Douglas Daniel Kuiper, age 88, of Alexandria MN, formerly of Sibley IA and Ashton IA, died peacefully in his sleep on February 22, 2021 in Parkland FL after a long battle with cancer.

Douglas (Doug) Kuiper, the son of Dan and Leone (Conley) Kuiper, was born on May 2, 1932, in Ashton IA. Doug grew up in Ashton, graduating from St. Joseph's Catholic school in 1950.

Doug then continued his education, attending barber school. After graduating, Doug barbered with his father Dan until drafted into the Army in 1953. After receiving an honorable discharge in 1955, Doug returned to barbering, eventually opening up his own shop in Sibley IA.

Doug was united in marriage to Roberta (Bobbie) Spengler in 1960. From this union five children were born: Richard, Catherine, Elizabeth, James, and Thomas. Doug and Bobbie later divorced in 1981.

After relocating to Alexandria MN, Doug began a career in sales, which he continued until his retirement. Alexandria is also where he met and married Patricia Franzen in 1985. The Alexandria area enabled Doug to fully enjoy his loves of golfing and fishing.

Doug was preceded in death by his wife Patricia in 2020, parents Dan & Leone, brothers: Brian and Fr. Mike. He is survived by his children; Richard (Trish), Catherine (Jim) Catlow, Elizabeth (Jason) Ellington, James (Heidi), Thomas (Denise) Kuiper; one brother, Gary (Judy) Kuiper, sister Debbie Pippen; sister-inlaw, Marlene Kuiper; step-children William Franzen, Kathryn Franzen (Randy Goestch), Robert (Alicia) Franzen, and Jennifer (Mike) Kiewel; along with numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren..

## I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free, I'm following the path God laid for me. I took his hand when I heard his call. I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day, To laugh, to love, to work, to play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I've found that peace at the close of the day. If my parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Ah yes, these things I too will miss. Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My Life's been full, I savored much, Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch, Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me, God wanted me now, He set me free.

In Loving Memory of **Douglas D. Kuiper** 

May 2, 1932 🕆 February 22, 2021

Mass of Christian Burial St. Mary's Catholic Church Alexandria, Minnesota Saturday, April 10, 2021, 1:00 PM

**Officiant** Reverend Father Steve Binsfeld

> **Pianist** Laurie Youngers

> > Soloist Erin Takle

Military Honors By American Legion Post #87 VFW Post #936 VVA Post #235 Rifle Squad Marine Corps League #1409

## Burial

Evergreen Cemetery Alexandria, Minnesota

*Arrangements* Anderson Funeral Home Alexandria, Minnesota