




Jerry Walter Engelbrecht, beloved husband and best friend of Verla (Trenne) Engelbrecht, loving father of Kate Engelbrecht (Alex Christison) and Judd Engelbrecht (Justin Donofrio) and devoted grandfather to Theo Walentas and Filo Walentas, passed on March 18th, 2022.

The son of Art and Agnes (Feldhake) Engelbrecht, Jerry was born in Alexandria, Minnesota, on January 7th, 1945. He grew up on the family farm near Villard where he learned to fly sitting on his father's lap. He served in Vietnam flying Cobra helicopters and received numerous declarations including The Bronze Star Metal. He obtained a degree in Business Administration from Bemidji State University and served as a Conservation Officer Pilot, Regional Manager and Chief Pilot for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Jerry married Verla Trenne on September 9th, 1967. Together they raised their children at Brainerd, Minnesota. In their retirement Jerry and Verla enjoyed many adventures in their airplane. Jerry continued to work as an Aviation Consultant and was fortunate to spend a great deal of time flying and hunting with his father and friends. In addition to his wife, children, and grandchildren, Jerry is survived by his sister Jean (Rick) Rosenfield.

Jerry will always be remembered for his brave and gentle heart, his love of flying, and most of all, for his devotion to his family. In honor of Jerry's courageous fight against Parkinson's disease, memorials can be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation. <https://fundraise.michaeljfox.org/tf-2022/Jerry>



A man with a large backpack is standing on a rocky outcrop in a mountainous landscape. He is looking towards the left. The background shows a vast valley and snow-capped mountains under a clear sky. The foreground is covered in dry, yellowish grass.

Let me fly with thee and take
me home – High above the
valley just below the sun.

Home where the mornings
shine and the evenings glow
– where my dreams have no
frontiers, where my hopes
will know no fear; where I
finally will be as free as the
wind.

-Mario Fernandez

Celebration of Jerry's Life

March 26th, 2pm

Anderson Funeral Home

Alexandria, Minnesota

Officiating:

Rev. Paul Trenne & Rev. Karen Trenne

Speaking:

Kate Engelbrecht, Frank Ball,

Sharon Carlson, Clif Patrick

Dr. Richard Roberts

Video Presentation

Military Honors

Reception