
Noel Mickelsen(1934 - 2014)

Mickelsen, Noel SAN DIEGO -- Noel Mickelsen was born in Oto, Iowa on August 15, 1934. He passed away September 28, 2014 with his loving family at his side. His parents, Elmer and Gretta Mickelsen moved from rural Iowa to Spring Valley, CA when Noel was two. He attended Grossmont High School where he met the love of his life Joan Butterworth. He was the first Student Body President at the newly opened Helix High School and was in the first graduating class. Upon graduation, Noel attended SDSU and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. As a stand out 6'6" athlete he played baseball and basketball and was a four-year letterman in both sports. His baseball jersey was later retired and he is a Hall of Fame member at Tony Gwynn Stadium. After college, he signed a professional baseball contract with the Milwaukee Braves. He pitched in that organization for eight seasons. In the off-season he was an assistant basketball coach and taught Physical Ed Classes at SDSU while earning his masters. In 1962 Noel began the baseball and basketball programs at Grossmont College. The baseball field there is named in his honor. Noel was a Holiday "Red Coat," serving on the Hospitality, Team Selection, and Hoops at the Beach committees. Noel cherished the vacations, holidays, and time spent with his family. He is survived by Joan, his loving wife of 59 years, his children Jill Mickelsen Soto of La Mesa, Kelly Mickelsen Yoshida (Ron) of San Diego, Jay Mickelsen (Aenea) of El Cajon, four sisters, Sharmel McCarthy, Chloe Bradshaw, both of La Mesa, Sally Willey of Newcastle, CA and Karen Mickelsen Douda of Alpine, and sister-in-law Barbara Vockner of Anchorage, AK. Also his adored grandchildren, Kylie, Cory and Shelby Yoshida, Tyler Soto and Grant Mickelsen. A celebration of life will be held on November 7th at 2pm at the La Mesa Community Center Arbor View Room 4975 Memorial Drive, La Mesa 91942. Donations in Noel's memory may be made to: UCSD Foundation Moores Cancer Center.

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