Mark McDonald

September 6, 1947 - October 28, 2013

On October 28, 2013, Mark R. McDonald passed away after a long, tough battle with Crohn's disease and congestive heart failure. Mark was born on September 6, 1947 in Ann Arbor, MI. He grew up in the Burns Park neighborhood. As a youth, Mark loved to play hockey. He played and was captain of the Ann Arbor Pioneer hockey team from 1961-1965. After high school, Mark continued to play hockey with a semi-pro hockey team in Marquette, MI. In 1974, Mark graduated from Eastern Michigan University with degrees in Political Science and English. After college, Mark began work with Wilson White Co., a local property management firm, after responding to an ad in the paper. Mark worked for Wilson White Co. for over three decades, from 1975 until 2006, eventually becoming the company's President and CEO. In 2006, Mark left Wilson White Co. and started his own property management firm, McDonald Management, along with his wife, Judy McDonald. Mark was very active in helping the community through his commitment to numerous local organizations. Mark was a founding director of the Ann Arbor Apartment Association in 1983, where he later served on the Board of Directors as both the Vice President and the President. Mark also served as a Director of the Property Management Association of Michigan and the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors. In 2012, Mark received a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to the Property Management Association of Michigan. Mark was dedicated to providing homes to everyone, especially those in need. In 2009, Mark received an award for his contributions and service with the nonprofit group SOS Community Services, where he helped provide homeless families with access to food, housing, and shelter. When Mark wasn't working, he spent most of his time with his family and friends. Mark and his wife, Judy, spent a lot of their time at their cottage in Houghton Lake, a place he visited since he was child. He was the host of many family gatherings and made annual trips to Tip Up Town USA with his best friend, Tom Lovell. Tom and Mark also enjoyed vacationing with their families in the Bahamas, where they spent time fishing and celebrating life. Mark is survived by his wife, Judy; daughter, Heather; step-son, Aaron; sisters, Laura, Katie, and Sue; his grandson, Jalen; and his dog, Max. He was preceded in death by his mother, Marilyn; daughter, Katie; and brother, Scott. Mark and his family are very thankful for the loving care he received from the staff at Evangelical Homes in Saline through journey's end. A memorial visitation for Mark will be held Thursday, October 31, 2013 from 4-6 PM at the Nie Family Funeral Home, 3767 W. Liberty Rd. Ann Arbor 48103. A memorial service will be held Friday, November 1, 2013 at 2 PM at the Nie Family Funeral Home, 3767 W. Liberty Rd. Ann Arbor, 48103. Please visit Mark's personal webpage at www.niefuneralhomes.com.