

# Michael Morse Mooney

September 17, 1939 - April 8, 2024



Peacefully passed away on April 8, 2024, at the age of 84 during the solar eclipse. Beloved husband of the late Kathryn Mooney. Loving father of Sheila (Jason Hendricksen) Mooney. Proud grandfather of Daniel and Thomas Hendricksen. Brother of Sheila (the late Larry Millard), Nora (Jim Ahlen) and the late Dan Mooney. Brother-in-law of Dorothy Johnson (the late David Johnson). Rough-housing uncle of Cathy, Jennifer, Patrick, Paul, and Jack. Further

survived by other loving relatives, long-time friends, fellow writers, dog walkers, sailors, and one naughty dog.

He attended Dartmouth College, where he played football and rugby\*, before turning his interests to medieval literature at the University of Edinburgh and UW Madison, where he received his PhD. He and Kathy enjoyed a long, happy marriage. Together, they hitchhiked through Europe, sailed Lake Michigan, and ventured along the Mississippi in nifty hats with friends.

He worked for many years in real estate, managing the Marshall Building and watching the Third Ward transform. Mike also wrote fiction every day, publishing a novella and two short story collections. He loved Yeats, Conrad, Miles Davis, The Sopranos, Bach, and Cafe Lulu. He especially enjoyed sailing in Milwaukee and Door County. "Navigare necesse," his tee shirt read.

In lieu of a formal service, we will celebrate Mike's and Kathy's lives in the summer of 2024 in a memorial service at Cafe Lulu. Please check back for updates.

Memorials may be made to the [Milwaukee Center for Children and Youth](#) (317 W. National Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53204) or [The Urban Ecology Center at Riverside Park](#) (1500 E. Park Place, Milwaukee, WI 53211).

\* As a sophomore, Mike was a member of the Dartmouth teams that toured both England and California during the 1958/1959 school year. He was a sturdy member of the scrum, and was actually the first of the 19 Dartmouth lads to play in England. Dartmouth's first game was played against Dick Liesching's hometown team of Haslemere. When putting a team together to play us, one of Haslemere's other teams that day was short a player, and Mike (aka "Moon Man") volunteered to play for Haslemere in a game that preceded Dartmouth's first game in England on Sunday, December 14, 1958 (that game being the first time a U.S. college team had played rugby in England).