

For All the Saints

2022 – 2023

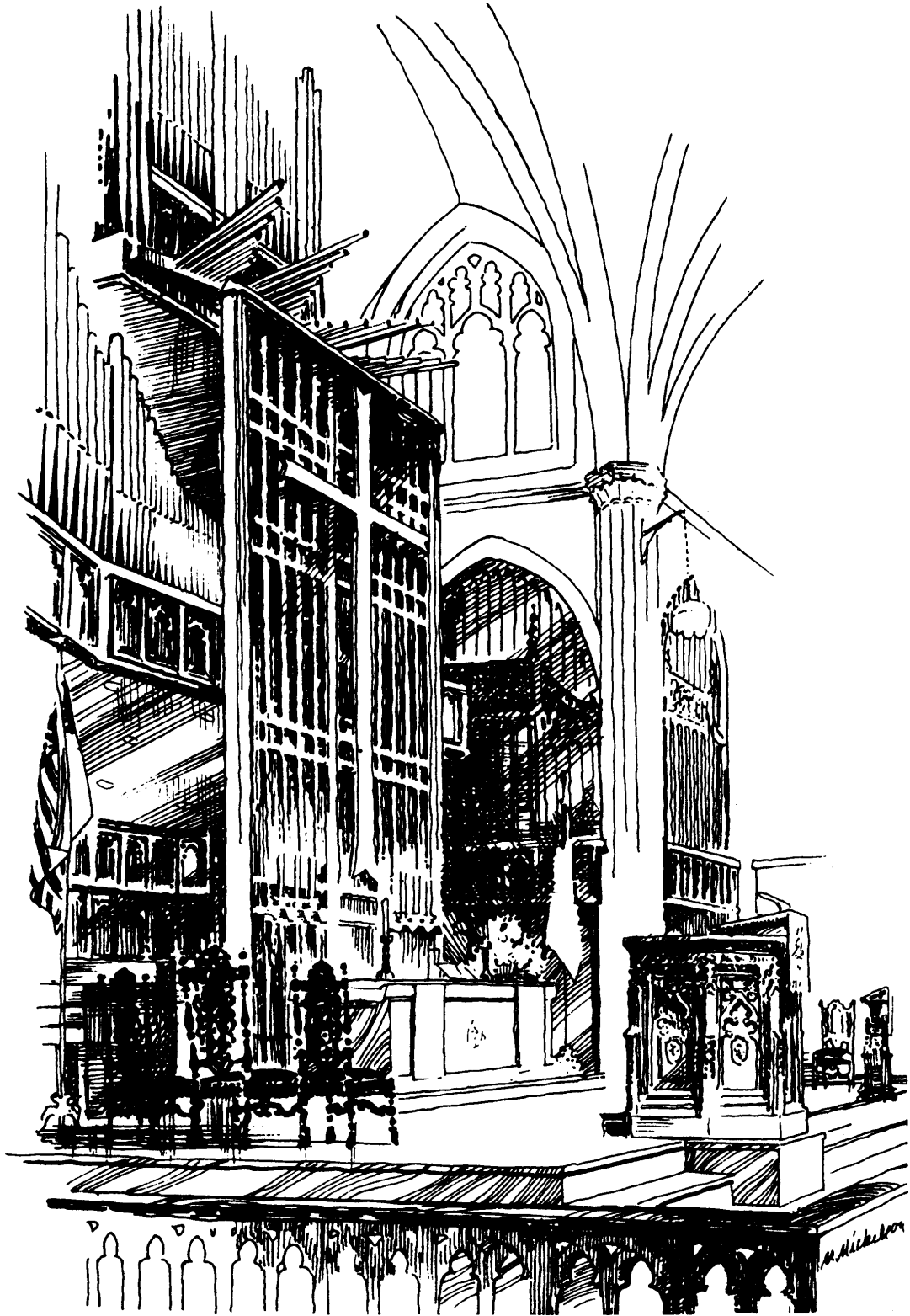




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Glen Barstad

1926 – 2022



Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.



Hans Leland Melgaard

1940 – 2022



Hans Leland Melgaard was 82 years old when he died on November 10, 2022, following a short illness. With his passing, the world lost one of its kindest, most gentle, hardworking and smartest men.

Hans was the first child born to Josepha Louise (Knutson) and Harold Lucian Melgaard in Minneapolis, Minnesota on January 3, 1940. Hans graduated from Minneapolis Central High School in 1958. While working full-time and raising his growing family, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and his MBA from the University of Minnesota. Hans began his career at Despatch Industries in 1960 and didn't fully retire until 2016. He loved to solve problems, which resulted in the development of over 50 patents ranging from osmosis filters for blood filtration to a process for transforming rayon into super strong graphite fiber as well as photovoltaic cell manufacturing equipment and a depyrogeneration process. He had a good business sense that he displayed first when selling worms and brownies at Maple Lake. This was further developed as a teenager with his television and radio repair business.

It was important to Hans to provide places for his family to enjoy time together. One of these places was the cottage on Maple Lake and another was a farmhouse on 80 acres of meadow and woods near Hayward, Wisconsin. He loved to drive tractors, work outside and repair machines. If a garage needed to be built or the farmhouse needed to be remodeled, he was your guy. He could do just about anything. Hans was a world traveler. He enjoyed sailing and for a time dreamed about sailing around the world.

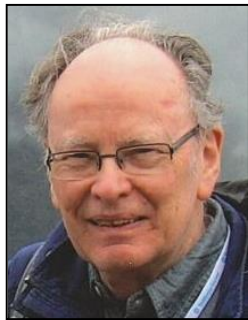
He is survived by his children Rebecca (Evan) Newton, Christine, Hans (Danielle), Timothy (Marie) and Andrew; grandchildren Michael (Kristin) Borovsky, Sean (Christine) Newton, Nicholas Borovsky, Lianna Newton, Hans Logan and Delaney Melgaard, Gabrielle, Thomas and Charlotte Melgaard; three great-grandchildren; his sister Marcia Boisclair, his first wife Marcia Peterson and his nieces and nephews.

Hans was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Mary Hultman and his wife, Ilona Laurel (Sjovall) Melgaard, whom he met when they joined the Sons of Norway organization on the same day. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



John Martin Livingston

1935 – 2022



John M. Livingston, age 87, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, passed away on November 21, 2022, at Catholic Eldercare in Minneapolis with his family by his side.

John was born April 14, 1935, to Byron (Barney) and Sigrid (Larson) Livingston in St. Peter, Minnesota. He married Darlene Anderson, his first wife, in June 1965. They had four daughters Lorelei, Lizabeth, Linnea, and Lucinda. John had many friends and loved music and sports. John met Jennifer Kylander and married in 1989. They enjoyed traveling, plays, movies, visiting historical locations and their time together was filled with laughter. John was a social, friendly, and animated person and fun to be around.

John is survived by his four daughters Lorelei Livingston (Billy Lovaas), Lizabeth Livingston, Linnea Donahue (Tim), and Lucinda Hochsprung (Loren); three grandchildren, Brenden Donahue, Cameron Donahue and Parker Donahue; wife Jennifer Kylander; and sister Dorothy McConnell.

He was preceded in death by his parents Byron (Barney) and Sigrid Livingston. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Michael “Mitch” Joseph Rasmus

1946 – 2022



Michael “Mitch” Rasmus, 77, Mound, Minnesota died January 15, 2023.

Michael Joseph Rasmus, always known as Mitch, son of Roald (Mike) and Adelaine (Addie) Rasmus was born in Pittsburg, California on January 10, 1946. After fulfilling his military duties, Mike brought his family back to Minnesota where Mitch graduated from Moorhead High School in 1964. Mitch was an All-State High School Football Player and received a full scholarship to Concordia College. He graduated with a degree in Physical Education and Art in 1968. He then joined the United States Air Force where he was stationed in Tucson, Arizona. Once discharged from the Air Force, he received his elementary education degree

from Moorhead State.

Mitch met the love of his life, Georgia (Barnett) Rasmus in 1973 when they were introduced by his sister Kristi Morsch at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After just three dates, they were engaged and married on April 6, 1974. After teaching in the Orono school district for a couple years, he switched gears and spent the rest of his career in the home construction industry. Mitch was extremely creative and was passionate about helping others customize their homes, so much so that he never officially retired and continued to work regularly.

Mitch found his happy place with his family at their cabin property in Fifty Lakes, Minnesota. He had plans to officially retire there in their newly built home. He absolutely loved the river and watching his kids and grandkids enjoy it as well brought him the most happiness.

Mitch is survived by his wife, Georgia; a son Joseph, Plymouth, Minnesota; and daughter Kari Bishop (Stephanie), Jacksonville, Florida; three grandchildren, Cooper, Easton and Porter; a sister Kristi Morsch (Randy), Fifty Lakes, Minnesota; brother-in-laws and sister-in-laws; nieces and nephews and many, many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Mike and Addie. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Miriam Louise (Peterson) Haines

1938 – 2023



Miriam Haines, age 84, passed away on January 22.

She was born November 24, 1938, in Bradley, South Dakota, to Reverend William and Valborg (Sorum) Peterson. She spent her childhood in various small towns in Minnesota and South Dakota.

Miriam graduated from St. Olaf College where she met Don. In their years of ELCA ministry, Miriam, Don and family lived and served in Saskatchewan, Canada, Storden, Minnesota, Ishpeming, Michigan, Wausau and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After retirement from parish ministry, they moved to the Twin Cities where they were surrounded by family. She found great satisfaction working as an administrative assistant at Westminster Presbyterian, spending summers at Sand Bay in Door County and faithfully worshipping at Central Lutheran Church. She made many friends along the way, most recently at Lake Shore Drive Condos in Richfield, Minnesota where she delighted in being part of book clubs and the library committee. Her home always had a place for everything, a pot of coffee ready to brew, and treats hidden around for her grandchildren. Her life was filled with music. She started writing poetry in her fifties, and many enjoyed her work in birthday or Christmas cards.

She is survived by her daughters Lisa (Randall) Kolberg and Ann Haines Holy Eagle; sons Jeff (Heidi) Haines and Douglas Haines; nine grandchildren; two great-grandsons; sister Bea Friesth; brother Paul Peterson; and sister/brother-in-law Pete and Adie (Haines) Hegrenes.

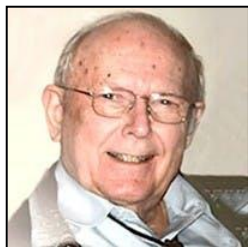
Miriam is preceded in death by her husband Don. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.





John Robert Holum

1928 – 2023



John Robert Holum, 94, of St. Paul passed away January 27, 2023.

Retired professor of chemistry at Augsburg College and chemistry textbook author. Born August 31, 1928, in Tracy, Minnesota, son of Gilbert and Elvine Holum. John grew up in Harris, Minnesota, graduated from North Branch High School (1946), St. Olaf College (B.A. 1950) and the University of Minnesota (Ph.D., 1954). While at St. Olaf, he accepted an invitation to girl's date night from Mary Mattill who would become the love and joy of his life and with whom he shared 49 years of marriage.

John taught at Augsburg College, 1957-1993 (with one year at Pacific Lutheran, 1958-59). He was a Science Faculty Fellow with the National Science Foundation from 1962-63 (Cal. Inst. Of Tech.) and he earned awards from the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society, a Distinguished Teaching Award in 1974, Senior Chemists Award in 2006 and a Lifetime Achievement Award from North Branch High School Alumni Association in 2014. Through the many letters John received from former students, it is clear that he didn't just teach Chemistry. Mentor, role model, inspiration, and adviser were all words used to describe his role in also shaping their understanding of hard work, integrity, faith, and vocation. It was his year at Pacific Lutheran where he discovered his love of writing. When he couldn't find a "suitable" textbook for a new course for nurses, he began writing segments of instruction that he used as his text. He mentioned this work to a sales rep for Wiley & Sons on a sales visit and was met with an eager "tell me more" response. His first edition of Elements of General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry (9th edition, 1995) was published a few years later. He later added Fundamentals of General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry (6th edition, 1998), Chemistry: Matter and its Changes (with James Brandy and Joel Russell, (3rd edition, 2000) and other textbooks, laboratory manuals, and study guides. Various editions were translated into Korean, Spanish, and Italian.

He was a man of deep and abiding faith. Together with Mary, their shared faith was the anchor of their family's life. The family shared holidays and all major events with Mary's sisters' Barbara and Phyllis and traveled each summer to Montana to visit Mary's sister Kathryn, her husband Herb and their boys David, Tim and Jonathan. John and Herb planned and executed (with precision) annual six-day backpacking trips for this family group of ten into the deep wilderness of the Beartooth Mountains. We remember John's devotion to Mary and Liz and his determination to soldier on even as his profound grief over their deaths impacted his retirement and final years. He cherished hearing stories of his family and watching the lives of his grandchildren unfold. He was warm and gracious, grateful and generous, faithful and humble through his final days.

John is survived by daughters Ann Holum (Alex Kass), and Kathryn Holum (Glenn Baron); son-in-law Daniel (May) Johnson; grandchildren Sara Robinson, Ryan Johnson, Daniel and David Kass, Marlee and Julia Baron; sister-in-law Phyllis Mattill; family friend Gordon Braatz, as well as nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by wife, Mary, daughter Elizabeth Johnson, and brother Gilbert. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



David “Dave” Lynn Holland

1947 – 2023



David (“Dave”) L. Holland, age 75, loving father, husband, and grandparent, passed away in the company of loved ones on January 28, 2023, in Roseville, Minnesota.

He was born on August 14, 1947, in Spring Grove, Minnesota to James and Palma Holland. On September 4, 1966, he joined in marriage to Ann (Torvick) Holland at Trinity Lutheran Church in Spring Grove. He shared a birthday with his son, John, born August 14, 1972.

Dave was valedictorian of his high school class (Spring Grove High School – Class of 1965), graduated from the University of Minnesota with high distinction from the Bachelor of Science program in 1968, as well as with a Master of Science degree in 1970. Thereafter, he served as an officer aboard the Navy’s first supercarrier, the USS Forrestal. Following honorable discharge from Naval service, he was employed by First Bank which later merged with US Bank, where Dave capably served as a vice president with responsibility for disaster recovery planning.

He will be remembered for his gentle demeanor, intelligence, and dry wit – and for being a computer whiz. He was a friend to many and will be missed by family and friends.

He is survived by son John; daughter-in-law Trina; granddaughters Amelia and Anika; and many other relatives and friends.

Dave was preceded in death by Ann, his parents, and brother, Dean. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Ann Marie Isaacson Kurz

1930 – 2023



Ann Marie Isaacson Kurz was born on December 25, 1930. Whenever she called the church, we were reminded that she has been a member of Central Lutheran since 1944. It was stated with such enthusiasm and joy.

Although in assisted living, she felt connected and enjoyed receiving mailings with news of the daily activities and events. Visits from her sister Joyce and Caring Crew member Carney Bergeson-Meekins were the topic of conversation well after they were over. And a long-awaited trip out for lunch was a major highlight with a wonderful meal and conversation at a close by McDonald’s!

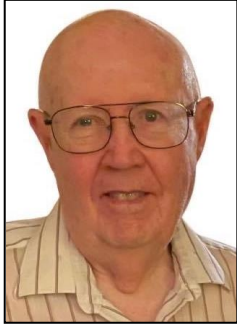
Ann Marie was a loving, faithful member and friend who found joy in the smallest gestures of kindness towards her. When you walked in with a Christmas or Easter plant you felt you had brought the best gift ever! During those last months when words didn’t come, she still spoke with the beautiful smile on her face and the twinkle in her eyes. We are forever blessed to have known this child of God.

Ann Marie died on March 31, 2023, at the age of 92. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.



Wesley Harlan Winters

1940 – 2023



Wesley Harlan Winters, 82, of Crystal, died April 1, 2023.

He was born October 10, 1940 in Floyd County, Iowa to Faith and Harlen Winters. A 1963 graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in electrical engineering, Wes came to the Twin Cities in 1964 to work for Univac in the early days of the space program. He went on to be a 30+ year employee of Honeywell where he was a software engineer in the avionics division.

Wes loved spending time with his children. He supported scouting activities and never missed a recital or musical concert. He enjoyed taking walks with his kids and was always up for going on adventures with them. As a grandparent (and uncle), he was happy to introduce the youngest members of the family to card games and chess. He especially loved being a grandpa and spending time with the grandchildren.

He enjoyed fishing and deer hunting and had a general love and appreciation for the outdoors. He was an avid contract and duplicate bridge player and, after retirement, could usually be found afternoons at the card table with his wife of 57 years, as his favorite partner. Together they also enjoyed traveling. Their greatest adventure together was a safari in Africa in 2001, which was Wes's dream trip.

A stage four cancer diagnosis on February 26, 2023, brought a swift end to the life of this good man.

Wes is survived by wife, Lauri; son, Peter, (Crystal); daughter, Sarah (Jason) Manro, Noblesville, Indiana; grandchildren, Melanie Manro, Luke Manro, Justin Manro; sister, Glenda Hillson, Ames, Iowa; sisters-in-law, Kim Bird, Lewisville, Texas and Lynn (Frank) Stone, Blaine, Minnesota, and many cousins, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by brother-in-laws Thomas Hillson and Corey Lillestol. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



LaVerne “Verne” Theodore Bergan

1927 – 2023



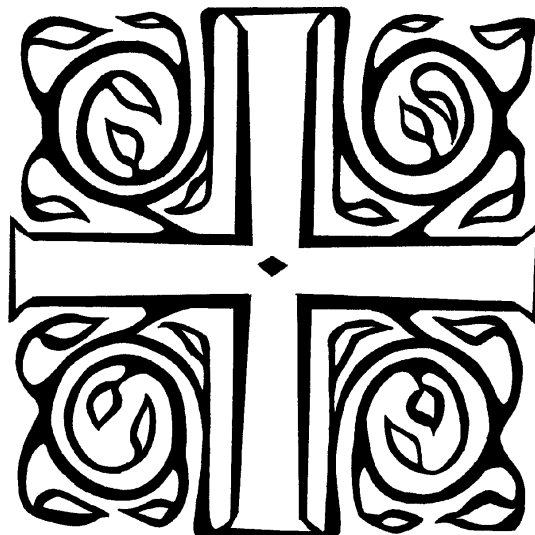
It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of LaVerne T. Bergan at the age of 95.

LaVerne was born in Madison Township, Iowa on October 3, 1927, to Carl and Mabel (Kjos) Bergan of Ridgeway, Iowa. He graduated from Ridgeway High School in 1947 and attended Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois and Iowa State in Ames, Iowa. In 1953, LaVerne joined the Special Category Army Personnel with Air Force (SCARPWAF) (1953 - 1955) and served in the Korean War. During his time in the service, he learned skills that he used for the rest of his working career as a carpenter. He was a longstanding member (1956-present) of the North Central States Carpenters Union, Local 322.

He was a longtime member of Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, where he met and married Lois Larson from Lanesboro, Minnesota on June 15, 1972. They were active members of the Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) group in the church where they made many cherished friendships. Though they lived in Minneapolis, they were both farm people at heart. They had a hobby farm north of the Twin Cities, where they would garden, raise cattle, and enjoy the country air.

LaVerne is survived by sisters, Ethel Tietje, Jean Morris, Janet (Joe) Frank; in laws, Louise (Glenn) Schulz, Evelyn Larson, and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family members.

He is preceded in death by his wife Lois Bergan; parents Carl & Mabel Bergan, brothers; Eldon Bergan and Marvin Bergan; sister, Colleen Hovey; in laws, Herb Tietje, Jim Morris, Maynard Hovey, Clarence & Ida Larson, Edith Larson, Charles Larson, and Odell Larson. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.





David “Dave” Sydney Dahl

1939 – 2023



David Sydney Dahl, aged 83, of Edina passed away April 17, 2023. Dahl was a U.S. Naval officer and had a long career as an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

Dave was born on December 21, 1939, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota to Berger and Gladys (Bunsness) Dahl. He was followed by two sisters, Judy and Joyce, and then his brother, John. While Dave was a young child, his father Berger served in the Navy at the end of World War II and then entered the hardware business back in South Dakota. The Dahl family lived in Aberdeen, Platte and Mitchell, South Dakota and eventually returned to Sioux Falls.

When Dave was 16, his father died suddenly of a heart attack. Gladys and the four children carried on in Sioux Falls. Dave attended high school at Augustana Academy, graduating in 1957. He then joined the Naval Reserve Officers Training Program and attended Augustana College, graduating in 1961. After college, he entered active duty in the U.S. Navy. His naval tours included a posting in Kodiak, Alaska during the 1964 earthquake and time in the Mediterranean. He eventually attained the rank of lieutenant commander.

After his time as an active-duty officer, Dave entered the Naval Reserve and enrolled in a master’s program in economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Upon graduation in January 1966, he moved to Minneapolis where he took a position as an economist in the Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

In 1966, Dave met Phyllis Ledin at Koinonians, a young adult group at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. They participated in canoe camping trips together in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, creating friendships that would last a lifetime. They became engaged in July 1967, married at Aldrich Avenue Presbyterian Church in South Minneapolis on November 25, 1967, and lived on Dean Boulevard in South Minneapolis.

In December 1968, Phyllis and Dave bought a home on Branson Street in the Morningside neighborhood of Edina, Minnesota where they would reside for the next 48 years. In December 1969, Phyllis gave birth to their son, Mark. Peter was born in 1971 and Dan followed in 1974. The young family was active in the Central Lutheran community and became involved in Camp Amnicon, Central Lutheran’s camp on the south shore of Lake Superior.

In the 1980s, the Dahl kids attended the Edina public schools with all three eventually graduating from Edina High School. Dave and Phyllis supported the kids’ activities including scouting, band, bicycling and cross-country skiing. Dave was elected treasurer of Central Lutheran Church in 1987, where the family continued to be active members. In the early eighties, Dave built a 16-foot Luger kit sailboat and the family enjoyed sailing it on Minnesota lakes. In 1989, Dave finished the Twin Cities Marathon, the first of seven marathons he would complete.

Dave eventually transitioned from the Research Department to the Public Affairs Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. He retired from the Fed in 2000 after 34 years of service. His next adventure was teaching economics and banking classes as an adjunct instructor at Augsburg College, the University of St. Thomas, and the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

In their retirement years, Dave and Phyllis enjoyed visiting their son Dan and his wife B in Colorado and their son Mark in Oregon. Dave and Phyllis took to grandparenting Mark's son Rowan with great joy. Dave's experience raising three boys came right back to him as he never hesitated to drop to the floor to play with Rowan as he grew from a tiny baby to a rambunctious young boy. In retirement, Phyllis and Dave volunteered at Central Lutheran Church and traveled extensively, taking a number of cruises including ventures to Alaska, the Panama Canal and the Mediterranean.

In 2016, after 48 years together, Dave lost Phyllis after a three-year struggle with an aggressive form of Parkinson's disease. In the years following, Dave moved into the 7500 York Apartment Cooperative where he served on the board and as treasurer. He continued to pursue his passions which included reading, cooking, biking, exercise at the YMCA, volunteering at the Restoration Center at Central Lutheran and travel. He ventured to Europe and the Pacific and took bike tours into his eighties. In 2019, with a nod to his Norwegian heritage, he organized a Grand Tour of Norway with Dan, B, Peter, Mark and Rowan.

A very important part of Dave's life was his time spent with his son Peter. They had a Sunday routine that included church, a meal out and a favorite bookstore. Dave cherished seeing his siblings' families over holidays and vacations, particularly John, Barb, Bill, Judy and Kirstin. Before she passed away in 2018 at age 103, Dave and his siblings regularly visited their mother Gladys in Sioux Falls.

Dave Dahl was a warm, kind and generous man who was curious and optimistic by nature. He was a committed Christian and practiced service to the community. He was a dedicated and loving husband. He was a father with a steady presence who did everything in his power to support his kids and always took any opportunity to spend time with them. Dave was good humored and loved to tell a good story and laugh among kin and friends.

He is survived by sons, Dan (B), Mark and Peter; grandson, Rowan.

Dave is preceded in death by wife, Phyllis. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them both.



Nalani Jean Lavedure

1951 – 2023



Nalani J. Lavedure, 71, of Crystal, passed away suddenly on Monday morning, May 8, 2023, at North Memorial Hospital.

Nalani (Lani) was born on April 5, 1951, to the late Ralph G. Lavedure of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Marjorie A. Davis of Rutland, Vermont. Nalani graduated Wednesday, June 4, 1969, from Frank B. Kellogg High School. Nalani then attended the University of Minnesota.

She enjoyed her early life jobs that prepared her for a lifetime of connecting with people in positive ways. Anyone that grew to know Lani was treated to her joke(s) of the day' which was customary upon greeting her.

Lani was a very caring and talented woman. Her life resumé contained experiences such as: Junior Achievement awards, ballerina dancing, horseback riding and working at the stables, mastering CNC machining and CAD/CAM programming, along with security guard training and work. Lani then started her own supplemental service named 'CNC Operations & Training,' this led her to her own programming and consulting company 'Lodestar Engineering.'

Lani performed stellar volunteer work which enabled her to receive an article (She's a win-win woman) published about her in the Minneapolis Star Tribune in 2009. Another article was published about her in Reader's Digest for their May 2009 release. Lani has also accumulated many certifications and awards throughout her life. She also had a service named 'Lani's Lens' Creative Photography.

Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.



Robin Lynn Martin

1977 – 2023



Robin was born in Miami, Florida on September 1, 1977. Her mother Sandy died when Robin was around four years old. Robin then moved with her stepmom and dad to Ocala, Florida, until she left home at around age 16. Robin then went to Miami for a couple years, and then to Arkansas. She stayed there for a couple years, and then ended up in Houston, Texas, where her aunt Gwen lived. She lived in Houston for about 12 years, then went to North Dakota with a friend for a short while, then Robin ended up in Minnesota, where she passed away on May 20, 2023.

Robin was loved by all who met her. She had lots of family but chose to stay estranged from all because of her addiction. She was a bright sparkly soul who loved to be free and lived her life the way she chose and created her own inner peace with the demons that tormented her. She is finally free from all the pain and hardship that life had brought her.

Robin had two sons, Julio and Brock. Both were taken at birth because they were born addicted. She knew it was the best decision, but it also ripped her heart out, and she always carried that pain inside her. Robin loved her friends deeply and fiercely. She always had a joke for you, and it was never clean. Robin loved and was loved by Michael who cared for her in her last days.

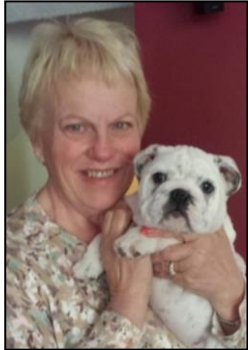
Robin is survived by her sons, Julio and Brock; father, James Martin Sr., Ozark, Alabama; brothers, James Martin, Jr., Jacksonville, Florida, Kenneth Martin, Ozark, Alabama; aunts, Gwendolyn Martin, Houston, Texas, Mary Ann Martin Evans, Tennessee, Katrina Martin Stanley; Clintwood, Virginia, Janell Hershman, Ohio; uncles, Ricky Ray, Miami, Florida, Robert Martin, Miami, Florida, Meather Martin, Bealton, Virginia; and many first cousins.

She was preceded in death by her mother Sandy and four uncles. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Jody Renee (Trygstad) Hoffman

1956 – 2023



Jody Hoffman died unexpectedly of natural causes in her home on May 21, 2023.

Jody Renee Hoffman was born February 21, 1956, in Redwood Falls, Minnesota, to Florraine and Joseph Wengen. Raised in Minneapolis, she lived briefly in Norway with her parents when her father moved the family there on a Fulbright scholarship. While in Norway, he passed when Jody was three years old. She and her mother returned to Minneapolis where her mother later remarried her adoptive father, William Trygstad. Jody attended the Minneapolis Public Schools and graduated from Roosevelt High School. As a teenager, Jody played the flute, was an excellent marksman, and found her passion for horses.

She began her studies in Agriculture Sciences at the University of Minnesota but realized her life's work would be with horses. She began working at O'Mac Farms in Red Wing, Minnesota, and there met the love of her life, Larry Hoffman. They married on November 27, 1982. In 1983, the couple established Hesten Park in Hastings, Minnesota. Jody and Larry bred and trained Arabian and Half-Arabian horses, winning countless National Championships at shows across the United States and Canada. While Larry focused on the horses, Jody focused on the riders. She spent countless hours seated in barn aisles during shows offering sound advice, a shoulder to cry on, or a delicate touch of tough love.

Jody was extremely proud of her children, Hillary, and Matthew. She traveled back to Norway during Hillary's college years to proudly watch her sing with the St. Olaf Choir. Her blind faith in Matthew's passion for skiing took them on many winter adventures as she added "ultimate ski parent" to her coaching accomplishment.

After her children moved out of the home, Jody filled the house with bulldogs. Since the Hoffmans compete with all their animals, Jody applied her knowledge of breeding horses to dogs and within only a few years had bulldogs competing and winning at the Bulldog Club of America National Specialty. Penelope was queen of the Hoffman Bulldogs and Jody's foundation bitch. In only 6 years, Jody accomplished the requirements to be listed in the BCA Breeder's Hall of Fame.

Those who knew Jody considered her the matriarch not only of her home and family but of every community of which she was a part. Jody always maintained a proud connection to her Norwegian heritage. She delighted in entertaining in her warm, Scandinavian homes. Friends and family treasured the opportunity to celebrate Christmas in her home, admiring her dramatically beautiful trees musically supported with recordings of the St. Olaf Christmas Festival. Jody kept her hands busy with needlework and coloring; she had an artist's eye. Jody's kitchen was always a place of congregation as she enjoyed cooking, baking, and canning.

She is survived by her husband, Larry Hoffman, and children, Hillary and Matthew, her "third dad," Jerry Williams, stepsiblings Elizabeth (Roger) Gomoll, Susan (Robert) Jenkins, Paul (Evone Greene) Williams, Mark (Robin) Trygstad, Kirsti Trygstad, and the countless parents, students, friends, and bulldogs whose lives she touched.

Jody was preceded in death by her father, Joseph Wangen, adoptive father, William Trygstad, mother, Florraine Wangen Trygstad Williams, and son, David. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Bruce Alderink Birkeland

1963 – 2023



When Bruce A. Birkeland, 59, lifelong Minneapolis champion and resident, passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones on June 2, 2023, the world became hushed and lost some of its captivating charm. He lived life to the fullest with infectious joy and vigor. He met everyone with the same enthusiasm and respect; no matter if you were a childhood friend, neighbor, struggling stranger, or person of import. He was a friend to all and always generous with his time, talk, and talent. Self-made and self-taught, he used his larger-than-life personality, perseverance, and wit to succeed.

He found infinite joy uniting families with homes over his 35-year realty career working with his stellar team of Scott Acker and Amanda Johnson. In his personal life, he was a music aficionado, accomplished chef, a true-believer Minnesota sports fan, and a community mainstay. He always made time to reminisce about the early days, First Avenue days, restaurant days, and Coldwell Banker days. He entertained multitudes and he lived life thoroughly. He will be missed immensely.

Privileged to carry his legacy are his devoted and loving wife of 30 years, Di, and his beloved sons and daughter-in-law, Dane (Katie) and Soren, all of whom he was incredibly proud of. He is deeply missed by his brother Sigvard (Holly) with children Alek (Dawn), Hans (Kalli), and Berit (Josh), sisters Celeste Birkeland (John Black) and Karin Birkeland (Lee Mitau) with children Birk Mitau and Alida Mitau, and brother-in-law Bruce Singer. He also leaves behind cherished childhood friends as well as hundreds of others who will remember him as a loyal confidant, the life of every party, and generous friend, role-model, brother, and father-figure.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Florence and Sigvard, and sister Linda Singer. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Elizabeth Mary (Kocs) Dewey

1923 – 2023



Elizabeth Mary Dewey passed away peacefully on Sunday July 9, 2023, at age 100 at Jones-Harrison Senior Living.

Elizabeth was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to immigrants Louis and Mary Kocs on May 4, 1923. She helped run the family grocery store with her siblings and graduated from West Milwaukee High School, where she met the love of her life, John Robert Dewey. In 1943, they married in Gainesville, Florida, where he started Army Air Corps training. After the war, they returned to Milwaukee and raised eight children. They moved to California and back to Wisconsin, finally settling in Minneapolis in 1974. She was active in her church and community, receiving a BA from Metropolitan State University in 1981. She loved to travel, visiting England, Scotland, France, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Hawaii, Alaska, Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica, and many parts of the U.S. She and John spent 16 winters with friends in Port Aransas, Texas.

Elizabeth is survived by seven other children, Beth Boyd, Mary Bliss, Marney Billings, Janet Richter, Alice Goldstone, Sarah Dewey, and Julia Dye; six sons-in-law; many grandchildren, many more great-grandchildren, and an extended family of relations and friends from every walk of life. She chose to believe the best about everyone, and loved to give them all a smile, a touch, and a word of kindness.

She is preceded in death by her husband who adored her until his last breath; sister, Margaret Bonneau and brothers, Frank and Eugene Kocs, and son, Rob Dewey. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Muriel Eileen (Moen) Dostal

1926 – 2023



Muriel (née Moen) Dostal, age 96, passed away July 19, 2023, in Minneapolis.

Muriel was baptized and confirmed at First Lutheran in Fargo, North Dakota. As a girl, she dreamed one day of becoming a teacher, and she would line up her dolls and toys to serve as "students" in her "classroom." Muriel graduated from Moorhead State and started teaching in Minot, North Dakota. She then taught in Wayzata, Minnesota, where she met her husband, Guel. They were married in St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in St. Paul in 1962. Muriel then began teaching in the St. Paul Public Schools, at Chelsea Heights. She taught elementary grades and special education and continued to teach in the St. Paul Public Schools until her retirement in 1981. Muriel believed deeply in the importance and value of a public-school education. As a teacher, she strived to teach and care for all of her students. Muriel and Guel enjoyed travel, going to Europe and the Pacific long before there were direct flights. Muriel was a long-time member of and volunteer with Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

After she retired, she devoted even more time to volunteering with Central Lutheran, and helped organize activities for the senior group, OWLS - Older Wiser Lutherans. Muriel was very devoted to her family. She never forgot a birthday. Muriel doted on her nieces and nephews, and grand-nieces and grand-nephews. She enjoyed hosting dinners and family gatherings. Muriel made sure the holidays were magical for her family and friends. Muriel received excellent care from Jones-Harrison Residence. Her surviving family would like to thank everyone who provided care to her.

Muriel is survived by her brothers, Arne and Ivar; her sister-in-law, Patricia Moen; and her nieces and nephews, Nicole Moen, Geoffrey Moen, Juli Wornson, David Snortum, and Vickie McMahon.

Muriel was preceded in death by her husband, Guel Dostal; her parents, Arthur and Norah (née Emery); sisters, Marion and Lorraine; and brothers, John and Norman. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.





Darlene Alice (Johnk) Erickson

1934 – 2023



Darlene died July 22, 2023 at age 88. Darlene was born August 1, 1934 in Page, North Dakota. She spent her childhood on the family farm in Page until she moved to Fargo, North Dakota, to attend nursing school. She then moved to the Twin Cities, where she lived the remainder of her life. She started attending Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis, where she met Virgil (Don) Erickson. They were married September 15, 1956 and spent 59 years together until Don's passing in 2015. Darlene spent her nursing career as an operating room nurse, mostly at Lutheran Deaconess Hospital and later within the Fairview Hospital system.

She loved her family, church, and friends. She loved to decorate for every holiday, big and small, and developed an impressive collection of decorations. She enjoyed hosting gatherings for family and friends, and sang in choirs for much of her life.

Darlene is survived by children Mark (Lynn) Erickson, Joan (Mark) Brekke; grandchildren Ian (Katrina) Brekke, Stefan (Aaliyah) Brekke, Britta (Pete) Lindquist, Hannah (Peru Elorza) Erickson; great-grandchildren Addison, Zakri, Edward, and Cedric; brother Jerome (Faye) Johnk, and many extended family members.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Beatrice Johnk, and husband Don Erickson. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.

Darlene was tenderly cared for in her last years and days by the staffs of Amira Choice, North Memorial Hospital, and St Therese at St Odilia. Thank you.



June Wickre (Wickre) Oakins

1931 – 2023



June Wickre Oakins was born on her father's birthday, June 7, 1931, to Jacob and Gertrude Wickre in Veblen, South Dakota. She attended country school for elementary education and graduated Valedictorian of her class from Veblen High School in 1948. June enrolled in Northern State Teachers College in Aberdeen, South Dakota after high school and received a teaching certificate that allowed her to teach in country schools, which she did for two years.

Along with her sisters, June participated in all the activities necessary to keep the farm afloat, milking cows, hauling grain, feeding the chickens and pigs. She loved the outdoors and was happy to leave the cooking to other sisters.

Her great love was the piano, taking lessons while in grade school and high school, eventually becoming the church organist. In that role June played for many weddings, concerts and funerals in the community. Advanced piano lessons in college required a recital at the end of the term for which she played Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C Sharp from memory. Music was a focal point in the family and many after dinner hours were spent around the piano singing favorite songs and hymns.

In 1951 June moved to Minneapolis and was employed in the Health Service at the University of Minnesota. While working there, she responded to a newspaper advertisement for Northwest Airlines reservation agents and enrolled in their training program. Upon completion she was hired by the airline and continued with Northwest for nine years. One night a reservation error resulting in an oversold flight led to meeting her future husband. Jim was the ground supervising agent for Northwest at the time and in that role was the person who had to solve the problem. He stormed into the reservation area and demanded to know what had happened. Whether June was responsible for the error or not, it led to dinners and dates, culminating in marriage March 26, 1955.

She subsequently worked for British Overseas Airways for 3 ½ years and when June and Jim moved to Florida, for Eastern Airlines. When they returned to Minneapolis, June applied for and received her license to be an import/export broker, which she did until her retirement in 1991.

June loved to travel and made several trips to Europe and a visit to Israel. A very special trip to Norway with her sisters culminated in a visit to the Island of Karmoy and the village of Skudeneshavn where her grandfather Wickre was born.

June was a member of Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and active in the Lutheran Womens' Group (WELCA) serving as President from 1993 to 1995. Upon moving to Arizona, she attended Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church.

June died July 23, 2023, after a brief illness.

Survivors include her sisters Lois Markley, Lyla Dramise (Joe), Faye Gilbarg and Cynthia Cangley (Bill); nieces and nephews Jeff Markley (Lori), Jennifer Byrd (Tim), Joe Dramise (Mary), Angelina Vogt (Jim), and Tim Oakins. Survivors also include great-nieces and nephews and many cousins and friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Jim; parents Jacob and Gertrude; sisters Marilyn, Ardamae, Betty; infant sisters Arlis and Arlene; brothers-in-law Gordon Markley and Paul Gilbarg. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Suzanne M. Ferkey

1936 – 2023



Suzanne M. "Oma" Ferkey, age 87 of Minneapolis went to be with the Lord on July 30, 2023. Suzanne was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point where she earned a teaching degree, but later in life pursued her true calling and became a Lutheran pastor, graduating from Luther Seminary serving parishes in the metro area. Both Suzanne and Duane loved spending time with family, especially their grandchildren.

Survived by sisters Christine and Julie, son Bill, daughter Beth and husband James and grandchildren Ben (Carrie), Sam (Yuan), Emma (Matt) and Hannah (Tyler), great-grandchildren, Kai, Henley and Wyatt, and nieces, nephew and cousins.

Suzanne is preceded in death by parents, husband Duane, son Thomas. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.





Judith “Judy” Anne (Lund) Erdman

1935 – 2023



Judy Erdman, "Mormor", (Mothers Mother in Swedish) peacefully left this world, in her home surrounded by family, on Friday August 4, 2023. A wonderfully positive, loving, caring, and CURIOUS woman who will be forever missed by a flock of family and friends.

Mom was born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota on May 24, 1935. The daughter of Dr. Carl and Anne Lund. She spent summers at the family cabin on Ottertail Lake. She said recently when asked, "Just dump my ashes in Ottertail Lake, that is where I will reside." She longed to go east for college but decided on Gustavus Adolphus College where her parents and many other family members attended. It was at Gustavus she met her husband, Robert Eugene Erdman. An unlikely couple, Bob a basketball player and Judy a music and theater major. They made it work for a mere 66 years. She had many and varied jobs but mostly identified herself as a high school English teacher, as a result all family members know the difference between lie and lay, of which she made sure ;) The Ottertail cabin was one of her very special places. Other such places were Camp Courage, St. Peter (Gustavus), Orchestra Hall, sitting at her piano, wherever Dad was, the Cumberland cabin, Paris, New York, and anywhere she would travel. Mom was a voracious reader and traveler. She was the most curious person, most who knew her, have ever known. So curious, in fact she went back to get her Ph.D. in Chaos Theory at the University of Minnesota in her fifties. Her Ph.D. quest was short circuited by the continuous arrival of

her grandchildren. Her priority and joy were undeniably spending time with her grandchildren. Her spirit is free and will always be remembered.

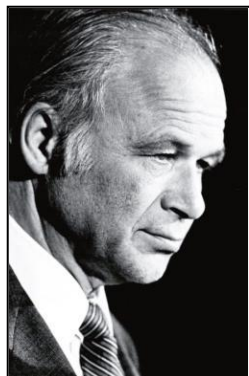
Judy is preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Michael Lund. She leaves behind her loving and devoted husband Robert Eugene Erdman; siblings, Linda Anderson, Carolyn Sandvig, and Neil Lund. Her large family includes daughters; Carla Erdman Young (Rodney), Amy Erdman Biewen (Paul), and Elisabeth Erdman Braun (Tom Olmscheid). The joys of her life were her grandchildren; Anna Melin Biewen Fleischman (Sam), Elise Jeanette Biewen Schmidt (Jon), Lauren Ellis Young (Dani), Benjamin Robert Biewen, Taylor Melin Young Sandeman (Colin), Kathryn Elisabeth Biewen Eickhoff (Jack). And lastly, a brood of great-grandchildren: Paul and Wynn (Anna and Sam), Ryder, Rory, and Oliver (Elise and Jon), Ayo, and twins in the hopper (Lauren and Dani), Willow and Wave (Taylor and Colin). And many extended family. Whew! ;)





Albert “Al” Harold Quie

1923 – 2023



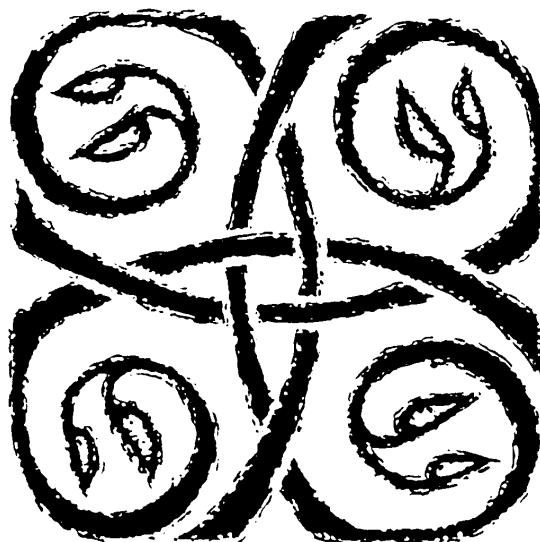
Albert H. Quie, age 99, died August 18, 2023, at his home in Wayzata. He represented Minnesota’s First District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1958 to 1979, and he served as governor of Minnesota from 1979 to 1983.

Albert was born in Rice County to Albert K. and Nettie Quie on September 18, 1923. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war, he took over the family farm near Dennison and attended St. Olaf College (graduating in 1950), where he met his wife to be, Gretchen Hansen. They were married in 1948 and started raising four children on the farm before Albert was elected to Congress in 1958. A fifth child was born after the family moved to Maryland (suburban Washington, DC). After serving in Congress for two decades, he was elected governor and served one term. After retiring from elected office, he continued to

be active in public policy areas such as education and judicial reform. He was also active in Prison Fellowship. A life-long Lutheran, all his endeavors were guided by his deep Christian faith.

He is survived by his brother, Paul (Betty) Quie; his five children, Fredric (Melinda) Quivik, Jennifer (David) Coffin, Daniel (Luanne) Quie, Joel (Sarah) Quie, and Ben (Ginny) Quie; fourteen grandchildren; and twenty-two great-grandchildren.

Albert was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Alice (Conrad) Eastwold and Marjorie (John) Vaiden, and his wife, Gretchen, who died in 2015. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.





Dorothy “Dot” Mae (Jacobson) Hoffman

1934 – 2023



Dorothy Mae Hoffman, 89, of Richfield, Minnesota, passed away peacefully on August 25, 2023. She was born on May 26, 1934, in Madison, Minnesota, to Clifford and Julia Nesvold Jacobson. Following graduation from high school in Madison, Dorothy began college studies at St. Olaf College. She studied Education at the University of Minnesota, Mankato. Dorothy then taught at Shirley Hills Elementary School for two years and then for several more years for the school district of St. Louis Park. Once she and Oliver had children, she focused on family life; when the children were older, she became certified as a Special Education Teacher, and taught in the Richfield public schools. She was a member of Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis since 1960.

She is survived by her children, Ellen Belk of Allen, Texas, Paul Hoffman of Golden Valley, and Lisa Upchurch of Tacoma, Washington; seven grandchildren, and many other relatives. Dorothy was a loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother, and friend to all.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband Oliver: they grew up together, were best friends and were married 57 years. She was preceded in death by her brother, Gordon of Escondido, California, and sister, Jean of Mankato.



Dorothy Ann Huesers

1933 – 2023



Dorothy Ann Huesers, age 90 of Minot, North Dakota passed away August 30, 2023.

Dorothy worked for the Minnesota Department of Health for most of her career after graduating from the University of Minnesota. She was a loving mother who raised her son on her own. She was always involved with her church, Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, and Salem Lutheran in St. Cloud. She enjoyed going to plays and to the Minnesota Orchestra with friends. She will be missed.

She is survived by her son Lowell; sister Anna Marie Huesers, many nieces, nephews and friends.

Dorothy is preceded in death by her parents and five siblings and their spouses. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Charles “Chuck” Kenneth Anderson

1944 – 2023



Charles K. (Chuck) Anderson age 78 of Savage, Minnesota passed away peacefully at his home on August 26, 2023. Charles (Chuck) was born September 25, 1944, to parents, Hartvig and Lydia (Johnson) Anderson.

Chuck spent his childhood years in Osseo, Wisconsin graduating from high school in 1962. He received his BSB from the University of Minnesota School of Business in 1967, his Master of Divinity (MDiv) from Northwestern Theological Seminary, St. Paul in 1973 and that same year was ordained at Christ Chapel, Gustavus, into the ministry of the Minnesota Synod, Lutheran Church in America (LCA). This June Chuck celebrated the milestone of the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

Chuck loved being a pastor! Whether preaching, teaching, or just listening, Chuck was always “doing ministry.” He touched so many, sharing his deep love of God, and bringing the joy of faith into their lives. He served parish calls in: East Chain and Pilot Grove, Fairmont and Elmore, Minnesota; Holy Trinity Lutheran, West Allis, Wisconsin; and Holy Trinity Lutheran, New Prague, Minnesota where he served until 1995 when he and Joyce moved to Savage.

Chuck also loved the challenge of interim calls and found great joy in bringing positive leadership and pastoral care to congregations in times of change. During his years in the metro area, he served interim calls in eight different churches, mostly in the Minneapolis Area Synod: Grace, Bloomington; St. John’s and Redeemer, Belle Plaine and Henderson; Holy Triune, Northeast Minneapolis; Stockholm Lutheran, Cokato; Bethany, south Minneapolis; Zion, south Minneapolis; Our Father’s, Rockford. He completed his ministry years as a Visitation Pastor at Central Lutheran, Minneapolis, an opportunity he greatly treasured and retired there from ministry in April 2015.

Chuck loved food, cooking, and baking, which he and Joyce always shared. They loved entertaining family and friends. Such lovely dining events always began with Chuck’s beautiful all-encompassing prayers to properly set the tone. Chuck loved the travels to Norway with their children and grandchildren, and with Joyce to France, Italy, England, and Germany. Whenever possible, these trips included wonderful worship experiences in cathedrals. Chuck also loved Naples, Florida where he and Joyce wintered for several years, and grandchildren graduation trips to New York and San Francisco.

Despite an extended journey with cancer and other health issues that came to his life, Chuck was blessed to have lived for many wonderful years. He felt he had received more than his share of God’s rich care and love. His positive view was always that life is a gift and a joy each new day. From his years in interim ministry, Chuck maintained that; “all of us are on our journey of life as ‘interims,’ moving toward the final place where we will be with God.” A truly kind, thoughtful, and loving person, Chuck will be greatly missed.

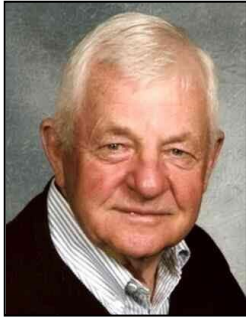
He is survived by Joyce, his loving wife and life-partner of 59 years; sons Reed (Jennifer) and Wade; grandchildren Kelsey, Haaken (Eryn), Lily and Emily, and several nieces and nephews.

Chuck is preceded in death by his parents, five siblings Lorraine Heider, Joanne Hawver, Edwin, James, and David; and his in-laws, Manford and Myrtle Amundson and brother-in-law Wayne Amundson. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Lyle Lyman Berg

1932 – 2023



Lyle L. Berg, 90, of Webster, South Dakota fell asleep in the Lord on September 7, 2023, at Bethesda Nursing Home in Webster, Sout Dakota.

Services were held at Tabor Church in Webster on Monday, September 11 with military internment at the Webster Cemetery.

The son of Elmer and Myrl (Kennedy) Berg, Lyle was born in Webster, South Dakota in November 1932. After graduating from Webster High School in 1950, he helped on the family farm near Holmquist, South Dakota. In 1953, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. In 1956, following 18 months deployed to Korea, he separated from the Army. Lyle graduated from South Dakota State University (SDSU) in 1960 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Following graduation, he worked as a civil engineer for the City of Crystal, Minnesota. He attended Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, where he met his future wife, Arlee. They were married in August 1962 in Zumbrota, Minnesota. In 1964, Lyle began working for the City of Bloomington, Minnesota where he founded and led the Traffic and Transportation Engineering Department. He retired in 2000 and again in 2003. His accomplishments include the planning and development of many infrastructure improvements, supporting growth of the community from a partly rural village to Minnesota's fourth largest city. In 2005, he was honored at the opening of the Lyle Berg Bridge - which completed many years of work to finish Bloomington's northern business corridor, named American Boulevard. Lyle faithfully served his community including in church leadership roles, as coach and umpire, and as VFW Webster Post and District Commander. He steadfastly supported family in church activities, sports, academics, family businesses, and the family farm. Lyle enjoyed time spent with family and friends, sports, and a good conversation. With a servant heart, can-do attitude, and a never give up work ethic, he blessed his family, coworkers, community, and ever-growing list of friends throughout his many years.

He is survived by his wife Arlys "Arlee"; sisters Jean Overn and Lois Small; children Capt. Timothy (Elizabeth) Berg, Dr. Troy (Corinne) Berg, and Dr. Tara (Dr. J.C.) Thieke; 12 grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Lyle was preceded in death by his parents Elmer and Myrl and his sister Carol. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Mary Katherine Dew

1950 – 2023



Mary Katherine Dew was born in Willmar, Minnesota on April 27, 1950, to Stanley and Martha Dew. Stanley ran the Dew Hotel in Willmar with his brother, Ran, and Martha was a traveling public health nurse.

When Mary was seven and Marshall five, the Dews moved to Minneapolis to be nearer to family and Stanley started working first at the Glacier Park company and then at the University of Minnesota. Mary attended school with most of her cousins, attending Clara Barton Elementary, Ramsey Middle School (now Justice Page) and Washburn High School. During this time, she would spend summers at the "family lake", i.e. Lake Hubert in Nisswa, with her grandparents and cousins. With all her mother's brothers and sisters

living very close, it was like living in a large extended family. Besides swimming and being with family, her other big love was reading and she kept her nose in a book much of the time.

After graduating from Washburn, she attended the University of Minnesota, at least partly because her father still worked there in hospital administration. She graduated with a degree in Social Science and needed to decide what was next.

One class required for her degree was a statistics class, set up to work in small groups. Each group would design a questionnaire on some subject, go out and solicit responses on campus and then analyze the responses using a computer statistical program. Mary, ever the introvert, made a deal with her group that if they gathered the data, she'd take care of the computer part. Turns out she was good at it and she enjoyed it.

Mary decided she could either find a job with her Social Science degree, or pursue computer work which looked to pay a lot better. Rather than going back to get yet another degree, she looked to see if a company would hire her and train her. Her brother, then working at Sperry connected Mary with a contact there. With her usual dexterity, she talked herself into a job. She not only learned how to program, she became proficient enough that she became an instructor for Sperry, traveling to customers to give detailed 2-week courses on subjects ranging from Operating Systems to Assembly Language ("The value of a symbol is its address.") to Database Management Systems.

After several years at Sperry, Mary took another job that she couldn't talk about, working in Los Angeles for "the Customer". While she loved living in Southern California, after two years with her parents aging and her missing family, she took a job back in Minnesota working for Cray Research where she met the love of her life, David Miller. The "Mildews" bought a house in the Washburn school district and married July 1, 1989. She and David then spent the rest of their life together working, traveling, eating, visiting friends and family and going to as many live events as possible, including the Guthrie Theatre (where she also volunteered as an usher for many years), the Bakken Trio (now Bakken Ensemble), Ann Reed concerts, Sarah Miller concerts, Jungle Theater, Theatre Latte Da, Children's Theater (with nieces and nephews), Frank Theatre, Minnesota Opera, Minnesota Orchestra, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Schubert Club and others, and, of course, their beloved Minnesota Lynx.

Mary's career kept evolving, leaving Cray after 5 years and working for many companies with larger and more complex database systems, including Fingerhut and Digital River. Eventually being on call and getting called at 1a.m. four nights in a row became too much and she retired, but only from "working full time".

After a little time off it became time to try something completely different. Despite not having any formal art or art history training, she decided to become a tour guide at the Walker Art Center. The Walker's wonderful two year training effectively provided the equivalent of a masters in contemporary art history and Mary loved it. She was initially leery of guiding tours for kids but found they were a wonderful audience. She especially enjoyed the 4th and 5th graders, who were old enough to understand and express concepts but where adolescence had not yet made them shy again. After several years of leading tours at the Walker, she branched out to take the training and become a guide at the Weismann Art Museum at the University.

Mary further decided to start taking piano lessons as an adult, because she enjoyed music. She began at MacPhail with a colleague of Sarah's, Judy Lin. This introduced her into another group of people as Judy was part of the Bakken Trio, a local chamber music group. After a few years and with a little arm twisting, Mary ended up joining the board and was its treasurer for several years. She never performed as a pianist, even for family, but she was, as always, learning!

As busy as she was, she never stopped reading, with a voracious appetite for mysteries, interesting fiction and food writing. She was a wonderful cook and loved reading cookbooks and food magazines for ideas. As she would describe herself, she was a cook, not a baker because she considered most recipes as suggestions, not rules. That's harder to pull off as a baker where ratios are usually important. After attending some friends' birthday party where they made paella, she decided that could be a perfect item to share with the neighbors on National Night Out. It, of course, was a huge hit and soon morphed into a block paella party each year, with participation with several neighbors. Donations gathered there were given to a local food shelf.

Mary never let a little thing like lack of training or experience stop her from applying for (and usually getting) her next job or opportunity. "If I don't know how to do it today, I will tomorrow." And she was never one to back down in the male-dominated world of computer databases, nor did she suffer fools. "Do what you say or get out of the way."

After a short bout with a very aggressive cancer, Mary died on September 11, 2023, survived by her husband, David; her brother, Marshall and his family; many nieces, nephews and cousins; and a myriad of close friends from all her activities.



Mildred “Millie” (Erickson) Sivanich

1921 – 2023



Millie (Erickson) Sivanich, 101, of Chanhassen, died peacefully on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023, at Ridgeview Medical Center, Waconia, Minnesota.

She was born in Brainerd on Nov. 19, 1921, but lived most of her life in Minneapolis, where she raised four boys. All throughout her life she loved to fish, knit, play cards and beat the pants off anyone who dared play her in dice. She intensely loved her family and the Minnesota Twins.

Millie is survived by four sons, Allan of Minnetonka, Mike of Isanti, Tom of Waconia and John of Dayton, Ohio; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Ellsworth Erickson, her second husband, Art Sivanich and her long-time companion, Dean Christopherson. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them all.



Floyd Edward Ward

1947 – 2023



Floyd E. Ward was born December 21, 1947, in Port Clinton, Ohio. He graduated from Port Clinton High School in 1967.

Floyd came to Minnesota in 1972 to attend St. Paul Vocational-Technical School. After receiving certification in hotel and restaurant food preparation, he worked in various restaurants and food service outlets in the Twin Cities for more than 45 years. He was a hardworking, respected coworker wherever he was employed.

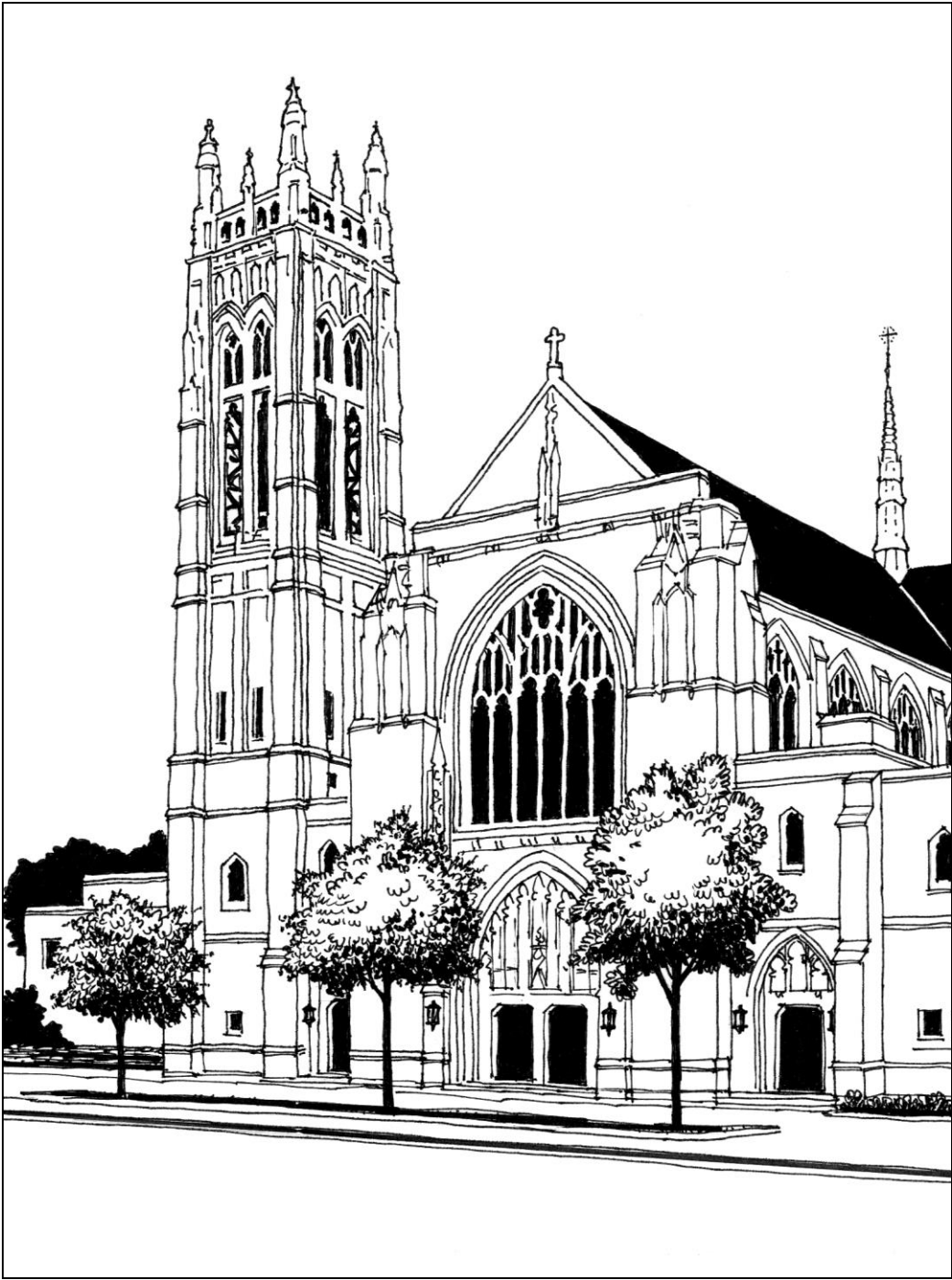
In the 1980s Floyd served on the board of directors for both Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) and the Minnesota Names Project (AIDS Quilt).

In his later years, Floyd was a faithful and capable volunteer with Mobile Loaves Twin Cities and Central Lutheran Church.

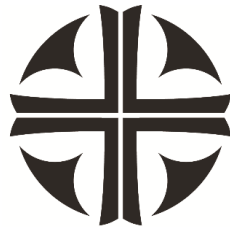
Floyd died on October 14, 2023. He is survived by his husband of nearly 20 years, Roger Sorbel.

Rest eternal grant him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.





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Minneapolis**

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