

Remembering Mickey Low

By Cindy Vogels

Our family lost a close friend, but the dog community too, lost a good friend when Mickey Low, husband of Take The Lead Board of Trustee member Linda, passed away on August 25 after a near ten-year battle with cancer. Mickey bore the pain and indignity of countless surgeries, procedures, and therapies with inordinate strength and courage. With Linda at his side, they never gave up hope, planning for a cancer-free future, while taking full advantage of every minute of respite from the ravages of that unfair disease.

In his eulogy, Mickey and Linda's dear friend and cousin, Michael Kimelman, lovingly quipped that Mickey was the perfect CEO, but he was *everyone's* CEO.

Mickey was passionate about everything and everyone, and there was never any question where he stood on any issue. He was fiercely loyal, played hard, and played for keeps. His affections ran deep, as did his animosities. With Mickey, life was about doing the best and being the best, and he wanted everyone to embrace his quest for excellence. No less would do. Mickey was consummately clever, always thinking, and always more than willing to share his winning formula. And, for those willing to embrace the plan, there was never a dull moment.

As I baked pound cake for the Bake The Lead sale, my thoughts were of Mickey, grinning as we walked in the door as houseguests at their Arizona home, watching as I unwrapped the package, acknowledging, "pound cake?" Almost immediately, there was usually a big chunk gone.

Then, at the Bake Sale, someone at the booth said, "Hey, who's going to organize the money?" We all looked around. That was Mickey's self-appointed task. Mick...it's just not the same without you!