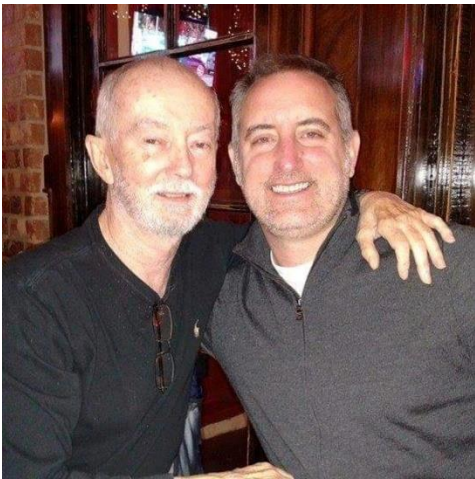


A Tribute to Mike O'Neill

by
Son Brendon

Today, we lost my hero, my role model, my dad, Mike O'Neill. He passed away this morning at the age of 80 due to multiple organ failures as a result of his diabetic neuropathy. My mom and I saw him today and spent a couple of hours saying our goodbyes. He went peacefully and was not in any pain, which we were all happy for.

You see many posts of lost parents; you think about what you will say and what you will show. This picture was one of our best, and while I have more recent ones, this is one that I will remember on my mind the most.



While we may have social media, I am happy that I have the pictures in my mind, the lessons that he taught me and the times we had together. He got to see me marry the woman of my dreams when we thought we had lost him to sic bypass heart surgery just a year earlier. He traveled across the country twice with me, once when he moved me to California and once when we moved him and mom.

He always tried to help me be a better swimmer even though he could not swim by teaching me that working the mind was just as important as training the body. We shared a love of sports, mainly the Yankees.

He taught me to be the best man, best husband, best son, and best person that I could be, and I will miss him every day. I know that he is in heaven using his legs again like he was running those bases or on the basketball court in high school! I love you Dad!



Your dad is in 1st row far left.