MNDAK District Convention Memorial Service

2025



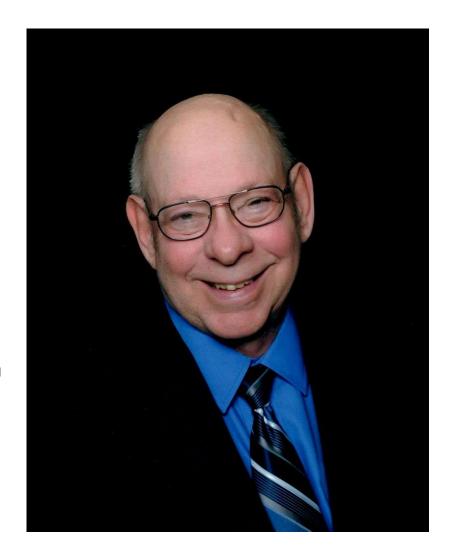
Dennis "Denny" Duane Lowe

October 29, 1952 - December 28, 2024

Albert Lea Day Breakers Kiwanis Club

An avid sports fan, Denny passionately followed the Minnesota Twins, Timberwolves, and especially the Vikings. He loved the outdoors and spent 37 years cutting trees, splitting wood, and hauling logs to heat his home-often alongside his sons. His sense of humor was one of his greatest qualities, and he maintained it even during his toughest health challenges, brightening the days of his caregivers with his jokes and playful banter.

Denny was a member of the Day-Breakers Kiwanis Club and a devoted parishioner of St. Theodore's Catholic Church. His life was a testament to hard work, family values, and a joyful spirit that touched everyone he met.



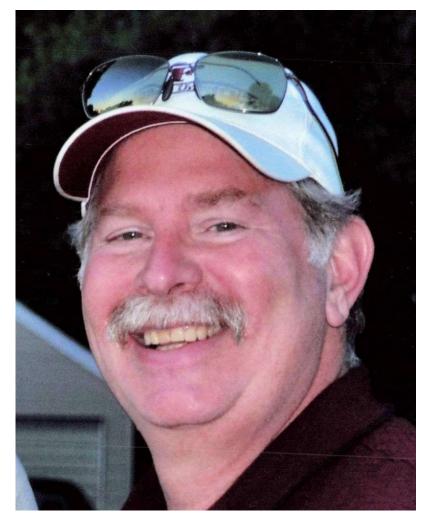
Mark Steven Fenstermacher

August 6, 1951 – March 21, 2025

Albert Lea Day Breakers Kiwanis Club

Mark Steven Fenstermacher, 73, passed away in Rochester after a brief hospital stay.

Mark was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, the son of the late Edwin (Reggie) and Shirley Fenstermacher. Mark married Pam (Vogan) in 1995 and relocated to Minnesota in July 2000. He was Director of Facility Services at the Mayo Clinic Health System in Albert Lea, Minnesota for 13 years. Mark was a proud member of the Albert Lea Daybreakers Kiwanis Club, former president of his local Pheasants Forever chapter, and lifelong hunter.

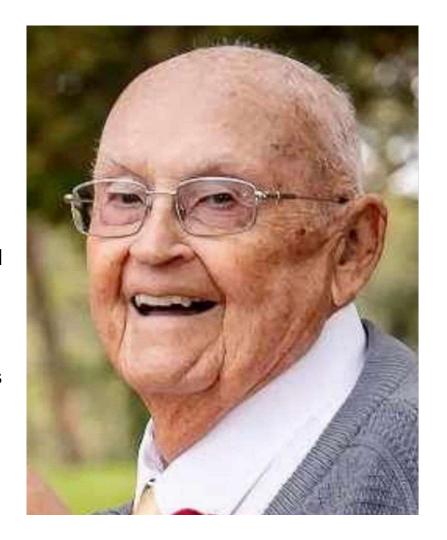


Lester G. Anderson

May 31, 1934 – February 15, 2025

Albert Lea Golden K Kiwanis Club

Les drove delivery truck for Motor Supply and Sears for many years, and was especially fond of driving school bus, transporting teams to sporting events, and driving motor coach for Albert Lea Bus Co. He was a proud and active leader of the Boy Scouts of America, The Harmony Junction Barber Shop group (singing tenor), Kiwanis, American Legion and Salem Lutheran Church. Les was known for his joyous spirit, infectious laugh, wonderful sense of humor, unwavering kindness, and endless supply of funny stories. He enjoyed time with friends and family, dancing, camping, traveling, sports and spending time in his wood shop. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.



Kenneth E. Gerber

November 11, 1936 – July 7, 2025

Albert Lea Golden K Kiwanis Club

Ken was a devoted member of First Presbyterian Church for 45 years, a proud Kiwanis Club member for a decade, and an active participant in the US Bank retiree club. In retirement, he found joy in volunteering with Meals on the Go and pursuing woodworking. Those who knew Ken will remember his beautiful smile, kind and welcoming spirit, and his gift for storytelling—especially tales from his youth on the family farm. Ken was known for his unwavering optimism and ability to bring light to any situation, always greeting others with a steady smile, even during difficult times.

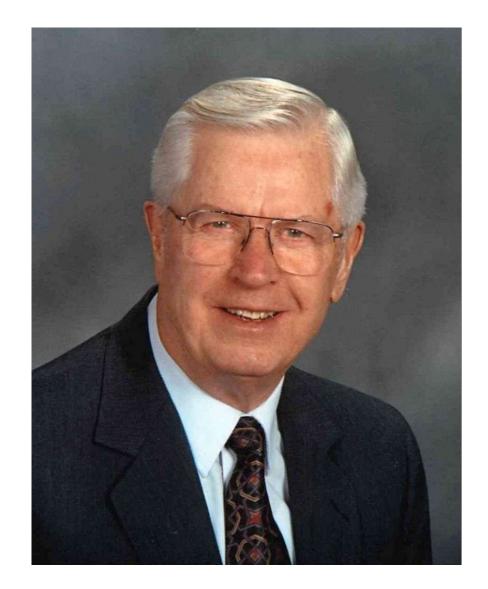


Duane Troe

May 29, 1030 – July 19, 2025

Albert Lea Noon Kiwanis Club

Known for his integrity and faithfulness, Duane dedicated time to numerous organizations. He was a long-time member of Kiwanis, served twenty-five years on the Manchester Fire Department, and took on leadership roles at West Freeborn Lutheran Church, including a term as council president. His retirement was marked by continued service, delivering meals for the Meals on Wheels program and serving on the board of Bayview Funeral Home. In their later years, Duane and Sonja attended Round Prairie Lutheran Church. He treasured time with his loved ones and found joy in life's simple pleasures, like grilling on his patio or listening to country western and gospel music.



Marjory Ann Hamersly

September 5, 1931 – July 17, 2025

Albert Lea Noon Kiwanis Club

Early on, Marge volunteered to enrich her life as well as the lives of many others. For three decades, she was active in the Republican Party. Marge progressed from local to state to national roles, rising from District Chairwoman to Minnesota Vice-Chairwoman. She was selected as a Minnesota delegate to the 1972 Republican National Convention, where she was the only female Rules Committee member. Marge served as Executive Director of the Freeborn County United Way, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, board member for the Albert Lea Medical Center and the United Methodist Church. Marge's legacy is one of leadership – she was both a role model and an advocate for women taking the lead.

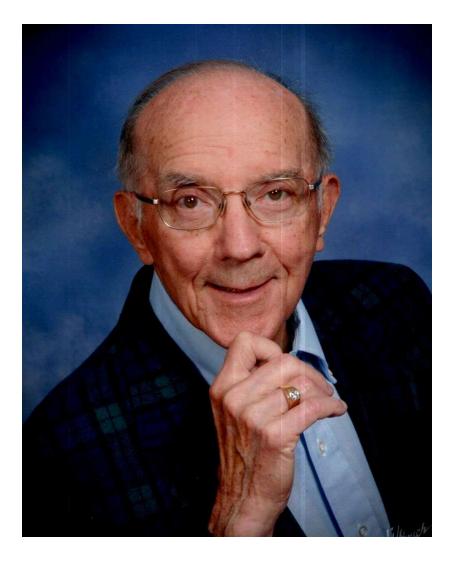


Lee Everett Doering

February 14, 1928 - May 6, 2025

Alexandria Golden K Kiwanis Club

While in Marshall Lee was active in many community organizations. He was past President of the Marshall Chamber of Commerce, and the Marshall Golf Club. He also was the Charter Chairman of the Senior Citizen's Commission in Marshall, and served as President of his church, First Lutheran. Lee continued the practice of law for 38 years, retiring in 1993, and moving to their home on Lake Le Homme Dieu in Alexandria, MN. At that time, they also began wintering in Naples, Florida and traveled to many other destinations. Lee loved nature, especially hunting and fishing with travels to Canada and Alaska. Lee's joy was to entice a flock of mallards to enter his decoys on his favorite marsh and then to enjoy his favorite dinner of roasted wild duck



James Leroy Bjerknes

July 7, 1934 – May 29, 2025

Alexandria Golden K Kiwanis Club

Jim was proud to be a member of First Lutheran Church, a tenor in the chancel choir for 40 years, a founding member of Golden K (Kiwanis) and head usher for the Central Lakes Concert Association. He celebrated his Norwegian heritage, serving as district officer for Sons of Norway and showing his gratitude with his favorite saying "mange tusen takk" (many thousand thanks). He was voted Douglas County Outstanding Senior Citizen in 2017 after logging 500+ volunteer hours at the Knute Nelson Coffee Shop, where he and Jo volunteered for many years making many friends.



Harold G. Wahlquist

October 23, 1938 – July 19, 2024

Annndale Kiwanis Club

Occasional fishing trips up north, cheering on the MN North Stars when they were in town, and being a devoted MN Vikings season ticket holder were also considered time well spent with friends and family. As a parent and grandparent, he always made time to attend events and activities. He could be found in the bleachers or on the field cheering for his favorites (and yelling at the refs!) and frequently served as an assistant coach or in other roles in local youth sports and activities. His presence and kind-hearted spirit will be forever missed, and he lives on through the lives he influenced and changed because of who he was.

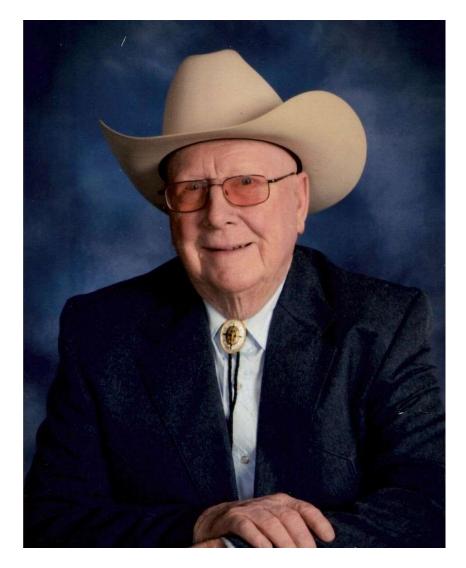


Eugene D. Weeks

February 11, 1933 – April 26, 2025

Bismarck Kiwanis Club

Besides real estate, Eugene has served in many areas in his life, some of which include being actively involved and a pillar in his church since its beginning in Bismarck. This included supporting the Charles Hall Youth Services which for over 50 years, served at-risk youth in North Dakota. He also served on the Child Evangelism Board, was involved in Young Life in Bismarck, and supported the Salvation Army. He was involved for many years with the Sons of Norway, Kiwanis Club, the Raleigh Rodeo Club, and was a trustee for the ND Cowboy Hall of Fame.

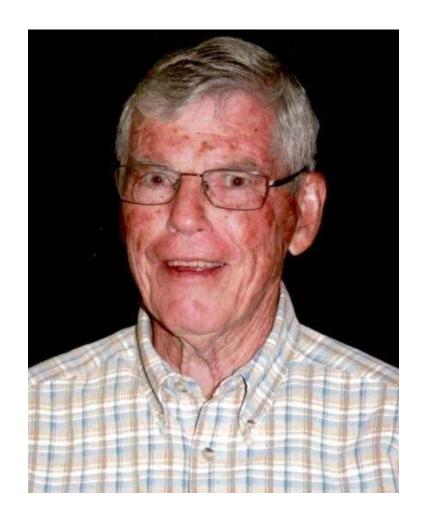


Charles Kane Frundt

November 2, 1942 – December 1, 2023

Blue Earth Kiwanis Club

Charles worked as an attorney and Civil trial specialist until his retirement. Chuck loved his family and community. He served as legal counsel for local organizations and was a board member for several nonprofits. He also volunteered with many civic and church projects. In 2013, Charles received the Blue Earth Community Service Award. Chuck enjoyed traveling, reading, fishing, and growing tomatoes. He was an avid fan of high school and college wrestling, but his real love was watching and playing tennis.

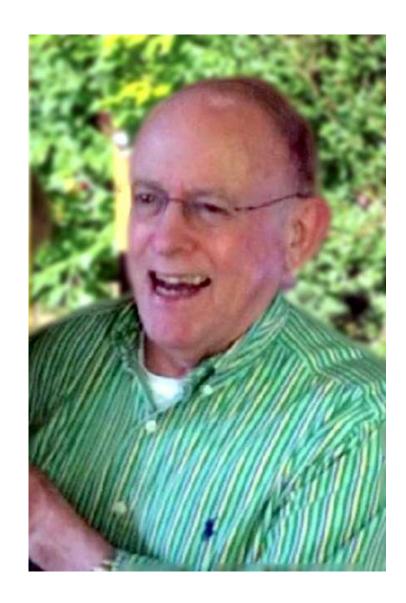


Wilbur E. "Bill" Audley Jr.

December 17, 1940 - April 14, 2024

Brookings Kiwanis Club

Bill began his career as a financial planner after Barbara's career took them to Brookings, South Dakota, where Bill joined the Kiwanis International Brookings Kiwanis Club where he served as president and participated in many community service activities, including honing his skills as a master pancake maker. Later he followed Barbara's career to River Falls, WI, Kearney, NE, and Bellingham, WA, where he served as a Lt. Governor of the Pacific Northwest Division of Kiwanis. He loved his participation in Kiwanis clubs and was a 33-year member of the International organization.



Penelope "Penny" Ann Knudson

Sepember 10, 1946 - September 16, 2024

Devils Lake Kiwanis Club

Penny achieved her dream when she and husband John established the Branding Iron in 1977. Penny was very active in the business community. She was the first female member and went on to become the first female president of Kiwanis. She was also a member and president of the Chamber of Commerce, member of the Business and Professional Women's Association and Lake Region Anglers Association. Her faith helped her through many health crises and was her rock to lean on. John was her best friend and the love of her life. Together they weathered many ups and downs through the years.



Lawrence G. Nygren

August 12, 1941 - November 6, 2024

Devils Lake Kiwanis Club

Larry was a faithful member of St. Olaf Lutheran Church. He was also active in the Kiwanis Club. He had served several years in the National Guard. Larry was so proud of his children and grandchildren and attending everything he possibly could of their activities from concerts, ball games, dance shows and all. He was proud of all they accomplished. He enjoyed camping with the family in the summers with campfires, games, and reminiscing. He enjoyed the holidays/celebrations getting together with family and friends. He enjoyed going for coffee and breakfast and meeting up with friends.



John Q. Paulsen

October 24,1928 – February 19, 2024

Fargo Kiwanis Club

He spent nine years on the Fargo Board of Education. North Dakota Governor John Hoeven appointed him to a four-year term as a member of the State Board of Higher Education. He served on several civic and charitable boards during his lifetime, among them the Fargo Public Library, FM Symphony, the YMCA, Fargo Chamber of Commerce, the Plains Art Museum, and Prairie Public Broadcasting. He served twenty years on the Fargo Planning Commission, as Chair for most of them. Paulsen was a Trustee of the NDSU Development Foundation, serving as President for two years. John was an avid golfer and tennis player and enjoyed traveling, but his special love was for his family.



David G. Cole

July 5, 1954 – October 1, 2024

Fargo Kiwanis Club

Dave had an active role in the Fargo-Moorhead community, serving on many boards. He was past chair of the Sanford Health Foundation Board, a past member of the Fargo Country Club Board, and was currently serving on the Berg Foundation Board. He was a member of First Lutheran Church, Fargo Kiwanis, and the Fargo Country Club. He enjoyed countless rounds of golf with his friends.

If there was an award given out for "all-around great guy", Dave would win the category.



Kent Orville Hochgraber

June 16, 1947 - April 5, 2025

Fargo Kiwanis Club

Kent served on The Fargo Public School's Development Foundation, was a long-term member of Hope Lutheran Church and The Galesburg American Legion. For many years, he served pancakes and sold tickets for the annual Kiwanis Pancake Feed. He also received a distinguished service award from Kiwanis International while holding the position of Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor for the 2015-16 year. He was a long-time member of Sons of Norway and served as the organization's president. Kent enjoyed spending time with his family but in his younger years, Kent enjoyed fishing trips to the Northwoods, and a life-long lover of golf. He liked tools and used them to renovate cast-off chairs and refurbish old toys. He also took pride in his cars and was known as a saver.

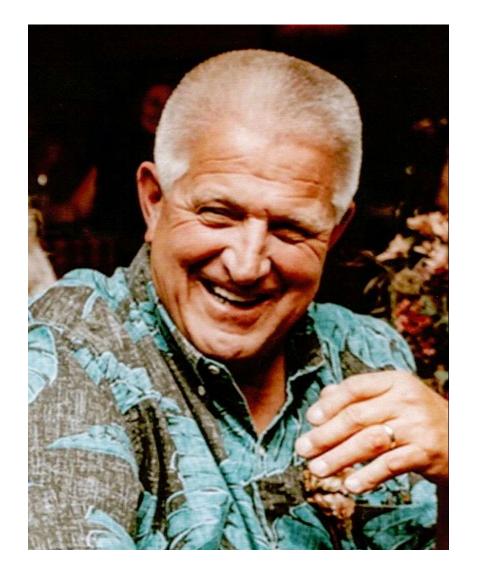


Wayne E. Thune

August 20, 1957 – January 21, 2025

Hibbing Kiwanis Club

Wayne was sales manager and co-owner of Fraboni's Wholesale Distributor along with his brother Mark in Hibbing. He was a member of Kiwanis Club, the Algonquin Club in Hibbing, and the Mesaba Country Club. He enjoyed golfing, playing pull tabs, and making the rounds with his coffee clubs. On the weekend coffee route, he would frequent Hardees, Palmers, and Kathy and Kenny's, and during the week you would find Wayne at the Lucky 7.



Carol Therese Berg

February 5,1939 – February 10, 2025

Lake City Kiwanis Club

Carole grew up attending Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School in Easton, MN and graduated from Wells High School graduating in 1957. She went on to attend the College of St. Teresa graduating in 1961 with a Chemistry and Math degree. On June 15, 1968, she married the love of her life Peter Berg at St. John's Catholic Church in Rochester. Carole was employed by Mayo Clinic for 38 years. After living and working in Rochester since 1965 Carole and Peter moved to Lake City in 2008. Carole was a member of St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church, Rochester Quilt Sew-Ciety, Lake City Kiwanis, and the Lake City Area Arts.



Andru Martin Peters

December 27, 1040 – May 14, 2025

Lake City Kiwanis Club

After returning to Minnesota Andru continued to be active in the Lake City area community serving on the City Council, active in the veteran groups in the area, as well as serving as the President of the Lake City Kiwanis Club, a member of the Lake City Historical Society, served as the President of Hiawatha Land Bus civic leader committee, was President of the SE Minnesota Regional Trails committee, and served as Vice Chair of the MN High Speed Rail Commission. He was instrumental in working on the TH 61 highway project and in getting funds for the Great Ridge Trail in Wabasha County among many other projects throughout the area. Andru was a member of the Lake City American Legion Post #110 and the Lake City VFW #8729.



Mark P. Wood

October 25, 1953 - September 2, 2024

Litchfield Kiwanis Club

Mark had an extensive legal and professional career and an active member of the Litchfield community some of his services include: Litchfield Kiwanis Member, founding board member of the Litchfield Public Schools Foundation, founding member of Litchfield Industries, founding member of Litchfield Development Corporation, Litchfield Chamber of Commerce, Ecumen of Litchfield Advisory Board, lifelong member of Litchfield Church of God and serving as longtime treasurer, Meeker Memorial Hospital Foundation, Kiwanis, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and Lake Washington Lake Improvement Association.



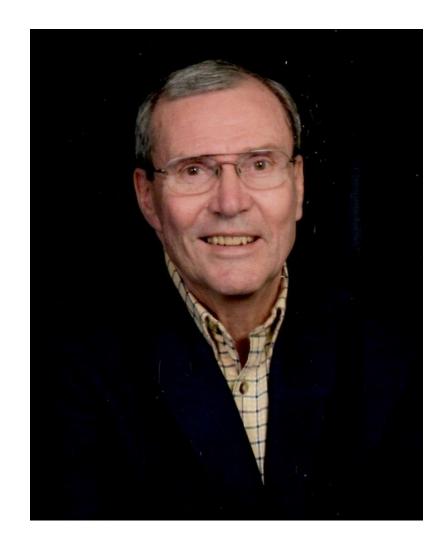
Dwight C. Cook

May 24, 1928 – June 14, 2024

Mandan Kiwanis Club

Throughout the years Dwight played and coached softball, was a member of the Air National Guard, a member of Kiwanis for 30 years, chaired the Morton County Housing Authority, and started his own business. Throughout his many endeavors he always gave 100%.

Dwight's prayers were always to be the best at whatever God had in store for him throughout his life. This was truly evident when he served in the North Dakota Senate. One of his famous quotes was "the road to perfection is always under construction". His family was proud of all that he had accomplished, especially his role as husband, father and grandfather.

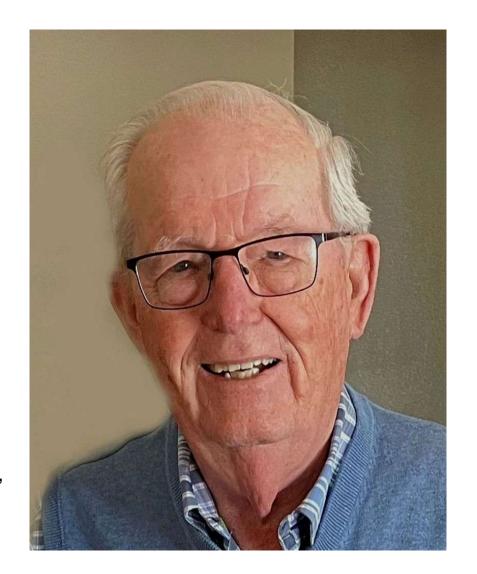


Joseph "Joe" Dean Holland

February 22, 1035 – July 16, 2025

Mankato Kiwanis Club

Joe was a 57-year active member of Kiwanis, serving as past president and lieutenant governor of the Kiwanis MN Dakota District. He was proud of the service work his Kiwanis club did for the community. He was a long-time member of the Christ the King choir. Joe & Mary valued their friends and made an effort to keep in touch with their various social groups regularly for decades. Looking back at their 68 years of marriage Joe says, "We have been so blessed I would need to write a book to share the highlights." My family and my home are what I am most proud of." He was truly loved by all.



Michael Dwayne Matzke

September 30, 1954 - August 22, 2024

Mankato Kiwanis Club

Never the type to sit around, Mike earned a pilot's license in the late 1970s, flying single engine planes. He was an accomplished golfer, downhill skier, an avid fisherman and tennis player. He was always quick to lend a helping hand to friends. His grandchildren gave him great joy. He loved teaching them to drive the boat, bait a hook, swing a golf club and tennis racquet. He would often ski, snowshoe, hike, bike, camp, play catch and travel to watch their athletic games. His grandchildren adored him, and he will be sorely missed.



Dale Wendell Bowen

July 21, 1933 – April 2, 2025

Minneapolis Downtown Kiwanis Club

Dale earned a doctorate in electrical engineering from lowa State University where he then served as an associate professor of electrical engineering before a career with NSP managing the electrical grid. He was a longtime local leader and member in the United Methodist Church and Kiwanis. He served in numerous club officers' positions as well on the Kiwanis International Foundation. He was a lifelong learner who enjoyed travel, polka music, and the repair of all things. Dale was a good husband, father, grandfather, and friend. Survived by wife of 65 years, Mary.



Dwain Curtis Bell

June 2, 1925 – September 4, 2024

Minneapolis Downtown Kiwanis Club

Dwain and wife Aurrie designed and built their family cabin at Mille Lacs Lake, and the family spent countless times at the lake together with fond memories. For more than 25 years Dwain ran the Minneapolis Downtown Club Scholarship program partnering with the Minneapolis Public Schools awarding scholarships to high school seniors. He facilitated giving dictionaries to not only the scholarship winners, but the other seniors nominated from each school. Students would attend Kiwanis Club meetings two times during the school year to receive their scholarship. He lived life to witness and help others and trusted in the Lord.



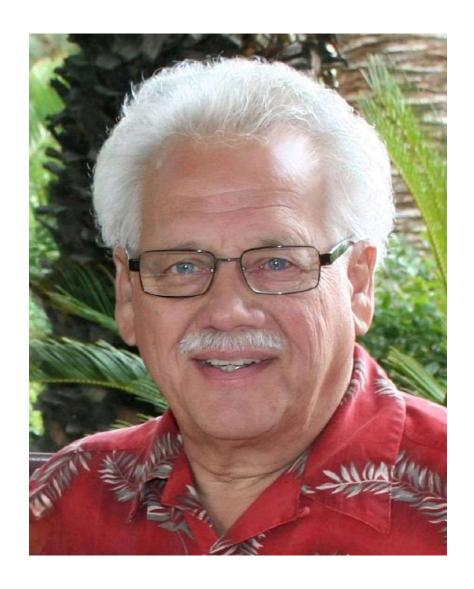
Lowell W. Bennes

June 18,1940 – August 28, 2024

Moorhead Kiwanis Club

Dave had an active role in the Fargo-Moorhead community, serving on many boards. He was past chair of the Sanford Health Foundation Board, a past member of the Fargo Country Club Board, and was currently serving on the Berg Foundation Board. He was a member of First Lutheran Church, Fargo Kiwanis, and the Fargo Country Club. He enjoyed countless rounds of golf with his friends.

If there was an award given out for "all-around great guy", Dave would win the category.

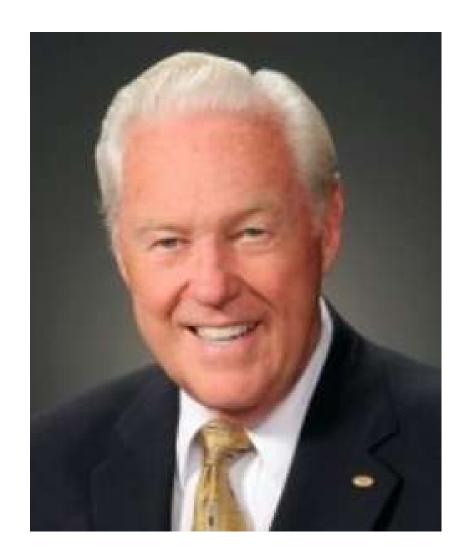


William "Bill Sr." L. McReavy

April 16, 1932 - December 23, 2024

Northeast Minneapolis Kiwanis Club

Bill served as president of the Minnesota Funeral Directors Association in 1970. He also served on several boards, including Third Northwestern Bank and Central Avenue Bank, and as a trustee on the board of North Memorial Medical Center for 16 years. Bill was a passionate supporter of the Minnesota Golden Gophers. They were strong philanthropic supporters of the University of Minnesota, particularly the men's football, basketball, and hockey programs, as well as the women's basketball and hockey programs. Bill was a member of Arcana Masonic Lodge, Zuhrah Temple of the Shrine, and the Northeast Kiwanis Club. He also served as past president of the Zuhrah Patrol, chief masquer of Zuhrah, and past president of the Northeast Shrine Club.



Steve Mark Olson

Age 75 Passed Away June 18,2025

Northeast Minneapolis Kiwanis Club

Some of the best times were had with his numerous Canadian cousins. A proud Fridley '68 graduate, he was a strong Minnesota Gophers, and Twins baseball supporter. He loved to root on the kids/grandchildren in any of their interests and was always willing to jump in and help when assistance was needed. Volunteering his time with the NE Kiwanis Club, MN State Fair, and District 40B legislative activities were also important to him. Steve was a dedicated phone man but grew to love his newfound friends ushering at US Bank Stadium. In his off time, he enjoyed traveling, hunting and fishing. He generously supported Pheasants Forever and Nature Conservancy. He had many friends and was always the life of the party. "CRIBBAGE ANYONE!"



Berlyn "Stack" W. Staska

May 24, 1928 – June 14, 2024

Owantonna Golden K Kiwanis Club

He was a member of the Kiwanis Golden K Club serving in leadership positions. The Kiwanis Club of Owatonna awarded him the Hixon Award for his community service and his service to the club. He was a board member of Senior Place, the Owatonna Federation of Musicians Local 490 and the Faribault American Federation of Musicians Local 565. Being one of the founders of the Owatonna Community Band in 1977, he retired in 2022 at the age of 94. He was the Bugler for the Steele County Military Honor Guard for 39 years and had played "Taps" for about 3000 veterans' funerals within the area. He retired from the Honor Guard at age 94.



Kevin Tveidt

September 13, 1955 – May 13, 2025

Pierre-Fort Pierre Kiwanis Club

He was an active member in the Pierre community where he lived since 1979: YMCA board officer and fundraising leader, Pierre Economic Development Corporation president, Kiwanis Club officer, and SS Peter & Paul Church member. He retired in 2015 after 18 years of service in state government, plus he and Connie managed and then owned a successful environmental business for 13 years. Dad was a family man. He enjoyed so many things, including hunting, fishing, camping, golfing, pickleball, ice skating, coffee with the guys, waterskiing, Shania Twain, target shooting, shoestring potato sticks, cigars, happy hour, George Strait, traveling the USA in their Sprinter adventure van, family bike rides, and oldworld craftsmanship.



Dennis C. Hanson

October 7, 1942 – March 2, 2025

Pipestone Kiwanis Club

Dennis's professional career included 25 years with the South Dakota Department of Revenue, and 10 years as the Executive Director for the South Dakota Association of County Commissioners. Dennis was especially known for his many side hustles and business ventures continuing until his passing. As a man of many talents and a meticulous nature, he owned and maintained multiple rental properties, flipped homes with his buddies Fran Keller and Mike Burgee, built and managed a commercial rental property that was used as a medical clinic, and even tried his hand as a rancher! Dennis also spent many years assisting his brother, Stan, in the development of Fritz's Island Campground along the Niobrara River.

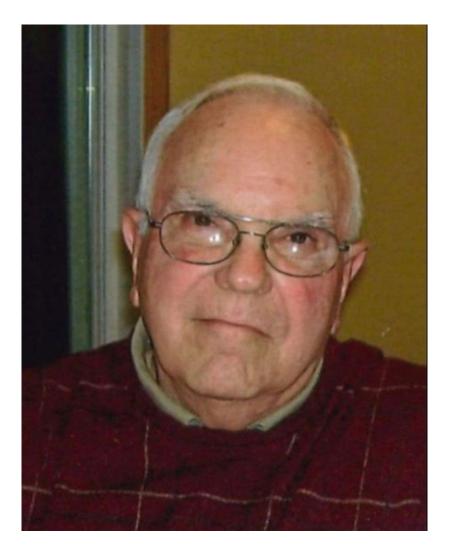


William "Bill" F. Phillips

March 9, 1933 - February 22, 2025

Red Wing Golden K Kiwanis Club

William "Bill" Franklin Phillips, age 91, of Red Wing, died Saturday, February 22, 2025, at the Mayo Clinic Hospital - St. Mary's Campus. He graduated high school in Lake View, IA and then joined the U.S. Army during the Korean War working as a crane operator. On April 5, 1953, he married Delores Johnson. They lived in Lake View where he farmed before moving to the iron range in Hoyt Lakes where Bill worked for Erie Mining. They then moved to Granite Falls where he worked for NSP, then in 1971 they moved to Red Wing where he worked for NSP as the maintenance supervisor for 29 ½ years retiring in 1993. He was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church, Kiwanis Golden K's, and the American Legion Leo C. Peterson Post 54. He loved fishing and going to his cabin in Frederic, WI.

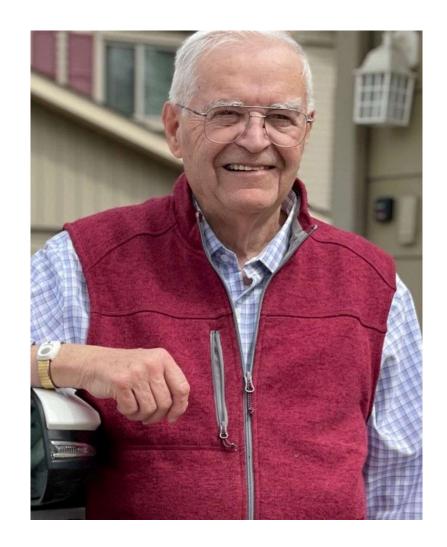


Donald E. Felmlee

February 10, 1935 – April 30, 2025

Red Wing Golden K Kiwanis Club

He was a member of the Church of St. Joseph, Knights of Columbus, VFW and Leo C. Peterson American Legion Post 54 and the Golden Ks. Don enjoyed riding motorcycle, biking, fishing and boating and had even gone sky diving at the age of 50. Spending time at the trailer in Spooner, Wisconsin was something he enjoyed, especially when the grandkids could come, spending time and making memories with them. Throughout his life, he loved to "tinker"—he was very mechanical and was a self-taught man in many things. He was always a very spiritual man, but especially in more recent years, he found learning and reading about spirituality and the bible to be important to him.



Roger Dean Krsnak

May 11, 1937 – September 8, 2024April 15, 1950 – Lune 15, 2024

Rochester Kiwanis Club

Roger had a kind and gentle spirit with a special love for children. He coached basketball and baseball as a volunteer. Known as Coach K, he led many championship-winning teams and served on the Rochester Youth Basketball board for many years. He was a devoted fan of all Minnesota sports teams, including the "darn Vikings," and kept up with all their statistics. Roger loved to volunteer. He was an active member of Bethel Lutheran Church and its stewardship team, serving many pancakes and root beer floats over the years. He was also a Rochester Kiwanian for 35 years and an active member of the BSF Men's Fellowship at Autumn Ridge Church.

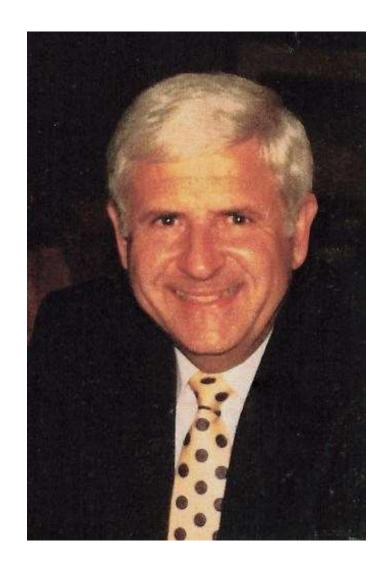


Lyle Thomas "Tom" Lemke

February 7, 1942 – November 23, 2024

Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis Club

As a member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church for 25 years, he served as a deacon. In 1990 the family joined Zumbro Lutheran Church where he was a member for the rest of his life. He served on the Personnel Committee for many years. As a member of Day Makers Kiwanis, he was involved with the annual Holiday Hockey Event and for many years was a volunteer tax preparer for AARP. For several years he was a member of the MN Republican Steering Committee. Tom was President of the Rochester Civic Theater Board of Directors and represented Zumbro Lutheran Church on the Samaritan Bethany Board.

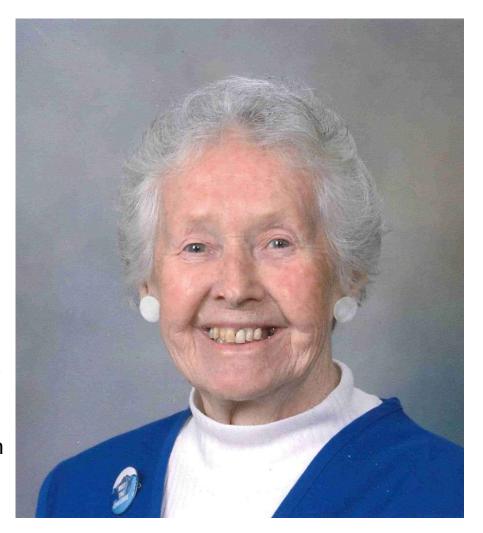


Beverly A. Livesay

March 22, 1928 - December 12, 2024

Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis Club

In the community, she participated in the Foreign Policy Division of AAUW; in the Kiwanis Day Makers; in the Rochester Civic Theater and in the Rochester Symphony Chorale. She loved to volunteer. For several years, she served at Channel One. For over ten years, as a member of the Mayo Clinic Volunteer Services, she gave directions in the Mayo Subway and later served in both Infusion and Radiation. As a member of the Rochester Methodist Hospital Auxiliary Volunteers, she served as a desk worker for over thirty-one years. She also led tours for the Rochester Community Technical College Elderhostel Program. In addition, for many years, she led group singing and played the piano for residents in several nursing homes.

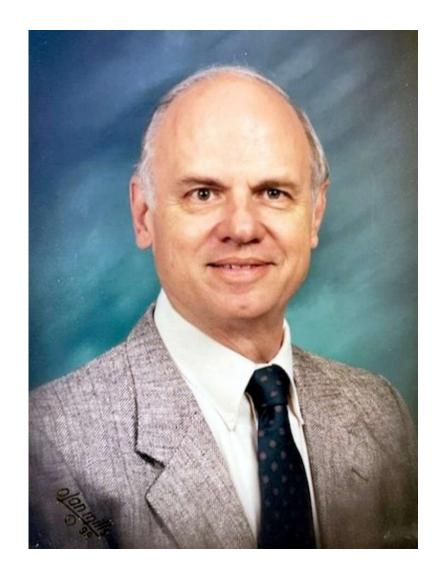


Richard E. Hall

March 22, 1938 - September 12, 2024

Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis Club

His commitment to community service was evident through his roles as a board member and President of the Rochester Library Board of Trustees, President of the Executive Board, Finance Committee, and Personnel Committee of Southeastern Libraries Cooperating. He also served on the Rochester Charter Commission. chaired the Zumbro Church History and Archive Committee, and was a board member of the Olmsted County Genealogical Society. Richard was precinct chair and vice precinct chair for both the Olmsted County Republican and Democratic Parties. Additionally, he served as a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America and a consultant for Junior Achievement. He was a board member and section leader for the Rochester Methodist Hospital Auxiliary Volunteers and President of the Rochester Kiwanis Day Makers.



Karen R. Lundberg

March 17, 1943 – October 15, 2024

Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis Club

Karen dedicated her life to raising their three children and ensuring they had a good education. She was a devoted wife and mother, always putting her family first. Karen cherished each grandchild that was added to her family. Karen was active at Our Savior's Lutheran Church for many years, serving on the Altar Guild and participating in Bible studies and Women's Circle. Most recently, she was an active member of Autumn Ridge Church. Karen loved cooking, playing Bingo, and music - especially the piano, which she played nearly every day. She was also involved in the Eagles Club in Rochester, Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis and enjoyed participating in a women's bowling league, creating many close friendships over the years.

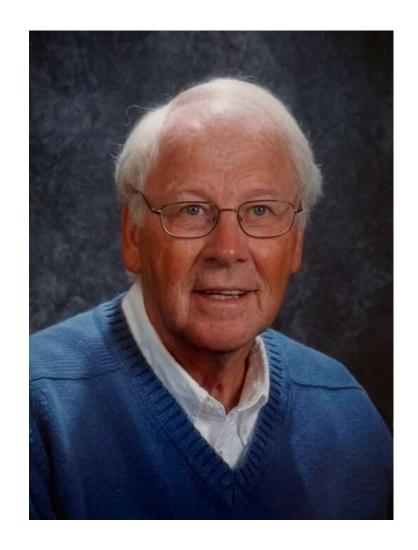


Paul Wayne Austinson

May 11, 1937 – September 8, 2024

Downtown Rochester Kiwanis Club

After retiring, Paul continued to make an impact as a substitute teacher and testing coordinator at Byron High School. He spent 11 summers as a swimming instructor; refereed volleyball, baseball, basketball, and football for 27 years; and volunteered at Mayo Clinic for 23 years until the spry age of 86. Paul was also an active member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, the Quarterbacks Club and participated in Mayo Clinic's Research Study of Aging for 20 years. Last, but not least, he had a deep passion for the MN Vikings, MN Gophers, John Marshall Rockets, Byron Bears, and loved telling Ole and Lena jokes.

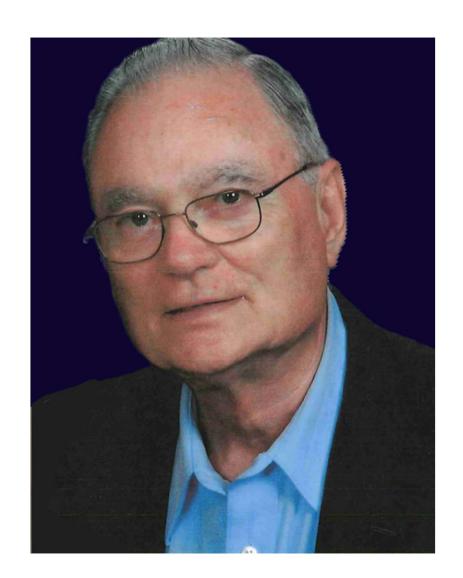


Donald Evi Johnson

March 26, 1936 – August 6, 2024

Rochester Golden K Kiwanis Club

Don was active in the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Kiwanis Golden K Club. Don with his wife, Dal, enjoyed running the Pinewood Derby races for many years in Rochester and surrounding areas. He volunteered at Channel One food bank. He also enjoyed fishing and bowling. Donald was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church all his life.

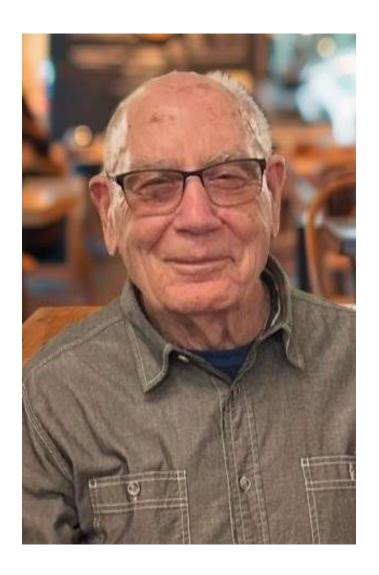


Frank Richason

January 18, 1932 - May 16, 2025

Rochester Golden K Kiwanis Club

Frank was a life member at the Southern Minnesota Sportsman's Club, as well as part of the Rochester Alumni Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He held a Ham radio technician license, was a member of 125 Live, the Widowed Persons Service, and served in many local volunteer positions. Frank enjoyed outdoor activities throughout his life, particularly cherishing time spent at the family cabin in Shell Lake, WI, trout fishing in southeastern Minnesota streams and rivers, and deer hunting excursions near Park Rapids with relatives. Frank also was available to travel (including to Europe, Canada, and Alaska) and was an avid reader, especially enjoying mysteries and thrillers.



James Thomas Addicott

August 4, 1935 – February 2, 2025

St. Cloud Kiwanis Club

Tom was an Eagle Scout and later worked with the St. Cloud area Boy Scout office. He was a Kiwanis member who especially loved talking with the high school students who attended the meetings. One of the joys of his life was the family cottage on Big Pelican Lake where he spent every summer. Tom enjoyed traveling, and visited North, Central and South America, Europe, Russia, Australia, China and the Caribbean. Tom was also a Civil War buff who visited many of the Civil War battlefields. When not traveling or up at the cottage, he enjoyed researching his family's genealogy.



James E. Stumpfa

Age 102, passed away peacefully on Dec. 14, 2024

St. Louis Park Golden K Kiwanis Club

Proudly serving during World War II as an electrician's mate in the U.S. Coast Guard aboard the USS Bangor. It was during this time that he met Grace, a Navy servicewoman. Together, they built a long marriage filled with love, partnership & joy, raising five children. After the war, Jim earned a degree in political science from the University of Minnesota. He went on to operate North Side Electric for over 60 years. Jim performed with Brooklyn & Robbinsdale Community bands, as well as many dance bands. Jim & Grace shared a love of ballroom dancing, family road trips, visiting state capitols & family gatherings



Duane Elmer Rauscher

May 26, 1949 – August 14, 2024

Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club

Duane married Judi A. Schwahn on August 26, 1972, in Leola, South Dakota. He enjoyed a 33-year career in oil and gas production. They were about to celebrate their 52nd anniversary next week. Duane was a member of the Oak Hills Baptist Church and the Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club. He loved spending time with his family, woodworking, and fishing.



Leonard H. Johnson

May 7, 1930 – January 21, 2025

Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club

In 1978 he moved to Sioux Falls and spent 30 years in the hospitality industry as owner operator of the Travelodge Motel and as Executive Director of the South Dakota Innkeepers Association. He was a longtime member of the Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club and was named Kiwanian of the Year in 2003. He was a member of the Alternatives to Violence Project at the SD State Penitentiary. He looked forward to watching the Vikings and enjoyed his annual fishing trip to Lake of the Woods with his friends. His cookies were a big favorite with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Donna Mae Jipp

April 21, 1947 – June 12, 2025

Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club

Donna was a schoolteacher in Rapid City and Sioux Falls. She worked at Home Federal until her retirement. Donna has six beloved grandchildren; Connor, Madison, Samuel, James, Lani, and Maya. Throughout Donna's life, she served her community through Kiwanis, PEO Sorority, Live on Stage, Junior Achievement, Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

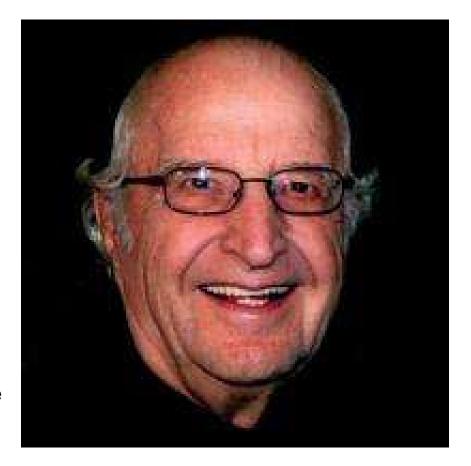


Benjamin Masselink

February 23, 1933 – April 23, 2025

Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club

Ben received numerous sales awards during his career, largely due to his affable personality. He owned Plusco Printing in Sioux Falls for nearly twenty-four years and made many friends and connections through his business. He was involved in the Sioux Falls Downtown Kiwanis where he was named Kiwanian of the Year in 2016. He enjoyed singing bass in the Sioux Emperians Barbershop Chorus for many years. He was heavily involved in his children's activities as a Sunday school teacher, Boy Scout leader and sports coach. Ben gave back by delivering Meals on Wheels for several years and by bringing his therapy dogs to area schools and the VA hospital. In 2022, he was proud to be a part of the Midwest Honor Flight Mission 10 to Washington DC as a Korean War veteran.

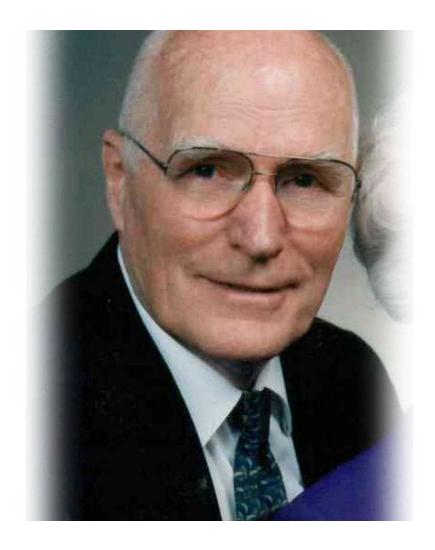


Elwood Geiger

August 10, 2025 - March 15, 2024

Spearfish Kiwanis Club

Elwood met his future wife, Marilyn, a bookkeeper at Macedonia Community in north Georgia, and they married in 1952. Elwood and Marilyn moved to Jacksonville, built their home there, and actively managed the family farm to support his parents and provide them with a steady retirement income. Unable to support them and his wife and daughter on timber sales alone, Elwood became a consulting forester, helping local landowners to manage their forest lands, and he fought to maintain fair property tax regulations, serving in this capacity up to his retirement. Elwood's favorite hobbies included sailing, traveling, and reading. He maintained an enviable memory well into advanced years. In 2003 he moved with his wife and daughter to South Dakota, where he joined and volunteered with the Spearfish Kiwanis Club until his health began to decline.

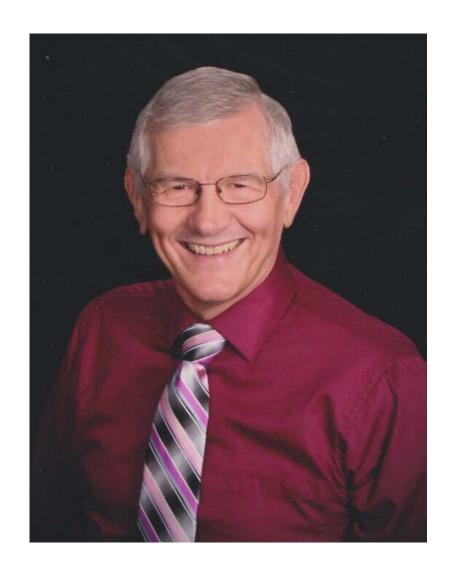


William "Bill" Albert Rowen Jr.

September 17, 1945 – October 25, 2024

Spring Valley Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Spring Valley, MN lost a long-standing member on October 25, 2024. The Reverend Doctor William (Bill) A. Rowen was 79 years old at the time of his passing. "Bill" became a Kiwanis member on January 4, 2002. During his 22 years of membership, he served as President in 2010 and was also a Board Member many years of his membership. Bill became an "auctioneer" during our Key Club Service Auction and was very active in the Eliminate Project. We miss his smile, his sense of humor, and his knack for organizing our Kiwanis supply closet after our weekly meetings.



Howard Warren Langemo

January 7, 1926 - March 27, 2024

Valley City Kiwanis Club

Howard began a teaching career in Valley City as a Veterans Farm Training Instructor. In 1955 he embarked on a 35-year very successful career with State Farm Insurance. He truly embodied the State Farm "Good Neighbor" by being very active in numerous church and community boards and functions. Howard was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Valley City. He was a seventy-three-year active Kiwanis Club member. Howard enjoyed his projects at the Barnes County Museum and his time at VCSU athletic events. He was an avid wood worker making beautiful doll houses, wood wagons, Viking ships, along with thousands of Christmas ornaments which were joyfully given to others.



Harvey Lee Hochhalter

August 12, 1939 - October 21, 2024

Valley City Kiwanis Club

Harvey was active in the community and belonged to many organizations, serving in many positions, including Jaycee's (served as President), Eagles (member for 49 years), Kiwanis (41 years), Elks, the Barnes Country Museum Board (6 years), and supported VCSU's V-500 Scholarship Program. He sang in The Valley Troubadours for 41 years. In 2023, he was Parade Marshall for the Valley City Community Days Parade and received the Chamber of Commerce Hi-Line Award for decades of outstanding community service.



Lester "Les" Heitke

February 5, 1949 – May 24, 2025

Willmar Kiwanis Club

Les was deeply committed to public service and left a lasting impact on the Willmar community. He was elected to the Willmar City Council in 1988, serving until 1994, was elected mayor—a role he held with dedication until 2010. Beyond his role in government, Les served on numerous community boards, including the Bethesda Foundation, Economic Development Commission, Rice Hospital, and United Way. He also held leadership positions statewide and nationally, serving as president of the League of Minnesota Cities, vice president of the National League of Cities, and president of the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities. A man of strong faith, Les was an active member of the Church of St. Mary, where he served as a council member, trustee, and lector.

