

Mike Parker, the CFBA's former General Manager passed away on Saturday September 17th, 2016. He was the strength behind the Board of Directors for the Canadian Farm Builders Association for nine years. During his tenure he provided his enthusiastic commitment to our unique farm building industry. He was not afraid to challenge us to achieve our goals. He was always ready to aggressively overcome obstacles to achieve successful outcomes for our members. Mike could see the big picture and offer his opinions to let the Association plan for the future. Mike was instrumental in getting more sponsorships, more members, organizing events, and slowly but surely putting together some of the organizational infrastructure that we still realize the benefit of today.

Mike was genuinely liked and respected for his infectious positive approach. He was not afraid to ask others to pitch in when needed. We all answered his request because we knew we were helping someone who did more than what was expected. Mike made connections throughout our industry and seemed to know everyone. He was a great ambassador for the CFBA. As a long time member and a member of the Board serving with Mike, I want to say "thank you, Mike ". We at the CFBA have been honoured to share a small part of his adventure in life. He will be remembered by those that knew him and worked with him. He was a friend of the Association, and we are grateful that we had the opportunity to know him.

They say to have just one friend in life is the greatest treasure. We have lost a true friend with the passing of Michael Parker. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Army Navy and Air Force Veterans Club, 151 Lorne Ave E, Stratford, on Sunday October 30th, 2016. You are welcome to join representatives from the CFBA in honouring Mike's memory.

Gary van Bolderen