

## Remembering the Life....

Bruce Roche, 79, of Battle Lake, Minnesota died on Friday, October 14, 2022, at his residence in Battle Lake.

Bruce James Roche was born on September 24, 1943, in Little Fork, Minnesota the son of Thomas and Shirley Roche. He was raised in Ranier, three miles west of International Falls, where they lived upstairs of the family business, the Twins Elm Restaurant. Bruce graduated from the International Falls High School in 1961, then continued his education at Bemidji Teachers College graduating with a Bachelor Degree in Sociology. He served four years in the US Air Force.

Bruce and Susan Stumpf were married on September 17, 1994, at Fleming Field in South St. Paul, Minnesota, with a reception in Hanger #3, where Sue's dad had kept his plane. They were married on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World War II. Bruce worked construction first in California and then in various other locations. He enjoyed working construction and sports. Bruce played hockey in school, college and later on with an Old Timers Hockey League, skating until he was seventy-six years old. He also enjoyed boxing, and boxed as an adult for years. He was a member of the Battle Lake Alliance Church and Bruce and Sue were baptized together in Otter Tail Lake.

He is survived by his wife, Sue; two step-sons, Chris Stumpf and Neal (Debbie) Stumpf; step-daughter, Denys Stumpf; step-grandson, Neal Stumpf Jr.; and by numerous relatives and friends. Bruce was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Shirley Roche.

**Blessed be the Memory of Bruce Roche**

## Celebrating the Life of Bruce Roche



### He Fell on the Sidewalk

He fell on the sidewalk...

I saw him fall,  
Too drunk to walk  
He could only crawl  
To a scraggly tree  
That grew near the street;  
And with the help of that tree  
He got to his feet.  
In my heart always,  
God, help me see  
He got to his feet  
For-  
There was A Tree!

- Ruth Bell Graham

## The Core of My Existence

My identity as Abba's child is not an abstraction or a tap dance into religiosity. It is the core truth of my existence. Living in the wisdom of accepted tenderness profoundly affects my perception of reality, the way I respond to people and their life situations. How I treat my brothers and sisters from day to day, whether they be Caucasian, African, Asian, or Hispanic; how I react to the sin-scarred wino on the street; how I respond to interruptions from people I dislike; how I deal with ordinary people in their ordinary unbelief on an ordinary day will speak the truth of who I am more poignantly than the pro-life sticker on the bumper of my car.

We are not for life simply because we are warding off death. We are sons and daughters of the Most high and are maturing in tenderness to the extent that we are for others— all others— to the extent that no human flesh is strange to us, to the extent that we can touch the hand of another in love, to the extent that for us there are no "Others".

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 5:15 - 16

*In Loving Memory Of*  
**Bruce James Roche**  
September 24, 1943 - October 14, 2022

### **Celebration of Life**

Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 11:00 AM  
Battle Lake Alliance Church  
Battle Lake, Minnesota

### **Officiating**

Pastor Derek Mansker

### **Special Music**

Sue's Art Students  
"Jesus Loves Me"  
Heath Parker  
"Because He Lives"

### **Congregational Hymns**

Roxie Klemetson, pianist  
"The Old Rugged Cross"  
"I'll Fly Away"

### **Casket Bearers**

Neal Stumpf Jr. ~ Neal Stumpf Sr. ~ Chris Stumpf  
Gary Dirckx ~ Jerry Burmel ~ Terry Tucker

### **Military Honors**

US Air Force Honor Guard

### **Interment**

Fort Snelling National Cemetery  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **Appreciation**

Bruce's family is grateful for your attendance at this service. Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Please join the family following the service for a luncheon and fellowship.

### **Arrangements by**