

GROWERTALKS

GT in Brief

4/28/2017

In Memoriam: Marc Laviana

Chris Beytes

Marc Laviana passed away at home on Saturday, March 11, 2017, surrounded by his loving family after battling cancer. He was just 62. Marc was president and part owner of Sunny Border Nurseries, where he worked for more than 48 years—basically, his entire life!

His obituary says that “his true passion was the nursery and growing plants.” And the Sunny Border website says, “We have heavy hearts right now at Sunny Border. We’ve lost a fearless leader, a plantsman, a grower and a wonderful family man.”

Marc started his career at Sunny Border when he was just 15, and quickly rose through the ranks, proving his ability as an exceptional grower and leader. Marc worked hand in hand with Sunny Border CEO Pierre Bennerup in making Sunny Border Nurseries a leader and an innovator in the industry.

He had a passion for growing and was a hands-on leader. His strong work ethic and love for growing earned him the title Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year. He also served as President of the Connecticut Nurserymen’s Association.

In addition to his wife Linda, Marc is survived by his daughter, Tara Jo, and son Daniel Marc (who currently works at the nursery). **GT**