
Fred Rogers - Affiliation: 1981

I am so glad you are honoring Mike Cross on his retirement. He is such a wonderful man, quiet, humble always with a smile and a pleasant word for you when you pass him in the hallway which he always kept in immaculate condition. I was a medical student back in the 1970s and 1980s and even this past fall when I ran into him in the hallway his face lit up with recognition as if he had found a long lost friend. I am only one of probably tens of thousands of people who have passed by him in the 40 years he has worked there and yet I don't doubt that he knows almost every one of them. UVM Medical School has been enriched enormously by his loyal service and there is going to be a huge gap in the hallways and rooms of the medical school once he leaves. Please give him my best on his retirement and tell Godspeed and enjoy himself- he has certainly earned it!

Fred Rogers

Morris Earle - Affiliation: 1983

I first met Mike 40 years ago, in 1979 as a new medical student. He was always friendly and welcoming and made the time to chat and check in with how things were going. He contributed a lot to the friendly atmosphere of the medical school. My classmate Lynn Luginbuhl had the same experience. After Lynn and I got married and had children, two of them went to the College of medicine also, Ben Earle, class of 2016 and Will Earle, class of 2020. Mike was the same welcoming presence to them even before he knew they were related to us. Whenever I have gone back to the medical school he has always remembered me and asked after the family. He will be sorely missed and contributed a lot to the great Uvm experience. Morris Earle, class of 1983

Lynn Luginbuhl - Affiliation: 1983

Thank you for your wonderful welcoming smile and your phenomenal memory for medical students. You remembered me after 35 years! When our two sons were there as medical students you remembered that my husband and I had gone there as well. You will be so missed!

Ed Terrien - Affiliation: 1987

Mike has been a constant at the COM and now the LCOM. Always nice to see him, even on my rare occasions to get to the LCOM. Wishing him the best.

Peter Thompson - Affiliation: 1987

Congratulations on your retirement!

I am half retired myself! Have fun and good luck!

Art Papier

Affiliation: 1988

Hey Mike, not sure if you remember me, but I remember you and your warmth and helpfulness. Thanks for your dedication! Enjoy retirement!! Art Papier

Mary Cushman - Affiliation: 1989

Dear Mike,

It was always so nice to see your smile and steady presence in the halls of the med school. You are part of our family and we will miss you. Bill and I wish you the very best in retirement, which I trust will include antiques and collectibles!

Mary Cushman

Marco Dirks - Affiliation: 1990

Hi Mike: congrats with your retirement! Thanks for everything you've done and how you've always been so great to everyone. I'm always amazed how you remember everyone's name. Best of luck in your retirement adventures.

Philip Katzman - Affiliation: 1991

Although it's been 27 years since I graduated, I still remember Mike taking brief breaks from his work to talk with me, which made me feel more at home! Even though the accompanying photo of him shows that he has aged (as we all have), he still has that warm smile that makes your day a little better. Best wishes in your retirement!

Gino Trevisani - Affiliation: 1991

No way Mike, I thought I would retire before you. You are a fixture of the UVM Medical School experience. I am glad I was one of the many who got to know you and still able to feel at home when I see you in the halls of that ugly building so many years after graduation. You will be greatly missed.

Gus Papadakis - Affiliation: 1992

Dear Mike;

Thank you for your dedication to us students during our time there and your tireless efforts while at UVM. Thank you for always making us smile and for putting up with our shenanigans and late nights in Hall A.

Thank you Mike.

You are the reason UVM is so special to us.

You are truly a wonderful person and you make the world a better place for all of us, who have had the honor to share a moment in your life.

Thank you. Thank you. THANK YOU.

Wishing you the best in your new life chapter.

With love and respect,

gus

goose

Mark Pasanen - Affiliation: 1992

Mike - Thank you so so much for all you've done for UVM and so many of us . You will be missed ...
promise to kick an empty soda bottle in your honor!

Mark Hamlin - Affiliation: 1994

Mike,

Thank you for all of your years of service to us, and the College. From the days when I was a student to now 25 years later you have always been a consistently positive force. When I came back as an attending after 5 years away training you greeted me with a smile and my first name without hesitation. You have a gift, thank you for sharing it, and making my life better.

Sincerely,

Mark

Dorothy Fisher - Affiliation: 1998

Mike,

Gosh, you were always there with a smile!! I so appreciated that small gesture of humanity. All the best in your retirement.

With warm regards,

Dody (Young) Fisher

Meghan Brady Zavod - Affiliation: 2001

Hi Mike - Congratulations on your retirement! You were a daily bright spot for me over the years I spent at UVM. When I remember my time in medical school, you are one of the people I think of. Thank you for your service, kindness, and warmth over the years.

--Meghan Brady Zavod '01

Eric Gauthier - Affiliation: 2002

Mike, my man. I completely remember your presence while I was at UVM. Have a great retirement.

Keep smiling. Eric

Sara and James Horstmann - Affiliation: 2003

Dear Mike,

Sara and James Horstmann (the class of 2003) would like to thank you for all of the countless hours you put into our education. Over our careers you have helped countless children by giving us a solid foundation in anatomy.

Thank you for all you have done for us, and each of your students.

The Horstmann's

Jill Sullivan (Geider) - Affiliation: 2004

Congratulations Mike! I will miss seeing you around campus! I remember at a reunion a few years ago that you still knew my name (even though it had been a *ahem* while since I was a student!) and that really stuck with me--it was an example of how much you care for the college of medicine, the students, faculty, and staff and how dedicated you are to all of us! I wish you the very best as you leave UVM; you will be missed!!!

Anne Coates - *Affiliation: 2007*

Dear Mike,

Congratulations! What a fantastic career you've had! Not only did you do a wonderful job, you always were so kind and supportive of us medical students. I am very grateful for your words of encouragement!

All the best and enjoy your well earned retirement!

Annie

Tom Harris - *Affiliation: 2007*

Hi Mike,

I graduated from UVM back in 2007. I remember you always keeping everything so clean and tidy and I remember your smiling face whenever I passed you in the hall. You truly made the school a great environment to learn and study in. Thanks for all of your hard work over the years. I hope that you have a great retirement and that you are able to enjoy more time doing the things you love to do.

Sincerely,

Tom

Meredith Mowitz - *Affiliation: 2007*

Mike,

I will always remember you as an important part of my life at UVM. Your constant smile and genuine care for each of us helped make UVM feel like home. Your shining example of kindness is something I will always strive towards.

Wishing you the best,

Meredith Mowitz, MD '07

Amy Sekhon - *Affiliation: 2007*

Best of luck for your retirement! Thanks for all you did for UVM!

Liz Hunt - *Affiliation: 2008*

Medical school could be a stressful and intimidating experience. Mike's friendly face and cheerful greetings were always welcome, especially on hard days. He sets an example with his kindness, positivity and pride in his work that we should all try to follow. I suspect most current and former students smile when they think of Mike. I know I do!

Meg Greenleaf & Sean Toussaint - Affiliation: 2009

Congratulations on your retirement, Mike! Thanks for always sharing a positive attitude and making school a nicer place to be. Enjoy your next endeavors!

Meg Greenleaf and Sean Toussaint '09

Campbell Stewart - Affiliation: 2009

Thanks Mike for always being such a warm, welcoming presence at UVM COM! You will be missed!

Catherine (Katie) Mygatt - Affiliation: 2011

Mike, Your gentle presence and warm smile always enhanced my day. Thank you for leading by example, reminding medical students and staff, who can get lost in the tumult of medical training, that there is always time to stop and appreciate the people who make our community special. Thank you for your 4 decades of service.

Fondly,

Katie Mygatt

Daniel Oppenheimer - Affiliation: 2011

Mike is one of the kindest people I remember from my time at UVM. Thank you for brightening our day. Best of luck in your retirement.

Adrienne Pahl - Affiliation: 2011

Mike, Your friendly face was always a bright light to me when I was in the medical school. I wish you all the best in your well deserved retirement!

Paco Corbalan - Affiliation: 2012

Mike-

Congratulations on your retirement! Your quiet, friendly presence was always a comforting sight during the chaos that is medical school. I wish you all the best!

Paco

Katherine (Katie) Evans - Affiliation: 2012

Dear Mike:

Thank you for befriending each and every one of us. Your words of encouragement meant so much to me and I am amazed at your ability to remember names. I know that I could always count on you to cheer me up on tough days with a warm smile! Thank you for being a cheerleader. I wish you all the best in your well-deserved retirement. Your extraordinary legacy will continue to live on in the hearts of all UVM COM alumni, including mine :)

Warmly,

Katie

Patrick Huffer - Affiliation: 2012

Mike, your calm warm presence in the halls of UVM made a difference. You never failed to have a warm smile and word of encouragement not only for my fellow students and me, but also for my wife when she visited. You live the ideal of service unto others. Congrats on a great career; you've made every bit as big an impact as any of the doctors who trained in your halls. I hope you enjoy a great retirement, you've earned it!

Scott Wasilko - Affiliation: 2012

Mike,

The UVM community will lose a great individual upon your retirement. Medical school was challenging and filled with ups and downs, but your smiling face and willingness to just say 'hi' never went unnoticed. Congratulations on a retirement well earned!

Delia Horn - Affiliation: 2013

Yay Mike! So many congratulations on your well-deserved retirement! The halls of the medical school will be a darker place without you. I cannot tell you how many times a kind smile and hello from you helped me, a bright moment when I was otherwise feeling stressed or scared or overwhelmed. Best of wishes for your retirement, and whatever comes next! You will be missed!

Haddon Pantel - Affiliation: 2013

Being a surgeon is a busy job, going from clinic room to room or from OR to OR trying to get more cases done. However I won't forget what you taught me at UVM; to stop and take a minute and just talk to people. That is really why I chose to become a doctor, the people, and thank you for reminding me of that.

Haddon

Jared Winikor - *Affiliation: 2013*

Mike will be greatly missed! Always a pleasure to converse with, he was instrumental in keeping med students grounded amid our often chaotic schedules. Thank you!

Adam Ackerman - *Affiliation: 2014*

Mike was a constant friend and support all four years of medical school. He believes in the potential of all the students and went out of his way to tell us every day. His graciousness and caring is a rare thing!

Vanessa Galli (Patten) - *Affiliation: 2014*

Thank you Mike for being so kind to us while in medical training and making the experience so much more positive. I still have fond memories of conversations with you. Cheers to a well deserved retirement and a happy future!

Vanessa and Jonathan Galli

Justine Hum - *Affiliation: 2014*

Congratulations on your retirement, Mike! I will always remember with fondness how kind and welcoming you were to all of us medical students whenever we crossed paths in the halls of the medical school. Your genuine smile and encouraging words to us medical students made all the difference in our school. Thank you so much! Enjoy retirement! Wishing you the best!

Sarah Marsh - *Affiliation: 2014*

Mike thank you so much for your smile and honest caring about how I was doing for the 5 years I was at UVM. I struggled in Med school - especially my first first year. I would see you in the hall after a hard test or meeting with the dean and I knew you were always there not judging me for my academic successes or failures but just as another human being. Your smile made my burdens lighter and for that I am infinitely grateful. Thank you and enjoy your adventures in retirement.

God bless you,

Sarah Marsh

Liz Robison - *Affiliation: 2014*

Dear Mike -

Thank you so much for being such a warm and welcoming part of the UVM medical student family. In such a stressful and challenging time in so many people's lives, you could always be counted on for a smile and encouraging words. Happy retirement - you deserve it!

Ben Ware - Affiliation: 2014

Before getting into medical school, I worked at UVM in the biology department and would see Mike's friendly face frequently, so it was fitting that the first person to know I got in (before my wife of many years!) was Mike - he was so happy for me, and always. I really appreciated his joyful spirit.

Kovi Bessoff - Affiliation: 2015

Mike,

Congrats on retirement, enjoy it. Thanks for always being there for us with a warm smile and best wishes.

Enjoy, you deserve it

Kovi

Darlene Peterson - Affiliation: 2015

Mike, congratulations on your retirement! Thank you so much for being a warm and friendly presence over the years - you've improved so many lives and I wish you all the best.

Adam Burgess - Affiliation: 2016

Mike, I can't tell you how grateful I am for all you did in my 4 years at the College. There are a lot of long, dark days in med school and you were one bright spot we could always count on. I hope you know that your kindness, humility, and dedication impacted more people than you will ever realize. I wish you all the best and great happiness in your much deserved retirement.

Suleiman Ismael - Affiliation: 2016

Thank you for always being that consistent comforting presence in the school, on good days or bad days we could always count on your warm greeting and reassurance. It meant a lot that you took the time to get to know each of us.

Also we won't ever forget your roll in our short Mission Impossible movie!

Best wishes in retirement,

Suleiman Ismael and Sammy Boyd

Rick Carrick - Affiliation: 2017

I was at UVMCC for 7 years, and Mike's friendly presence was one of the consistent highlights of coming to campus. He is a genuinely great guy, was always going out of his way to be helpful. I wish him the very best of luck and hope he has a fantastic retirement!

Amy Hopkins - Affiliation: 2017

Thank you to your dedication and kindness to medical students, Mike! Even if we had just come from a tough exam or patient encounter, we knew you were there sitting in the armchairs in the atrium with a smile ready to offer some words of encouragement. I hope your retirement is everything you've hoped for! ~Amy

Tim Flanagan - Affiliation: 2018

Mike! Enjoy your well earned retirement! Best wishes, Tim

Emily Forbes-Mobus - Affiliation: 2018

Thank you for always taking the time to say hello and chat! I really enjoyed our conversations, even when I was pregnant and you were telling me horror stories of delivering in the car! Really enjoyed seeing you through the years, and wish you the absolute best in your retirement!

Taylor Goller - Affiliation: 2018

Mike, you were a wonderful presence at the College of Medicine, always friendly, always interested, always with time to talk for a minute or two. Maybe more than you realize, I think those conversations had a significant impact on the students coming through, whether it was a reminder to breath during a stressful time, or a reminder of the simple humanity that we all try to work to serve. I hope you get to enjoy your retirement!

Michael Ialleggio - Affiliation: 2018

Hi there Mike! Congratulations on finishing up! I hope you have lots of good antiquing in your future. It was so lovely to bump into you and catch up periodically throughout med school. I hope you plan on coming to some of the reunions in the future. Definitely uvm med royalty! All the best.

Kathleen Olson - Affiliation: 2018

Mike is always a ray of sunshine. I could always count on him to have a big smile and kind words.

Tyler Wark

Affiliation: 2018

Congratulations on your retirement Mike! It was an honor getting to know you over the years while I was a medical student at UVM. Thank you for all of your hard work. You are an inspiration to so many people. Best of luck in your next chapter!

Taylor Wolfgang - *Affiliation: 2018*

Congrats on retirement! Thank you for all the positive energy you brought to our community. I will always remember your smiles and greetings. Enjoy your next chapter!

Saraga Reddy - *Affiliation: 2019*

Thank you for your constant presence and caring Mike. I appreciated that you always took the time to check in with myself and other students. Congratulations on your retirement!!

Nathan White - *Affiliation: 2019*

Mike! What an accomplishment! Your warmth and friendly smile are such a day brightener for so many at the LCOM. We will miss having you around the halls. Best of luck in your retirement!

Ramin Badiyan - *Affiliation: 2020*

Thanks for everything Mike! You have a contagious smile and a loving heart. Wish you all the best!

Kyna Donohue - *Affiliation: 2020*

Mike - seeing and chatting with you at school has been a daily highlight for me. You are lovely to talk to, and your hard work does not go unnoticed. We appreciate all you've done for the school. I hope retirement is relaxing and you enjoy your time outside of LCOM. You will be missed dearly.

Best,

Kyna

Caleb Knight - *Affiliation: 2020*

Congratulations on this huge transition Mike, I am honored to be graduating at the same time as you! Your consistent and reliable kindness, positive attitude, and work ethic have been inspiring to so many students, we hope to emulate you in our future work! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Monica Rodgers - *Affiliation: 2020*

Mike, thanks for always being ready with a bright smile and hello at all hours of the day - from the early mornings in HSRF to your lunch spot on the comfy chairs in the Med Ed building. Your cheerful presence in our community will be greatly missed!

Andy Wick - *Affiliation: 2020*

Hi Mike!

Thanks for being such a great guy and always taking the time to talk to me in the hallways. It's nice to be able to talk to you cause you are such a nice guy. I wish you the best of luck and hopefully I'll run into you sometime up in Fairfax!

Take care,

Andy

Dan Wigmore - *Affiliation: 2020*

Big Mike! Since my first day at UVM you have been a warming presence. Every time our paths crossed you would always greet me with a smile and a friendly greeting that could make even the most stressful days better. I cannot think you enough for this. You will be truly missed. All the best in your future endeavors, and I hope to see you again.

Ps - I hope you still make an appearance for our Match Day!

Samantha Bissonette - *Affiliation: 2021*

I used to always do early morning or lunch-time cram sessions in the private study rooms above the atrium for about an hour before exams, anatomy practicals, and CSEs. Somehow I always timed it perfectly so that Mike would be coming in to empty the trash can and he'd always stay and chat for a little bit. He always told me I'd do great and something along the lines of keep up the hard work, and then we'd talk about dogs, hiking, or whatever the weekend plans may be. Talking with Mike is always a nice break from the focus and pressure of medical school. I am always happy to see Mike in the hallways and I'll miss his smile and friendly check-in's! Best of luck in the future and enjoy!!!

Jared Bomba - *Affiliation: 2021*

Thank you for always being a friendly face for all of us to see. Medical school can be a stressful time full of ups and downs and it is priceless to have someone around who genuinely cares about us all but places no pressure on us. I wish you the best in your retirement and hope you enjoy your future endeavors!

Michael Chmielewski - Affiliation: 2021

Mike, thank you for always being so kind and encouraging! I always looked forward to running into you in the hallways. You have been an important part of reminding me what is truly important in medicine--relationships. All the best to you as you open this next chapter of life!

Collin Love - Affiliation: 2021

Mike!! Congratulations on your well deserve retirement! Shooting the breeze with you continues to be the highlight of my day. Your off the cuff humor and wit never ceased to crack me up. We're all going to miss you dearly! Cheers! -Collin Love

Jordan Munger - Affiliation: 2021

Hey Mike,

I first saw you making the rounds at the med school when I was in undergrad. In med school, you became a friendly face I came to know a bit better. Talking to you was therapeutic, as our conversations--whether brief or long--felt like I was stepping out of the hectic uncertainty of medical education to a vantage point where I could look back in and laugh about it. You have a way of providing perspective on life that is remarkable. Thank you for being such a kind and genuine human being. You somehow always remembered the details of our lives, and in turn, I promise that we will never forget yours. You will be missed.

-Jordan

Sarah Sherman - Affiliation: 2021

You never failed to brighten my long study sessions in the Given rooms when you'd come by and say hello and ask how things are going. Thank you for all you've done--I hope you enjoy your retirement knowing you've left a lasting legacy of kindness and sincerity at LCOM.

Christopher Veal - Affiliation: 2021

Mike you are the most incredible man I have ever met. You are also one of the only people that knows the name of every person that walks through the doors of the college of medicine! Your smile and laugh is infectious. On some of my worst days, I've passed you in the hallway and you would stop me and say hello, maybe strike up a conversation, or just smile- and it would bring a much needed light to my day. Mike you are the treasure of UVM and I hope you have a restful and relaxing, much deserved, retirement!

Michael Barnum - *Affiliation: 2022*

Congratulations!! You've seen me as an undergrad, working as a lab tech, and now as a medical student. The positivity you bring to the campus is unmatched. You're always a shining light and such a pleasure to speak to. Your genuine interest in meeting other people and your welcoming nature is something that I hope to emulate.

Sara Brennan - *Affiliation: 2022*

Hi Mike,

Thank you for always being such a warm and kind presence at school! You will be missed greatly!

Patrick Clarke - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike! It has been so nice getting to know you over these past two years. We will all miss you- best of luck with everything!

Luke Higgins - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike, thanks for being a warm, welcoming and wonderful presence in our community. Whenever I run into you, it never fails to brighten my day :)

Erick MacLean - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike, you shall be missed! Thanks for your consistent friendly attitude and words of encouragement! You never ceased to put a smile on my face. Best of luck in your next adventure!

Francis Mtuke - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike, where do I even start brotha? It has truly been a pleasure getting to know you and being able to call you a friend. Every conversation we have shared has left me smiling and that is truly resounding with the man that you are. I am beyond thankful that I came here when I did and had the chance to get to know you. I hope you don't cry to much at the thought of losing our frequent early morning conversations and I BETTER see you here at match day 2022! Wishing you the best my man, UVM is losing a gem, but your presence will never not be felt!

Love,

Francis

Katie Peper - *Affiliation: 2022*

Congrats on your retirement, Mike! Thanks for making my time in Given 4S and Med school so much better!

Alexa Pius - *Affiliation: 2022*

Thank you for always saying good morning and brightening my day! We will miss you!

Claudia Russell - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike,

Thank you for always being a friendly face in the halls! You've helped UVM feel like such a close community, and I really appreciate that. You'll be missed!

Claudia

Lauren Struck - *Affiliation: 2022*

Hi Mike!

I wish you all the best in your retirement. You helped ease my transition into medical school in the fall of 2017 by having a ready smile and a personable, approachable demeanor. I told my friends and family how much I felt supported by everyone at UVM, from the deans to the staff on Buildings and Grounds! Thanks for bringing your authentic self to work every day! - Lauren Struck

Samuel Aldous - *Affiliation: 2023*

Hey Mike!!!

I have only been at the LCOM for 2 months, but your constant presence and kindness around the school has been an amazing and welcoming experience that has quickly made this place feel like home.

You have done an amazing job here, and you will be sorely missed. Enjoy retirement, and never hesitate to stop by and say hello!!

Alex Cavert - *Affiliation: 2023*

Mike,

Even though we have only known each other for a short while, your compassion and selflessness has really left a lasting impression on me. I hope to emulate these qualities as I move forward with my career and life. I will miss our conversations and seeing you around school. Enjoy retirement!

-Alex

Evan Gaston - *Affiliation: 2023*

Congratulations Mike! I'm going to miss chatting with you in the halls and benefitting from your jokes as I headed to exams. Keep having fun and make sure to stay in touch with all of your friends here at the medical school.

Dan Moroney - *Affiliation: 2023*

Thanks for taking time out of your busy day to stop and chat! We'll miss you!

Ben Weaver - *Affiliation: 2023*

Mike I haven't known you long but you've been a shining light every single day I've been here. We appreciate all that you do and all the joy you bring to the community! Wish you all the best!

Mark Hunter - *Affiliation: 08*

Nicest guy I ever met! Thanks for all the years of great service!

Stephen Payne - *Affiliation: 1983*

Hi Mike, great big congratulations and thanks for being such a great and steady part of the medical school for all these years. Always a pleasure to see you there or at an antique show. You deserve to be very proud of your important roll at the university. You are a fine gentleman. All best in retirement.

Nate Rudman - *Affiliation: 1989 (Graduated in 1990)*

Mike

It was great seeing you at the recent 30th reunion. You hadn't changed a bit. It brought back great memories of your sense of humor and great perspective on life. I'm sorry I cannot be there on the 30th for the celebration event but congratulation's on both your service and retirement and I hope to see you at future reunions!

Your friend,

Nate Rudman 89

Daniel Zapson - *Affiliation: 1990*

Hey Mike, Congratulations!! You had been the cornerstone of my medical school mornings. Always a cheerful greeting from you to start my day. When I visited campus in 2014, I was surprised you remembered me.

Good luck in retirement. I'm sure you will be missed.

Leslie Kerzner - *Affiliation: 1995*

Mike - enjoy every minute of your well deserved retirement! PLEASE KNOW HOW MUCH ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE IS APPRECIATED!!!! All the best, Dr. K

Malcolm Schinstine - *Affiliation: 2000/COM*

Mike,

I truly enjoyed all the conversations we had in front of the lockers near the anatomy room in Given. Your smiling face and good-natured demeanor will be missed!

Alicia Guilford - *Affiliation: 2005/2006*

Dear Mike,

There were so many days that your smile and words of encouragement meant the world to me! I struggled through basic sciences both physically and mentally some days; your calm presence was welcomed and warmed my heart. The quick waves from across a long hallway let me know someone was in my corner, but I truly enjoyed our longer chats when we had the opportunities. I appreciate all the work you did for us during those years, but the support was even more valuable to me!

I wish you all the best in your retirement. Enjoy my friend!

With Love,

Alicia

Adrian Sackheim - *Affiliation: 2007 / Department of Surgery*

Its the small things, just saying hello in the morning can turn a bad day into a good one, and Mike is always good for that.

Mairin Jerome - *Affiliation: 2015*

Mike,

Congratulations on your retirement! UVM was lucky to have you for all of these years. You were always a bright spot during my time there for medical school. All the best for many good years to come!

Fondly,

Mairin Jerome

Abbi Devins-Suresh - *Affiliation: 2017/2018*

Hi Mike,

Thank you so much for your kind presence, sweet smile, warm hello and listening ear every day! You always made my day to see you.

Abbi

Peter Evans - *Affiliation: 2018*

Mike,

You will be missed. Thank you for your continuous kindness and humor to all those around you. I will fondly remember all the time you took to ask about my day and your optimism in those conversations. Thanks for going out of your way to meet me in my first days of medical school. Please enjoy retirement!

Best,

Peter Evans

Catherine Hayes - *Affiliation: 2018*

Thanks for your years of service to UVM! I so appreciated your friendly smile and greetings in the halls of the College of Medicine, and wish you the best in retirement!

Ben Smith - *Affiliation: 2019/2020*

Dear Mike,

Thanks for everything you do for the College of Medicine. You made so many of my days brighter, especially throughout first and second year. Thanks for taking the time to get to know me and so many others who have come through. It's always a treat to wander through the MedEd building during the upper years as well and catch up with you and share experiences from the hospital. I hope you have a wonderful retirement--can't think of anyone who deserves it more. Take care and don't be a stranger!

Harris Syed - *Affiliation: 2020*

Big Mike! Congratulations on your retirement! I am so happy for you and impressed by your lifelong commitment to making your environment and the people around you much better and happier.

Thank you so much for being such a great support person to me during a difficult transition in my life while starting medical school. I really appreciate the time and energy you gave to me whether it was listening to my complaints, worries, or you just joking with me to make me laugh.

Your personal touch with everyone in our school will never be forgotten and will always be appreciated - you are such a big part of what makes our school great - thank you so much for enhancing my experience!

Harris Syed

John O'keefe - *Affiliation: 2022*

I worked in Given throughout undergrad at UVM and would see Mike often in the halls, always ready with a smile and a greeting. We were on a first name basis by the time I left and he would always make my day a little better if I got to see him. I came back three years later for medical school and he immediately knew me and remembered my name, ready as always with a smile and a wave. Mike is the rock on which the medical school is built and will forever be one of my favorite UVM employees. Godspeed Mike on your much deserved retirement.

Claire McCollough - *Affiliation: Business Support Generalist*

Michael is a very special person indeed. I haven't been working in the College of Medicine very long but I already know that I am going to miss him immensely when he retires. He is the type of employee who brightens up the work place. He is the type of person who goes out of his way to make you smile, or to make sure that you are doing okay on any given day. He does his best to make sure any unwanted item finds a new home. He gets to know all of the new students and makes them feel welcome here. His pleasant and unassuming nature has endeared him to many. His absence is going to be felt everyday and his shoes are impossible to fill. We will miss you Mike!

Lewis First - *Affiliation: Chair, Department of Pediatrics*

Dear Mike,

While many have shared their thanks for your many years of dedicated service to our medical school, given my last name, I still get to be the First to do so! Your legacy of commitment to our school and students is unmatched, and those of us fortunate to get to know you over the years will carry on that legacy as a tribute to you. Thanks so much for all you have done for our school and best wishes for a well-earned and well-deserved retirement!

Lewis First, MD

Anthony Gallegos - *Affiliation: Class of 2020*

Mike, you truly made a difference in my medical school experience because you made this campus feel like a home. It's not often that a person can say yeah I know a lot of people at my med school, even the janitor says hi to me as I walk by and we share a few smiles and quick witty jokes in passing. You created that environment for me at the UVM LCOM and I'll always remember you for that. Whether I was struggling to cope with step 1 scheduling frustrations, or grinding through a day-long study session, I was always able to vent to you and make light of dull situations whenever you would walk by, or enter the study rooms to take out the trash. Most custodians would quietly do their job in hopes to not disturb the students, but you did the opposite and I'm so glad you did! I enjoyed your quick visits, and I would think awesome here comes mike, now I can share a few laughs and make some light of frustrating times. It's been great knowing you, Mike, and your constant upbeat presence and jokester mentality really helped ensure that I smiled and laughed throughout the day. I'm glad I'm about to graduate so I don't have to know what its like to endure a year of med school without you! Best of luck to you in your antique collecting and whatever else you decide to do with your new found free time!

Best regards, Anthony

P.S. my 2:00 visits to the bathroom are going to be SO dull and boring now without you there to mess with!

Julia Snyder - *Affiliation: CMB Graduate Program*

Congrats on your retirement! I hope we run into you in Fairfax sometime (:

Thank you for being so welcoming and easy to talk to, I always enjoyed seeing you in the hallway!

Leo Gaudreau - *Affiliation: College of Medicine*

Mike was always so friendly and gentle and what made Mike stand out was his compassion to help everyone he encountered. From Med Students to Maintenance to Visitors, he was a friendly face and gentle giant who took the time to make you feel welcomed to COM. Mike is one of a kind and the mold is broken with him, there will be no one else like him. Thank you Mike and enjoy retirement!!!

Pat Culumovic - *Affiliation: College of Medicine 1996*

Mike,

Probably don't remember me. Class of '96 COM. Colette's Son--in-Law, in the Dean's Office, and Father to 2 of her 7 grandchildren! Thank you for everything you brought to the College of Medicine--most of all a smile on your face and a warm hello or good morning when a student was having a rough day. You are one of many that I fondly remember from my days at UVM. All our best in your retirement

Pat and Karen Culumovic

Mohammad Mertaban - *Affiliation: COM Class of 2017*

Mike - you have been a constant support for me and my daughters at UVM College of Medicine. Anytime I came to school and saw your smiling face, I knew my day was going to be okay. Thank you for your dedication to the medical students and for allowing us to feel safe. We love you so much. Your influence on us goes beyond what you imagine.

Richard Page - *Affiliation: Dean*

One of my first days at work, as I arrived around 6:30 AM, Mike introduced himself and welcomed me. It was a warm gesture and felt like he was welcoming me to HIS college of medicine. We all should take such pride in ownership of our college and in the important work we do here. Good luck, Mike, and best wishes for this exciting new chapter, Rick Page

Jim Buell - *Affiliation: Deans Office*

Mike,

Congratulations on your retirement - well deserved. It was great getting to know you, work with and talking with you periodically in the building and in the Dean's Suite. Enjoy your well deserved retirement! Jim Buell

Sue Williams - *Affiliation: Dean's Office - Facilities Administration*

Mike - I am going to miss your consistent help in keeping our facilities in awesome shape. Your sense of humor was always appreciated and whenever I see a bike in these buildings I'm going to think of you! Enjoy this very special time in your life. A well earned retirement for sure!!! Be well, my friend.

Julie Lovelette - *Affiliation: Department of Mol. Physiology & Biophysics*

Mike -- Congrats on your retirement from UVM. It is well deserved! I will miss your smiling face and quirky jokes! I look forward to seeing you at the Antiques shows, and will toot when driving by your house on my way to Smuggs! Keep smiling and be sure to stay in touch! Take care, my friend!

Love,

Julie Lovelette

Rosie Harris - *Affiliation: Employee UVM Cancer Center*

Best Wishes, Mike! You were one of the first people I met when I started here just this year. Thank you for making me feel welcome. I wish you all the best in retirement.

Michael LaMantia - *Affiliation: Faculty*

Dear Mike,

Congratulations on your well-earned retirement and on your 43 years of service to UVM! You are a constant bright spot in our days and we will miss seeing you in the halls. Thank you for your friendship and best of luck to you in your retirement!

Sincerely,

Mike LaMantia

Connie van Eeghen - *Affiliation: Faculty, 4th floor Given Courtyard, South Side*

Mike, you always make me look up from my computer and realize that, no matter what I'm working on, spending a little time taking a mental break and sharing a story is the right way for me to go back and do my best work. You always make my work better - thank you so much for being part of our department and our team.

Sarah Caffry - *Affiliation: Former student, current faculty*

Mike,

Nearly every day, you'd come to take the trash from the small study rooms on the second floor of Given, and always wish me luck with my studying. Often, you were the only person I'd spoken to that day, and your positive energy made a huge difference for me in not totally burning out!

I'll miss saying good morning whenever I passed you sitting in the arm chairs by the Given/MedEd elevator. You're a bright light in the LCOM community!!!

Lisa Natkin - *Affiliation: General Internal Medicine Research*

Thanks for always being a friendly smile. You will be missed! Wish you all the best. Enjoy your antiques!

Sylvie Frisbie - *Affiliation: Given courtyard 4S*

There is a saying no one is irreplaceable but it's false. Nobody can walk in your shoes, in the Given hallways and demonstrate authenticity and human kindness like you do to all who CROSS your path! (and thank you for testing my gullibility every chance you had) Good Luck Mike. You will be missed.

Liz O'Neill - *Affiliation: 2020*

Mike,

I can't even begin to tell you how much you have meant to my UVM experience! Every day during first and second year I would see you by MedEd 200 and you always said hello, always had a smile on your face, and always made me feel welcome and positive, even on the worst of days. Your presence is a light within our community - and medical students certainly need someone like you around to keep us sane, positive, and smiling always. You know our names, are so friendly, and remind us every day of why we went into this profession. You will be so dearly missed, but we all couldn't be happier for you as you move into retirement! I wish you the best from the bottom of my heart, and HAVE FUN!

Marc Hammond - *Affiliation: 2021*

Hi Mike! We're all going to miss having you around. I always appreciated the time you took to ask me how I was doing all throughout my first 2 years of school--even though I'm sure you've heard more than your fair share of stressed out med students. Wishing you the best retirement

-Marc

Anna Quinlan - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike-- thank you so much for being such a positive and welcoming presence. It always brightens my day to see you!

Brooke Cote - *Affiliation: LCOM Staff*

Congratulations Mike on your retirement! Thank you for always walking around with a smile on your face and welcoming everyone into the LCOM. Your kindness has the ability to make someone's day. You will be missed dearly in our halls. Best wishes for wonderful new adventures! Brooke Cote

Colleen Gerrity - *Affiliation: 2012*

Thank you for all your smiles and support throughout medical school. You would brighten difficult days!

Jessie Kerr - *Affiliation: 2012*

Mike- I hope you know what a profound impact your friendly smile and the fact that you always just radiated positivity had on me and my classmates. There were many times when it was exactly what we needed to make it through another lecture or exam. Thank you for doing so much more than your job description. You've truly impacted the future of medicine.

James McAvoy - *Affiliation: 2015*

Mike, you saw me sitting outside lecture within the first couple weeks of my first year then introduced yourself, and decided to join me and chat about the fall weather. That small gesture really made UVM feel like my new home. I appreciate all of the support and laughs you offered to us over the years! There are literally generations of UVM grads who you've impacted. Thanks for being a big part of what makes UVM COM such a special place. I wish you nothing but the best with your well-deserved retirement, though I'm sure you'll keep busy with the antiques!

Gratefully,

James McAvoy

Andrew Tranmer - *Affiliation: 2017*

Congratulations on your retirement Mike! Thank you for your tireless work around the campus and for always being available for a friendly chat. You will be missed!

Collin Montgomery - *Affiliation: 2022*

Mike! You are the man! Always quick with a joke and willing check in to see how things are going for all of us. Seeing you at school always brightened my day and you will be sincerely missed by everyone! This place won't be the same without you!

Laurel Xu - *Affiliation: 2015*

Always a joyful presence in the halls of UVM. Thank you for all the kind smiles! Happy Retirement!

Raghav Goyal - *Affiliation: MS3*

Hey Mike--medical school has been a hard place to be. It's demanding, insular, and for me personally, quiet alien. In apposition, your presence over the last couple years has been a source of warmth and friendship I will remember years after medical school is over. Your constant smile, your words of support, your sense of humor all meant a lot to me. It has made me reflect on the power of all the people in a particular company to make that community a welcoming and beautiful place to be. Thank you, earnestly, for your positive energy, your words of kindness, and for all the work you have done to

keep the school clean for all of us to use. I hope you find peace and meaning in the coming phase of your life.

I had invited you out to dinner once before, and the offer very much still stands--I would love to share stories about bathroom conversations overheard, antiques, medical school or whatever else. I will hopefully have the chance to remind you in person this week, but if not, I really encourage you to shoot me an email or give me a call (516 850 3863)!

Thanks again for all you have done for this community, Mike.

Best--

Raghav

Brad Palmer - *Affiliation: My office is in HSRF*

Hey Mike,

I'll miss seeing you and your smiling face. You have always had something encouraging to say, and you remember everyone's name. You've given me a lot to aspire to. Thank you very much. And I wish you the best. Brad

Colleen Case - *Affiliation: OMSE*

You were the first one my sister introduced me to and we have talked every day since. I still fall for every con you tell me!! I will miss you very much.

Cara Simone - *Affiliation: OMSE Staff*

Thanks for making each day a little brighter, Mike! We'll miss your kind words and jokes. Enjoy retirement and be sure to come back and visit! --Cara (Active Learning) and Michael (LCoM 92-'93)

Susan Victory - *Affiliation: Pediatrics*

Dear Mike, I wish you all the best on your very well earned retirement! I know that you cannot be replaced and will miss your story telling, especially the new employees, and how they fall for outlandish stretching of the truth---excellent for adding a levity in the day. Good Luck! I will miss you! I am happy we have had the opportunity to share these years hers at the LCOM. Best-Sue V.

Osama Harraz - *Affiliation: Pharmacology*

Mike,

Your presence has been a joy to many and to me personally. I love seeing you and I enjoyed many chats with you. I wish you all the best and look forward to hearing the best about you!

Theresa Wellman - *Affiliation: Pharmacology Dept*

It has been a pleasure working with you, Mike. Any day I see your smile is always a good day
Congratulations, enjoy your retirement!

Karen Lounsbury - *Affiliation: Pharmacology Faculty*

Wishing you a happy ,retirement; come back to see us when you can!

Renee Stapleton - *Affiliation: Pulm/Crit faculty*

Dear Mike -- Thank you so much for all your hard work, kind smile, and upbeat personality for so many years! Enjoy your retirement! Renee

Levi Bonnell - *Affiliation: Researcher*

Mike - I would look forward to coming in early on Thursday mornings because you would always be in our suite, ready with a good morning and a good story.

Rejeanne Jalbert - *Affiliation: Staff*

Dear Mike, with your empathetic ear and open heart....I do not know how we'll go on without you. You are truly special and do not even seem to know it! We were truly blessed to have you here among us. Please stop by to visitThe very best wishes to you on your retirement. Thoroughly enjoy it !!

Patti Lutton - *Affiliation: Staff*

Thank you for being a friendly face throughout the years to faculty, staff, and students. As busy as you are, you always have made time for a friendly hello! Every student has been important to you. Good luck to you. You will be missed!

Mary Claire Walsh - *Affiliation: Staff*

I am always glad to see you in passing and to exchange a quick greeting. However, what I really love is when I pass you in the hall and we can only share a smile or a quick nod of the head because you're already engaged in conversation with someone else. It's wonderful to see how many people feel connected to you--from staff to faculty to students. Thank you for being such a warm, steady presence for so many of us here at UVM.

Stacie Beuschel - *Affiliation: Staff since 2002*

Mike,

You'r smile and kind words will be missed. Did you ever have a bad day? Every time we pass in the halls you nod and smile, most often taking a moment to check in and see how the day is going. Thank-you for that. Good Luck in retirement and i hope you get to antique your heart out!

Farewell!

Lynn Bateman - *Affiliation: Staff, Anatomical Gift Program*

Mike, I hope you enjoy your retirement. You and your always-positive attitude will be missed here at the COM! It has been an honor knowing you all these years.

Elena Kremmentsova - *Affiliation: staff, Mol. Physiology Dept*

Mike,

It is always so pleasant to meet you in the halls with non-fading smile and good-natured "Hi, how are you". Always busy, hard working. Have a wonderful retirement – you well deserved it! We'll miss you, but don't miss us too much ;)

Tom Ahern - *Affiliation: Surgical Research*

From being a friendly face when I was a student, to being a friendly face when I returned as a faculty member, you've been synonymous with this wonderful school and its unique community. Thank you, Mike--enjoy every minute of your well-earned retirement!

Gretchen Gaida Michaels - *Affiliation: 2001*

Mike, you often saved the day in Hall A.

Enjoy your retirement!

Matt Saia - *Affiliation: 2014*

It was always great seeing Mike throughout the halls during my 4 years at Med School. We would always say hello and talk about how each of us were doing. He may not know it but he always helped me during stressful times to be more positive. I'd always feel better after seeing Mike. I wish him all the best in his retirement and we will certainly miss him here at UVM!

Deb Dever - *Affiliation: UVM Foundation*

congratulations and thanks for always greeting everyone with a smile!

Sunday Whipkey - *Affiliation: UVM Vaccine Testing Center*

I have worked here since September 2013, and Mike, you never have ceased to be a friendly face in my work day! When I heard you were retiring via the mailroom clerk, I said, They really need to give him a retirement party! She agreed. I think you qualify as the Most Popular Employee! You will be missed, but I am happy for you as you now get to do some much more fun stuff day-to-day! Enjoy!

Jamie Bernier - *Affiliation:*

Mike always made a point to say hi, even when I was clearly having a bad day. I hope your retirement is everything you desire!

Terry Caron - *Affiliation: Continuing Medical and Interprofessional Education*

Hi Mike, I don't even think you would know my name, yet every time we cross paths you smile at me as if at an old friend. I've come to think of you that way, too. I wish you the very best in retirement and I wish that all of UVM staff (myself included) were more like you!

Susan Curtis - *Affiliation:*

Michael it is so pleasant to meet you in the hallways! Always smiling and offering help and a happy greeting. You will be very missed!

Jacqueline Drouin - *Affiliation: OMSE*

Thank you for making the College of Medicine a welcoming place. I appreciated our chats (and all the jokes!) and the sense of community you brought to the building. More importantly, for those few times during the year when I had to arrive extra early to set up for a meeting, seeing you in the hallways made this empty building feel safe and offered me peace of mind knowing that you were always on watch. You will be missed!

Nathalie Feldman - *Affiliation:*

Dear Mike,

Your smile and kind greeting brighten my day! Thanks so much for your innumerable contributions toward making our learning and work environment so friendly and welcoming. We will miss you!

Akua Frimpong - *Affiliation:*

Congratulations!! Thank you for taking the time to talk to me and tell me a little history about LCOM. I wish you the best in your future endeavors!!!

Cristin Gildea - *Affiliation: Development and Alumni Relations*

Thank you Mike for all your amazing service to the Larner College of Medicine.

Vicki Gilwee - *Affiliation: Dean's Office*

We're really going to miss you! Enjoy EVERY MINUTES of your retirement. Best wishes and don't be a stranger!!

Vicki Gilwee

Krista Harder - *Affiliation: MMG*

Hi Mike!!

Congratulations on your retirement! I'm one of the administrative assistants who works in Given, and we haven't spoken extensively by any means, but I just wanted to say thank you so much for all that you do and have done for UVM. Thank you for always being such a friendly and smiling face; it never fails to improve my day (and I'm sure many agree).

Good luck with all of your future endeavors!

Ruth Henry - *Affiliation: Development and Alumni Relations*

Your quick wit and generous smile will be missed at Given. Who's going to check in on me now that you've retired?

All the best my friend,

Ruth

Russell Himmelstein - *Affiliation:*

I always appreciated you saying hello in the hall, and asking how I am. It's so simple, but very grateful for your kindness.

Jeanne Hutchins - *Affiliation: Center on Aging*

You will be missed. Your smile, your jokes, keeping me up to date on antique sales! ENJOY retirement. May it be everything you've hoped for!

Guy Kennedy - *Affiliation:*

Congratulations Mike! I want you to know it has been an extreme pleasure working with you over the years. Your hard work, reliability and continuous friendly efforts have been appreciated. Wishing you all the best in health and happiness in retirement!

Bruce Kimball - *Affiliation: COMAV*

Hey Mike - Going to miss you around here! Always a pleasure to see your smiling face and hear your witty comments. This place ain't gonna be the same without you! Hope you enjoy your well-deserved retirement years! Take care, Bruce

Beth Kirkpatrick - *Affiliation: Vaccine Testing Center*

Dear Mike, Congratulations on your retirement. Your kind smile and hard work have been a huge asset to the LCOM for decades. You have made a warm connection with everyone and that adds up to a lot! We will miss seeing you every day!

Jacqueline Lawler - *Affiliation: UVM Cancer Center*

Mike - You truly made it worth coming into work every day. Whenever I turned a corner and saw you there the whole day brightened. Even though I had to stay on my toes to make sure you weren't pulling some elaborate prank on me, I always enjoyed our conversations. You're the best, and I hope you have the BEST retirement, you've earned it!!

All my love,

Jacqueline

Haley Olszewski - *Affiliation:*

Mike, UVM will not be the same without you! I remember when I first started about 3 years ago; Carrie Perkins introduced you to me saying he knows everyone!. I laughed it off. But it didn't take long for me to realize how true that was! You know EVERYONE! You take the time to know not just the names of the people around you, but their backgrounds and interests too. And you know just how far you can push them when you're yanking their leg about some tall tale you made up on the spot. You have made UVM such a friendly and welcoming place for me and for others, and it truly won't be the same without you here. I wish you the best of luck in your retirement, and hope you visit us when you can!

Pamela Osborne - *Affiliation: Admissions*

SBHS Class of '73, UVM LCOM, where shall we meet next? Perhaps a booth at the antique store? Best of luck, Mike.

You have my email. Let me know when the special dates are at the antique place.

Michael OSullivan - *Affiliation:*

Congratulations on your retirement, Mike! Your jokes, kindness and thoughtfulness will be greatly missed in the Pathology Dept. Best wishes on your next adventures!

Jeanna Page - *Affiliation: Dean's Office*

Mike, I will miss seeing your smiling face every day! I have enjoyed all of the stories you have shared with me while keeping a straight face! Little did I know you were the best fiction story teller around. I think you should consider volunteering at a local library to share all of your funny stories with children. It is a gift my friend. I hope you enjoy your retirement. You've worked hard, you deserve it. Best wishes!!!

Susie Posner-Jones - *Affiliation: Development and Alumni Relations*

Mike! Thank you for being a constant friendly face - you are always someone I can count on for a quick conversation on antiques or the general chit-chat of world and local news. You will be missed in the halls, and kitchens, and stairways and we appreciate your many years of dedicated, humble and loyal service. Enjoy retirement and I will see you in the shops :) Be well, Susie

Annie Seyler - *Affiliation: Development and Alumni Relations*

Mike - I'm going to miss our conversations by the kitchen here in the development office and also your puns and your perpetual smile and your kindness. I hope the next chapter in your life is rewarding and exciting. Most of all, I hope you know that you had an impact on many, many people throughout your career at UVM and you will be missed.

Best wishes (and dog walks)!

Dan Weiss - *Affiliation:*

Wow, sorry to see you going. Won't be the same without seeing you around the halls. Best Regards

Dan

Codi Williams - Affiliation:

Keep smiling; your presence will be missed by me and so, so many other! All the best in whatever comes next!!

Bei Zhang - Affiliation:

You will be dearly missed!

Nina Shedd – Affiliation: Medical Communications

Mike – I have had the honor of being someone to compile all of these notes. While I haven't read them all, I would be lying if there were some that didn't catch my eye. It is very clear you touched a lot of lives during your time at UVM, including mine. Thank you so much for being such a positive influence to so many people over the years – students, faculty, and the staff. It was always such a great way to start my day on Monday morning when I knew you would be in our office and one of the first people (sometimes the first) I would see on a Monday morning. Just knowing you were there to say hello, or listen if it was a rough morning, or share in joy when great things were going on. You were always busy but never made anyone feel like you didn't have time for them. THAT makes a huge difference in the world...and all of the comments here make it very clear that YOU were/are very special to a lot of people! Good luck to you in all of your future endeavors. I hope to see you around Milton more often.

-Nina
