mike worked for Barret Agriculture and UAP at Pierz Co-Op.

Mike and Cecelia lived in several locations in Minnesota and Iowa. Three sons were added to the family and Mike enjoyed watching their sports activities, and was very proud of their accomplishments as they grew and began their careers. His three children, eight grandchildren and one great grandchild were

his greatest joy. He loved fishing with his children and grandchildren, watching and talking sports, and going for long drives viewing crops, cattle and historic sites, especially from the Civil War. Many of his former customers remained his good friends, and gave him the chance to discuss farming, the Twins and the Vikings. Phone calls from his sons and grandchildren always brought him happiness and talking sports was always on his mind.

Mike is survived by his wife, Cecelia and their three sons: Dudley (Gretchen) of Mt. Pleasant, SC, Michael (Trina) of Spokane, WA, and James (Danielle) of Marietta, GA; eight grandchildren: Clint of Seattle, WA, Chelsea (Jason) of Naperville, IL, Matthew of Boulder, CO, Meg of Urbana, IL, Olivia of Los Angeles, CA, Elizabeth of Mt. Pleasant, SC, Andrew of Marietta, GA, and Jack of Mt. Pleasant, SC; one great granddaughter: Adalyn of Naperville, IL, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lucas and Tena Poppens, and his sister, Vera Jean DeVries.

Honorary Pallbearers will be his grandchildren.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mike Poppens*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I met and knew Mike when he was playing baseball in Florida...he has always held a very special place in my heart...I am shocked and saddened to hear of his death. It sounds as though he had a full and happy life....I am so glad!*

**an old friend** - December 04, 2014 at 09:49 PM



“ *Hi Dad, it has been 5 weeks since I last saw you and not a day goes by I don't think of you. Some things remain the same; the Twins are bad, the Vikings only marginally better and the NBA still stinks. What's not the same is life since you died. I have waited for 4 weeks to write because I have not been sure how to say what I want to say. I know how now - I miss you and love you.*

*Dudley*

**Dudley Poppens** - November 06, 2014 at 12:22 AM



*What a great family, Marvin as I knew him and Cecilia welcomed me since I was friends with son Michael, I played sports with Dudley and Mike, even remember Jim, playing basketball in driveway Perry and they all welcome me for dinner, I never forget, RIP*

**Kim Davenport** - March 28, 2021 at 02:03 PM



“ *Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of Mike Poppens.*



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October 09, 2014 at 04:24 PM



“ *From All of us at PIERZ COOP purchased the Sentimental Dreams for the family of Mike Poppens.*



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**From All of us at PIERZ COOP** - October 08, 2014 at 08:57 AM



“ *Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Mike Poppens.*



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October 08, 2014 at 07:47 AM

FR

“ My wife Judy and I have only had the short opportunity to know Mike and his wife. Most often we met at McDonald's and share a little time over a cup of coffee. He made a wonderful difference in our lives as it is as if we had know him most if not all of our lives. We talked about Christ often and the richness he felt in knowing Jesus as his Lord and Savior. It pleases us greatly to think that someday we can join Mike again in conversation over a cup of coffee talking about the greatness of God and sharing the new happiness that we find in heaven. Father God, I thank you that you place Mike and his wife in our lives if only for a season in Jesus Name.

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**Frank Rebnord** - October 06, 2014 at 09:24 PM

RE

*Well said, Frank. Mike was very special to me, his friendship will always be cherished.*

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**Rob Esse** - October 07, 2014 at 12:31 PM

RE

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RE

“ Thanks for your friendship, Mike. I will sure miss our "baseball" discussions. Love to Cecelia and family.

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**Rob Esse** - October 04, 2014 at 05:31 PM

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**Rob Esse** - October 04, 2014 at 05:31 PM