



Kenneth Michael Hodges

October 5, 1956 - October 25, 2012

Kenneth Michael Hodges, lifelong resident of Cadillac, passed away on Thursday, October 25, 2012. He died unexpectedly of a heart attack in the arms of his son Aaron doing what he loved, motocross. Mike was 56.

Mr. Hodges was born October 5, 1956 to Margaret and Kenneth Hodges of Cadillac. He graduated from Cadillac Senior High School in 1974 and went on to earn his Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Information Systems from Ferris State College in 1985.

On August 7, 1982 he married Jan Marie Smith also of Cadillac. They both chose Cadillac as their home where they have lived and worked for over 30 years. Mike's incredible work ethic and knowledge of computer information systems, made him a valuable asset to Avon, Four Winns, CMI and the place he loved most because of the kids, the Marion School District where he ran their IT Department for the last 8 years. Mike and Jan had opportunities to leave the area but chose to remain in Cadillac to be close to family and friends.

Highest on Mike's list of priorities was spending time with Jan, Adam & Aaron. But he was also passionate about many things that extended beyond his family and employment. He had a positive affect on many young people and their families, especially during his years of coaching hockey, baseball, and

soccer. He was proud of being the hockey coach of the Cadillac Comets, Ice Dogs and Northern Leafs. Mike will be remembered by his teams for giving just two simple formulas for success in life: "First rule of success - SHOW UP!" and, "If it's meant to be, it's up to me." Because Mike lived what he preached, it was no surprise when he was awarded the 2006 Michigan Hockey Coach of the Year. He was an excellent athlete and enjoyed downhill skiing, baseball, hiking and motocross. You find insight into Mike's character when you discover that he would start each work day sending a short e-mail to Jan and the boys expressing a passing thought or observation that he wanted to share. Mike ended each of these special messages with an expression of the love he had for each of them.

Survivors include his wife Jan (of 30 years) and their two sons, Adam (23) and Aaron (17) of Cadillac, his mother Margaret (Margie) Hodges of Cadillac, sister Ketha (George) Rosingana of Virginia Beach, VA, mother-in-law Shirley Smith, sister-in-law, Kris Smith O'Neill (Regan), brother-in-law, Pete Smith (Connie) all of Cadillac, Aunts & Uncles: Fran Peterson of Cadillac, Vivian Donner of Jackson, Mary Fox (Ray) of Mesick, David Hodges (Phyllis) of Cadillac, Katy Johnson (David) of Tampa, FL, Honey Gibbs (George) of Alma, Roma Williams (Jerry) of Cadillac, nephews and nieces: Jake Rosingana (Jamie) of Virginia Beach, VA, Ben Rosingana (Carrie) of Lansing, Meghan Rosingana of Gaylord, Kyle O'Neill (Allison) of NYC, Devin O'Neill of Traverse City, Maggie Smith and Alex Smith both of Cadillac. He was preceded in death by his father Kenneth Hodges of Cadillac and his father-in law, Norm Smith also of Cadillac. Jan, Adam and Aaron want to give special thanks to Brandon Hill and his father, Stacy Hill, Cadillac, for their efforts to save Mike's life.

Friends may meet the family Monday, October 29, from 4-7 p.m. at the Peterson Funeral Home in Cadillac. Following the visitation a celebration of life for friends and family will be held at 7:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the home of

Kris & Regan O'Neill, 155 Davidsen Rd., Cadillac.

In lieu of flowers you are asked to consider a more lasting memorial to the Adam and Aaron Hodges Education Fund. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

SL

“ So sorry to hear of Mikes passing. Was looking for Ketha when I found this. Sounds like he was a great son/brother/father/husband. No surprise - loved your family!!

Shellee Jameson Lumbard - January 23, 2013 at 11:51 PM

JW

“ Jan, Adam and Aaron...we are so sorry to hear of Mike's death. We smile remembering him as the guy who could rescue each of us from any self-induced computer mishap at Four Winns. He was always kind, funny, patient and so stinkin' smart! Our thoughts and blessings are with you all.

John and Zita Winn - November 01, 2012 at 02:28 PM

GT

“ Iam shocked to hear of the news, Jan and family. Had some good times with Mike and his family when we were kids. I remember a day when Mike and I were the only ones at Diggins Hill. I helped him build a ski jump and he flew over a tall fence after racing down the hill. Always knew him as a great athlete and a great person. I am sorry for your loss. I've always enjoyed the times I spent with Margie and am hoping for the good memories to eventually give balance to this tradjedy. Even though I haven't been in touch in many years, I feel a personal loss.

Gary Telgenhoff - October 31, 2012 at 05:34 PM

KL

“ *As Mike's first cousin I have many fond memories of holidays spent together at the home of our Hodges grandparents. I am so very sorry to hear of Mike's premature passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all--Jan, Adam, Aaron, and Aunt Margie.*

Karin Peterson LaBarge - October 30, 2012 at 05:37 PM

CK

“ *Jan, so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your sons.*

Carol Kogler - October 30, 2012 at 02:05 PM

BV

“ *For Jan, Adam, Aron & Margaret . . .
What lies behind you
What lies ahead of you
Hardly matters as much as what lies within you
Within Mike, as well as his father, Kenneth was love of family,
friendship to others, honesty, strong ethics, integrity beyond belief,
helpfulness whenever needed, always available. He gave the world
his best and the best came back to him by proof of his celebration of
live Monday night.*

Bonnie VanHulst - October 30, 2012 at 12:29 PM

BV

“ Jan, Adam, Aron & Margaret-What lies behind us
What lies ahead of us
Hardly matters as much what lies within us
Within Mike, as with his father, Kenneth, was family love, respect for
life, honesty, integrity, loyalty, sharing, compassion for others.
When you give your best the best comes back to you. He did that
and it was seen Monday night when his life was celebrated.

Bonnie VanHulst - October 30, 2012 at 12:18 PM

RB

“ Jan, I am so sorry to hear about Mike. My thoughts and prayers are
with you and your entire family.

Rick Benson - October 30, 2012 at 08:08 AM

CK

“ I was saddened to hear of Mike's
passing. What a kind, warm and generous man who welcomed
Justin and my family with open arms as part of the Northern Leafs
hockey team. He always had a kind word to say to everyone and he
loved his family fiercely. He was a wonderful man and mentor who
really cared about the kids. My sympathy goes out to Jan and the
kids and I will never forget that smile.

Cherie Locke and Kids - October 30, 2012 at 01:40 AM

HB

“ I am the preschool teacher for Marion Head Start. We moved into the school building 2 years ago and that is when I met Mike. He had such a helpful and cheerful attitude all the time and reassured us that we were never a bother. A smile was always on his face and he was a joy to be around. What a loss to the school, community, and without a doubt his family and close friends. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Holly Bailey-Wiltzer - October 29, 2012 at 07:29 PM

MB

“ Mike was a wonderful person. I enjoyed the years he played Fastpitch Softball. One of the best that ever played the game. Jan, my heart and thoughts are with you and your sons.

Michael Blackmer - October 29, 2012 at 07:27 PM

JC

“ Coach Hodges was a wonderful mentor to me as well as everyone else that he associated with. As a great person and coach, he taught me about much more than just hockey, but more important things like how to be a true leader and to always live a meaningful and helpful life. Coach Hodges will be someone that I will never forget. Jan, Adam, and Aaron you will all be in my prayers.

Jake Carney - October 29, 2012 at 06:38 PM

CM

“ So sorry to hear about Mike. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to to you Jan and Adam and Aaron

Carl and Lu Meier - October 29, 2012 at 06:38 PM

CE

“ *Margie - So very sorry to read about Mike. Just sitting here remembering when we worked for Dr. Caszatt talking about our kids. My prayers are with you and his family.*

Carin Sosenko Ecker - October 29, 2012 at 04:55 PM

GB

“ *How we wish we could be with you all now. Our deepest sympathies in the too-early loss of such a good son, brother, husband and father and friend. Mike will be forever missed.*

Gerald, Beth Anne , and Elizabeth Rose Cox~~ Dick and Diane Brink - October 29, 2012 at 03:14 PM

WB

“ *My sympathy and prayers are with Jan and your sons.*

William Buisch - October 29, 2012 at 01:41 PM

PL

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Jan, Adam, and Aaron. We will never forget all the traveling baseball tournaments that Mike was such a big part of. Love to you all.*

Pam & Jesse Liebler - October 29, 2012 at 01:26 PM

LN

“ *Jan, my heart and thoughts are with you and your sons.*

Lori Hodge Nash - October 29, 2012 at 11:31 AM

AK

“ Mike was a great friend. I enjoyed the time working with him. I will remember the many conversation we had on hockey, how his kids were doing in sports or how my nieces and nephews were doing. He will be missed.

Anne Kohl - October 29, 2012 at 11:17 AM

JA

“ Mike was such a wonderful person to know. I enjoyed the time we were on the Wed. night ski league together. He was such a strong skier and a joy to watch down the hill. My sympathy to the entire family.

Jane Allison - October 29, 2012 at 10:50 AM

AW

“ From my first time on the ski team, Mike was the patient, caring mentor that he has always been. He was a very special person and a rare gem who will be missed by a whole generation in the Cadillac community. Our deepest sympathy to Jan and the entire family.

Anne Wohlford - October 29, 2012 at 10:49 AM

JC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Jan, Adam, and Aaron.

John & Linda Coffell - October 29, 2012 at 10:44 AM