



Michael Minty Memorial Fund
Greater Worcester Community Foundation

This scholarship was created in 1988 by members of the Worcester Rugby Football Club (WRFC) to honor their dedicated and charismatic coach and co-founder. It is awarded to students who are related to a past or current member of the WRFC.

Michael Minty (1946–1988) was born and raised in northwest London. Entrepreneurial from an early age, Michael delivered potatoes before and after school starting in his early teens. Like most children, he did not pass the ‘Eleven-Plus Exam’ which, at that time, determined one’s educational fate in Britain. He was therefore destined for a vocational career path. At age 16, Michael began a 5-year Design Draftsman apprenticeship at a London college. Upon completion of his course, he worked on a ship to gain passage from London to Cape Town, South Africa.

Michael met his future wife, Sarah, in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). After traveling through Africa, India and the Far East, he reunited with Sarah in Australia and they moved on together to New Zealand and South America. In the meantime, Michael’s parents, brother, and two sisters emigrated from London to Worcester, MA. They followed one of Michael’s maternal aunts, who had married an American soldier and moved to Massachusetts with him. Michael and Sarah also found their way to Worcester. They settled in West Boylston and had two children, Amy and Fay.

In 1979, Michael’s father, Albert Minty, showed his son a newspaper advertisement: the Worcester Rugby Football Club needed a founding coach. Having played rugby throughout school and his travels, Michael took the job and co-founded the club along with a several other Worcester men. As a coach, Michael was inspirational and deeply respected. With passion and determination, he gave everything he had to his players and to the game. He liked being part of a team and helping every player succeed both on and off the field. Michael enjoyed the camaraderie of rugby, never missing the after-game ritual of drinking beer together. With his vigor and wit, Michael was “a force to be reckoned with.”

Professionally, Michael became Vice President of Teller Environmental Systems, a company focused on reducing environmental pollution. In 1986, the family moved to New Jersey for Michael’s job, and not long after he was diagnosed with liver cancer. In 1988, Michael succumbed to the disease at the age of 41. In the memory of all of its members who have passed away, the Worcester Rugby Football Club holds an annual Callaghan Cup rugby tournament (named for Phil Callaghan, another former member) to raise money for the Michael Minty Memorial Fund.

For more information, please contact:
Greater Worcester Community Foundation
370 Main Street, Suite 650 • Worcester, MA 01608
508-755-0980 • scholar@greaterworcester.org