

Celebrations

MINI DONUT HALF MARATHON & RYAN'S GANG 5K RUN/WALK

The Mini Donut Foundation would like to send a big **THANK YOU** to every runner, sponsor and volunteer that made our event a huge success on September 16, 2017. Because of your support, over \$16,000 was raised for Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Education.



We want to thank the following sponsors and families:

Jon Smith Memorial; Joe Was Just Joe Foundation; Marcie's Pet Spa; River Trail Cycles; Grand Bluff Running; Rock n Ride; WXOW; Uptown Cycle; Designz; Driftless Bike n Bean; Organic Valley; Trempealeau Hotel; Reinhart Foods; Dan-O's Donuts; Miller Quick Print; Gundersen Lutheran; Serigraphics; Spillway Pub; Shear Perfection; Crossfit – La Crosse; Altra; LHI; Schubert Bros Termite; The Ridge Restaurant & Bar; Friends & Family of Chad Kamrowski; Cody Wozney Fmaily; Kevin's Legacy; T.W. Stone Trucking; Kwik Trip; Heather Armstrong, Pepsi; Rod's Ride on Powersports; Olson Family; Goede Family; Goosebumps Run/Walk; La Crosse Suicide Prevention Initiative; St. Joes County Market; Onalaska Athletic Booster Club; Onalaska Police Dept; Trempealeau Police Dept; WI DNR; Trempealeau First Responders; and Brice Prairie First Responders.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



Thank You For Making the August 30 Northside Family Celebration a Success

- Logan-Northside Neighborhood Association
- Northside Business Association
- Combined Insurance Company
- Pogreba
- Sweet Shop
- Kwik Trip
- Festival Foods
- Loggers
- La Crosse Area Tavern League
- River City Rough Riders
- Borton Construction
- Root Down Yoga
- Trinity Lutheran
- Onalaska 1st Lutheran
- Hunger Task Force
- Dynamic Recycling
- American Legion
- Logan Sports Teams
- Neuie's Vogue
- Bottoms Up
- Bob Blascke
- Sandy and Tom Thompson
- Moon Chicken Band
- Double Take Band
- Jane Ayalin
- Mike Collins
- Gene and Pat Rochester
- Scott Schumacher

Happy Birthday Robert Mulder, Jr.

Robert Mulder, Jr.....or Father,

History has many people who are heroes to others. Everyone from Jesus to George Washington, from Ghandi to Mandela and back. It was nice growing up having not only someone who I look up to as my father but someone I want to model. That to me is a hero. You taught me to be fair, kind, humble and independent. You also gave me stubbornness, criticism, and to rebel when it was called for – thank you!

You're the stick from which I measure the greatness of a man. On your birthday I wanted to express a few thoughts on paper. Every person on earth knows their own personal history but I think it's important to hear from others the gratefulness, lessons and memories we impact upon each other during our lives from time to time, here are a few for you today.

Some of my earliest memories are walking to work with, sitting in your office, playing with all those "office toys" and then walking to the nursery later. Thank you for always being there for the sporting events, for the meetings, for the phone calls and favors. You never brought the stress of work home with you or didn't make enough time for us. I recall basketball games in the parking lot, throwing the football and countless pop flies of the baseball to all three of us as the twilight approached before dinner. I remember both you and mom at what I am sure seemed like a million school games, thank you for attending them. For myself personally you personified what many fathers would hope they do with their kids; teaching me to drive my first stick shift (About 20 years ago!), showing me how to field dress my first deer during November, giving me my first job and teaching me about business. For the stress of taking time off from your business, driving a few thousand miles away on family vacations to various parts of the United States – you and mom gave me the gift of exploring the world and opening our eyes past the town of West Salem, Wisconsin. As I grew I now know the effort it takes to do all the community activities you and mom took part in; 4-H, June Dairy Days, Floats in the parade, volunteering, Interstate fair, flag football coach, not to mention all the extras you did for your business and employees.

Love and character is measured many ways but for me today I call it your life. Going to work each day is something most of us will do for many years. It's becoming rarer still for someone to do the same job for 40 years as is the case in regards to your career and the nearly 10,000 days you spent growing a business. Add to that the pressure of being the business owner, administrator and the person who day in and day out helped keep the business rolling each year. Your career and business has provided thousands of people a salary and career. Finally you provided a service that some people would consider one of the hardest to pull off, especially as the daily administrator and owner. Being the leader of a business means daily interactions with your staff, family, friends and other owners over the years all while trying to stay neutral, fair and calm. It means changing with the times and as Bob Dylan's song lyrics say, "Times they are a changing." Working within five generations of people (The silent generation, baby boomers, Generation X, Millennials and now Generation Z) I am in absolute awe of how you finessed your way through the decades of Bell Bottoms to Yoga pants from rotary dials to smartphones! Staffing new hires, letting go, vacations, sick days, retirements, and holidays of all the thousands that have passed through your office door. With each generation you had to face different attitudes, ethics, personalities, fears, goals and environments each person brought to work along with the government and its oversight. You saw the rise of new ways to communicate, digital age of the internet and social media, I honestly don't know how you did it.

I have so many memories of helping you fill in for dishwashers, salting the sidewalks, light bulb checks, snowplowing, late night calls about water, drains, pipes, sucking up ankle deep water and all the hundreds of other problems you dealt with each night after the normal 8-5 job ended with little thanks. I thank you now, your dedication to getting it done yourself taught me the lesson of true tenacity and loyalty to one's word. Back then when you asked me for help I always looked at it as an adventure or a chance to make you proud of me.

Although I am thankful for the staff you surrounded yourself with I know it was you who had to bring it all together to make it work each day. You once told me the greatest asset is your work force. You never took anyone for granted as it has been a rule I have taken in life with me as I interact with family, friends, colleagues and customers.

I have no doubt you could have been a titan at a fortune 500 company if you wanted or could have been dropped into any situation and figured it out. West Salem was very lucky to get the benefit of your daily business savvy over the last four decades. If that wasn't enough you sat on the village board all those years, participated in the local political arena and showed real tenacity by throwing your hat into the ring for Village president. Most say and never do, most criticize without a solution. I am proud to say my father was neither of those.

Today if I were forming a business and picking my team I would you select you first and it wouldn't even be close to the second pick. Thank you for all these lessons about work and life and the balance between them.

Thank you for showing all of us what it means to love your spouse in marriage. Since June of 1980 Mom and you have been a spectacular example of what a strong, equal and successful marriage looks like. We both know that as I write this Mom deserves the same if not more credit for the things I write. I know we all have carried out those values in our own lives today. I also want to simply say thank you for the memory of the bond you had with my wife Catherine and for being a great, "Bob in Law," to her. Your words during her service would have sent her over the moon. Thank you Dad!

Another note is the idea of Jesus Christ: I found it easy to relate to the Lord as my earthly father loves me as does my heavenly father. In times of great happiness, sorrow and all the emotions in between I am ever grateful for you two to introduce the lord into my life and for all the Sunday mornings getting us up for church and Sunday school.

You and mom pulled off that delicate balance of letting kids learn about their mistakes while still keeping a watchful eye when we would stray too far from what is right. Thank you for allowing us to make mistakes and trust that we were learning from those as you taught us to be responsible. I am grateful that you never pushed us towards your goals you had for us as adults past common ones all parents hope for their kids. You allowed us to find our own path and today we are all self-sufficient, happy and hardworking people because of that. That continued over the last twenty years as you also maneuvered the delicate balance of going from parents of three small children to a set of three adults. We today not only want to spend free time with you both but also view you as trusted counselors, advisors and friends. I cherish all the laughs, conversations and advice. Your wisdom is shown in my niece and nephews, you and Mom are incredible grandparents – our family is very fortunate!

To sum up your life reads like an accomplishment page: Student who meets his love, goes to serve his country in the United States Navy overseas (thank you for your service 1972-1976), finds his love later in life, has a successful marriage that has run up to year 37 and growing, owns and runs a business, takes chances on other investments, has three kids, runs the business for almost 40 years, valued community member, takes trips, hunts and fishes among other hobbies, is an amazing father and husband, works hard, sets goals and accomplishes them, sells business, retires as a beloved father and grandfather! Who wouldn't want this? It takes a truly dedicated, talented and humble man to do this life, you're amazing Dad!

I could go on and on but I will add that you taught us about riches. You taught us that money is a tool to use in life but it truly will not make you happy. You and mom taught us the value of family, friends, time well spent and the memories you can look back on. And because of that Dad you are the richest man I know.

So today on your birthday (October 7th, 1952), I hope you feel the love, support, adoration and thankfulness of our entire family for the man you have been and are today. I know I can speak for my sister Sarah Buxton and my brother Matthias Mulder when I say I am proud of my Father Robert Mulder, Jr. I can only hope that someday my kids look up to me as we all have to you! I am honored to be your son.

Happy Birthday Dad

-Love your oldest,

Jared