



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

John Thomas Donkers

FEBRUARY 2, 1959 – JANUARY 1, 2023

Services At:

Assumption Catholic Church — Morris, Minnesota
Tuesday — January 10, 2023 — 10:30 a.m.

Officiating Clergy:

Father Todd Schneider

Musician:

Linda Hodgson

Soloist:

Ken Hodgson

Urnbearer:

Matt Abeln

Honorary Urnbearer:

Kent Matthews & Paula Matthews

Interment:

Fort Snelling National Cemetery — Minneapolis, Minnesota
Monday — January 23, 2023 — 11:00 a.m.

I'd like the memory of me

To be a happy one,

I'd like to leave

an afterglow of
smiles

when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo

Whispering softly down the ways,

Of happy times and laughing times

And bright & sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve,

To dry before the sun
Of *happy memories*
that I leave behind

When life is done.

John Thomas Donkers, son of Peter and Bernadette (McDaniel) Donkers, was born February 2, 1959 in Crookston, Minnesota. John moved to Ravenwood Home in Morris in 1975 where he was lovingly cared for by the staff of Prairie Community Services. John attended TMR Classes at Morris Public School until the spring of 1981. That fall, he started at the DAC where he continued to work until his death. John's work was very important to him as well as the staff and his co-workers. John made his place in the community and had many connections through home and work.

John was a member of Assumption Catholic Church in Morris. He loved attending live musical performances and listening to recordings by his favorite singer, John Denver. He enjoyed community outings, dancing and singing, animals, camping and his special friends, The Luetmer's. John eagerly looked forward to visits from his family.

John had a charismatic personality. He genuinely cared about the wellbeing of others. John was a kind and affectionate man, always happy and loved to joke with others. John's appreciation and gratitude for the simple things in life was to be admired.

John died peacefully on Sunday, January 1, 2023, at the Minnewaska Lutheran Home in Starbuck. He was 63 years old.

He is survived by five sisters: Pam (Dennis) Grady of Canton, OH, Debby (John) Todd of Burnsville, Diane (Matt) Abeln of Lakeville, Paula (Kent) Matthews of Moose Lake and Jennifer (Mark Warweg) Kaufman of Farmington; aunt: Jane Donkers of Red Wing and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister: Penny Bailey; brother-in-law: Ron Bailey and brother: Peter Donkers.

