

Lowell Sun - Lowell, Mass.
Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Michael L. Sokol

of Littleton, born in Lawrence; 65

Littleton — Michael L. Sokol, 65, of Littleton died at his residence on March 9, 2008. He was born in Lawrence, Mass on March 11, 1942 and was the son of the late Harry and Frances (Freedman) Sokol . He grew up in Methuen and was a graduate of Methuen High School, Class of 1959. Michael continued his education at the Northeast Institute of Industrial Technology where he studied in Machine Design, and the University Extension of Lincoln Institute where he also studied Electronic Layout and Design.

Mr. Sokol worked in many areas including designing and patenting the Holter portable EKG Monitoring System as well as designed and patented a portable battery operated cardiac monitor with American Optical Corporation in Bedford He then became program manager for Picker International Inc. In 1982 he became Vice President of Marketing and Sales for Pioneer Medical Systems which distributed a line of seventy five medical products. In 1984 he became Vice President of Operations for Bionet, Inc , a clinical testing service company .In the mid-80s Michael joined Kurzweil Computer Products/Xerox Imaging Systems to manage the day to day operations and sales of the Kurzweil Personal Reader, the first mass marketed reading machine for the blind. He helped found Kurzweil Educational Systems in the mid-90's to act as COO and later CEO of the company, which produced more affordable and powerful reading systems for the blind and learning disabled. Mr. Sokol continued this work in his last years, joining KNFB Reading Technology, to help launch the latest Kurzweil Reading Machine technology. His affiliation with Ray Kurzweil and other spanned over twenty years and led to access to printed material for many thousands of individuals over the years.

He has made his home in Littleton for over 30 years and liked working and had a passion for cars.

His survivors include his brother Allan Sokol and sister Ruth Sandler both of Boynton Beach, FL. and several nieces and nephews.. He was also the former husband of Sonja (Manni) Sokol of Salem, MA.

SOKOL — Michael L. A Graveside Service will be held Thursday March 13 at 2 p.m. at Westlawn Cemetery, 7 New Estate Road, Littleton, MA. There will be no visiting hours. Badger Funeral Home Littleton is in charge of arrangements. See www.badgerfuneral.com