

Michael Dermody

“2012 Mayo Man of the Year”

Michael Dermody was born to Tom and Kitty (nee Fallon) in Letterineen, Tourmakeady Co. Mayo. Mike is one of seven children Mary Brady, Bridie (RIP), Tom, Patrick (RIP), Kathleen Lally (RIP), and Owen.

Mike immigrated to England in the 1960's before coming to the United States in 1970. When he arrived in the United States he began working for another Mayo man Mike Lavin, from Charlestown, with whom he is still good friends with today. Shortly thereafter Mike began working for Local 147.

In October 1973, Mike married Kathleen Long from Knocknagoshel, Co. Kerry, in St. Margaret's Church, Middle Village. Mike and Kathleen have five children, Thomas and his wife Colleen and their four children, Aileen, Thomas, Ciara, and, Ailish. Denis and his wife Bianca and their two children Anjela and Michael. Kathleen and fiancé Timothy Carolan, Carol, and Eileen and fiancé Peter Pokojny.

Mike opened his own contracting company, Dermody Contracting in 1976, where he employed many young Irish. After many years in his own business working, with sons Tommy and Denis, Mike has returned to Local 147. Dermody Contracting is still operating today with son Denis taking over as president. Both Tommy and Denis are also New York City Firefighters.

Mike is very well known for giving of his time and support to those in need. Along with his wife, Kathleen, Mike has served on many benefit committees raising money for people who need assistance with paying medical expenses. Mike is very passionate about helping those in time of need and is always there to lend his time and support to help those who are facing difficult times.

Mike is honored to be “Mayo Man of the Year” for 2012, and would like to offer his congratulations to the “Mayo Woman of the Year” Mary Fee. He extends thanks to his family and friends for their support and being here tonight. Mike would like to sincerely thank President Rita Lydon Lenz, Vice President Mary Lydon, and the entire Mayo Society for this distinguished honor. In addition, Mike would like to wish outgoing President Mary Coyne the best of luck in all future endeavors. With special appreciation to the Journal and Dance Committees for their hard work and making tonight special. Wishing all a Happy St. Patrick's Day.