

Michael James Norberg was born on January 21, 1944, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the first son of Glenn and Evelyn (Libuda) Norberg. He lived in Columbia Heights and Spring Lake Park, Minnesota before moving to Sauk Lake north of Sauk Centre, Minnesota in 1952. He graduated, with honors, from Sauk Centre High School in 1962. In 1966, he graduated from St. Cloud State College with a B.S. in Comprehensive Chemistry and a teaching degree allowing him to teach all sciences for grades 7-12.

On November 19, 1966, Mike was married to Grace (Kelly) Gerads, and they made their first home in Raymond, Minnesota where he taught science for 5 years. In 1971, he started teaching science for Willmar Public Schools at the Junior High and later the Senior High. He retired from teaching in 2005 after teaching for 39 years.

Mike was an active union member with the Minnesota Education Association MEA (now known as Education Minnesota), the Willmar Education Association WEA (now known as Education Minnesota-Willmar), Central Lakes UniServ, and Central Lakes United.

He served as president of the WEA and Education Minnesota -Willmar for 19 years, Communications Chair for 25 years, Continuing Education Chair for 40 years, and was a contract negotiator.

Mike also worked as a part-time movie projectionist for Willmar movie theaters from 1973 to 2002. He liked to garden, take care of his home, lawn, and driveway. He was often found in his workshop building and fixing things. From 2016 to 2024, he volunteered at the Kandiyohi County Historical Society, transferring birth and death records from microfilm to printed formats to improve access for genealogical history. Mike researched his own family ancestry and was proud of the Norberg-Libuda Family Tree and History Book he created.

He spent his life loving his wife and family, helping teachers, the teaching profession, students, and friends. Mike will be remembered for all his dedication to education. His sarcastic remarks, dad jokes, and little smile will not be forgotten.

Mike is survived by his loving wife, Kelly, and his four children, Jay (Sandra) Norberg of Pipestone, MN, Kyle (Nikki) Norberg of Sioux Falls, SD, Jodi (Cory) Backes of New London, MN, and Scot (Miranda) Norberg of Willmar, MN. He had 11 grandchildren - Zachary (Sydney), Whitney (Mason), Anna (Tate), Kayla (Jared), AJ (McKayla), Cody, Mason, Karlee, Alexis, Brynn, Landyn and 3 great-grandchildren - Selah, Samuel, and a great-granddaughter due in August.

He was preceded in death by his parents in 1981, and one younger brother Duane in 2013.

Celebrating the Life of



Mike Norberg

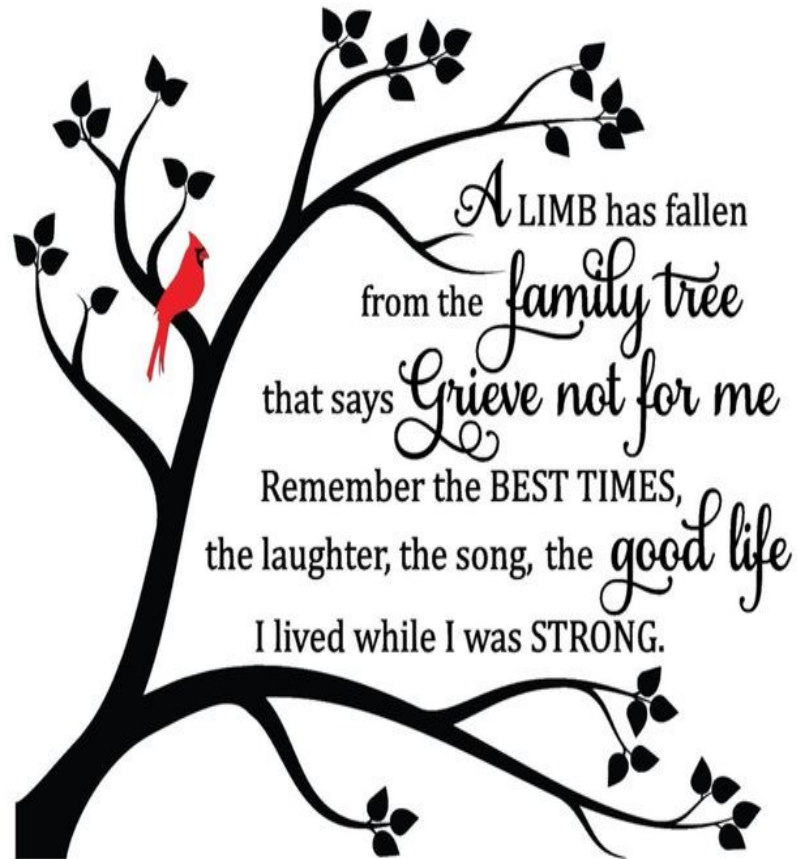
1944 — 2026

In Loving Memory Of

Mike Norberg

January 21, 1944
Minneapolis, Minnesota

February 25, 2026
Willmar, Minnesota



Mass of Christian Burial

Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.
Church of St. Mary

Celebrant

Fr. Ron Huberty

Music

Pianist: Terry Brunson
St. Mary's Resurrection Choir

Opening Song: "Amazing Grace"

Psalm Responsorial: "Shepherd Me O God"

Gospel Acclamation: "Praise And Honor"

Preparation of Gifts: "It Is Well With My Soul"

Communion: "On Eagle's Wings"

Song of Farewell: "The Hand Of God Shall Hold You"

Closing Song: "Michael Row Your Boat Ashore"

-Peter, Paul & Mary (cd)

Interment

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery
Willmar, Minnesota

Peterson Brothers Funeral Home
"Celebrating A Life Remembered"