



## Michael B. Cerney

February 5, 1958 - April 9, 2023

Michael B. Cerney, 65, passed away at his home on April 9, 2023. He was born February 5, 1958, in Chicago and has been a Libertyville resident since 1989. He grew up in Edgewater, where he fell in love and married his wife, Kate, in 1985.

He attended St. Ita's Catholic School and was a 1976 graduate of Loyola Academy. Mike received a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology from the University of Illinois, where he was an elite rugby player.

Over the course of his career at Abbott Laboratories, he worked as a microbiologist before moving to marketing and sales. He excelled in no small part due to his quick wit and charisma, which he later brought to ArcherDX. Mike was an avid Chicago White Sox and Blackhawks fan and enjoyed gardening and cooking, and most of all, eating. He loved telling stories and bringing joy to anyone he met. He was an elite youth sports coach as well, never missing one of his kids' games.

He is survived by his wife, Kate; three children, Brenden and John Cerney, Mary (Ian) Wojcikiewicz; sister, Mary (the late Terry) Johnson; two brothers, Tim and Bill (Geryl) Cerney; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his sister, Patti (Bob) Ackley, and his parents, Russ and Margaret Cerney.

Funeral Mass will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 14, at St. Joseph Church, 121 E. Maple Ave. Libertyville. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at church. Memorial donations may be made to the Myasthenia Gravis

Foundation at [www.myasthenia.org](http://www.myasthenia.org). Arrangements by Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, For Info: (847)362-3009 or please share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ I am late in the game on all this! I am so heartbroken to hear of Mike's passing and my heart goes out to all of the family. We were neighbors in Libertyville and would connect from time to time. I loved his spirit....always laughing - such a happy go lucky human being and a fantastic dedicated family man. Mike will be sorely missed!!!!

*Cindy Beals Matzl*

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**Cindy Matzl** - April 27, 2023 at 10:23 AM

BW

“ Mike was my mentor when I started working for Abbott. We had so many great trips together traveling all over KY and TN. A great teacher and many memorable events over the years. Mike played a huge role in my professional development and for that I am very thankful.

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**Bryan Witajewski** - April 19, 2023 at 09:08 PM

JO

“ I have someone's lost cellphone. I'd tell you to call me, but I have your phone. Email me. [Jmcerney28@gmail.com](mailto:Jmcerney28@gmail.com)

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**John** - April 14, 2023 at 08:26 PM

JG

“ Hello Kate and family, it pains me to just learn of Mike's passing. It has been ~30 years since the Abbott Lab days, but Mike was one of my most favorite people. Funny, genuine, kind, mischievous, a good teacher, hard worker and loved you all very much. I have a lot of memories, like the time he broke my ribs just before a scuba trip to Bali. I remembered him everyday of that trip! The time one of his kids was sleeping in the high chair and he asked me NOT to wake the baby up, but picking the baby up changed that! Many memories, including every time I came over, the kids always threw food onto my clean shirt from the high chairs. I am sorry for your loss and my wish to visit him after so many years. I am out in Blue Bell PA now after living many places after Chicago with my family. Mike was my pal and I will miss him! With Kind Regards, John Geisler (john@geislerfamily.com)

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**John Geisler** - April 14, 2023 at 01:08 PM

SJ

“ I worked with Kate at Kakenmaster's and had the pleasure of meeting Mike. My deepest sympathy to all. May the wonderful memories that he helped to make get you through this difficult time.

*Sandy Janik-Wojahn*

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**Sandra H Janik-Wojahn** - April 14, 2023 at 11:06 AM

RK

“ Mike was a joy to be around and a great Abbott MDx team mate. He was known for his humor, honesty and dedication with a great bead on life. I especially appreciated his easy-going attitude in the face of challenges, his truthfulness and candor with and ability to creditably speak truth-to-power. He was a class act all around. My heartfelt condolences go out to the entire Cerney family and loved ones.

*Rob Koska*

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**Rob Koska** - April 13, 2023 at 12:09 PM

TD

“ I met Mike in 2018 and was privileged to call him and friend and colleague ever since. He was passionate about helping kids with cancer and making the world a better place. He was also passionate about the Illini, so I'd get random texts either ecstatic or infuriated with our alma mater's play! Gone too soon. He will be sorely missed. God's blessings to his family and loved ones.



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**Todd Druley** - April 13, 2023 at 10:40 AM

DC

“ My deepest condolences go out to the entire Cerney family. Mike was a classic kid from a close knit Edgewater neighborhood where we all grew up. Athletic, good natured, and just a kind gentleman. I pray for the Cerney family today, my thoughts are with all of you.

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**Dennis Connelly** - April 13, 2023 at 07:47 AM

JD

“ John Carrino & Trisha Dowling purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Michael B. Cerney.



John Carrino & Trisha Dowling - April 13, 2023 at 05:21 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael B. Cerney.



April 12, 2023 at 08:42 PM

KW

“ I am an Abbott colleague, who as other have said, was very fortunate to have worked with Mike. Although, it's been a while since we worked together, I can readily recall his smile, his laugh and his total joie de vivre!  
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May the soul of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Kim Wilber-Mader - April 12, 2023 at 03:43 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michael B. Cerney.



April 12, 2023 at 03:38 PM

KA

“ I had the pleasure of working with Mike both at ADD and AMD. Mike was my sales specialist for the LCX product line and then he was the Molecular products guru! Mike was always so supportive and so intelligent! He was always the person you wanted by your side when you were meeting with the top professionals in the molecular field. Mike always was happy to see you and made everyone feel special with his smile, kind words and his booming, welcoming voice! I was truly blessed to have known Mike! I am sure he is already blessing people in his Heavenly home!

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**Karen Adams** - April 12, 2023 at 12:39 PM

PL

“ Mike was truly larger than life with abundant energy and an infectious sense of humor. He was always willing to teach and share what he knew and I learned so much from him over the years at Abbott. May Mike rest in Eternal Peace. 🙏 Paul Landauer

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**Paul Landauer** - April 12, 2023 at 12:38 PM



“ Mike was awesome. I worked with Mike at Abbott for many years. I learned so much from Mike. He was terrific, funny, and brilliant. He will be missed by so many. I know Mike's family was indeed the most significant thing in his life and he cherished them. Heaven received a gift in Mike. I pray that the family will find some peace in God's grace. -Lee Brown

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**Lee Brown** - April 12, 2023 at 12:16 PM

JP

“ I had the awesome pleasure of working with Mike for a few years. He was a great mentor who was both unbelievably smart and absolutely hilarious. I count myself very lucky to have crossed paths with him.

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**John Pavletic** - April 12, 2023 at 11:32 AM

MH

“ Mike was a force of nature and the truest of friends. He convinced me to go into sales & supported me always. I will always remember the fun times & how he made you feel like the center of the world. He gave more than 100% to all that he believed in. His family was so integral a part of his life & he loved to talk about them & share personal stories. I hope that his family knows how deep and constant was his love for you!

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**Marcy Hackbarth** - April 11, 2023 at 09:40 PM