

# NHRLA's 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient



**Mike Kelly**  
Coastal Forest Products, Inc.

Mike Kelly's journey through the lumber industry is a testament to dedication, adaptability, and the power of forging meaningful connections. Born in Franklin, Pennsylvania, Mike's early life was shaped by a love for the outdoors, playing golf, tennis, basketball, baseball, and hunting. After graduating from Rocky Grove High School in 1973 and earning a teaching degree from Clarion University in 1977, Mike's career took an unexpected turn.

In 1982, amidst a decline in the U.S. shoe manufacturing sector, Mike made a pivotal career shift. He responded to a job ad from Georgia-Pacific for an inside sales position and embarked on a new path that would define his professional life. Over the years, Mike has been an integral part of several notable companies, including Georgia-Pacific, D.J. Inc. (which became Bunzel, then Rugby, and is now Woodgrain), Russin, Mid-State Lumber, and Coastal Forest Products.

Mike's contributions extend beyond his work with these companies. He has been a staunch supporter of the NRLA, serving on the convention committee for several years, and is a valued member of the Board of Directors of the Sliver Club. His commitment to the industry and its associations reflects his deep dedication and passion for his work.

Mike was blessed with meeting the love of his life, Beth, and they will be celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary next May. He takes

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immense pride in his family, including his daughter Allison Parent and son-in-law Patrick, their two sons Rylee and Owen Parent, and his granddaughter Mercedes Pepin. In his leisure time, Mike enjoys golfing, traveling, and spending valuable time with his family.

Mike's education and professional affiliations showcase his commitment to growth and learning. He graduated from Rocky Grove High School and Clarion University and remains actively involved in organizations such as the North American Wholesale Lumber Association.

His guiding philosophy—treat people as you would want to be treated and do what you say you're going to do—has been a cornerstone of his approach to both professional and personal relationships.

Mike's words of encouragement for those in the industry reflect his genuine appreciation for the field. He often remarks on how it would be difficult to leave an industry that, despite its challenges, offers lifelong friendships and a fulfilling way to support oneself and one's family. Mike is grateful for the customers he has had the privilege to work with and extends heartfelt thanks to the companies and colleagues who have supported him throughout his career.

Mike Kelly's journey is a remarkable example of how dedication, integrity, and a passion for one's work can lead to a distinguished and impactful career. His lifelong commitment to the lumber industry and the people within it has earned him this well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award.

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