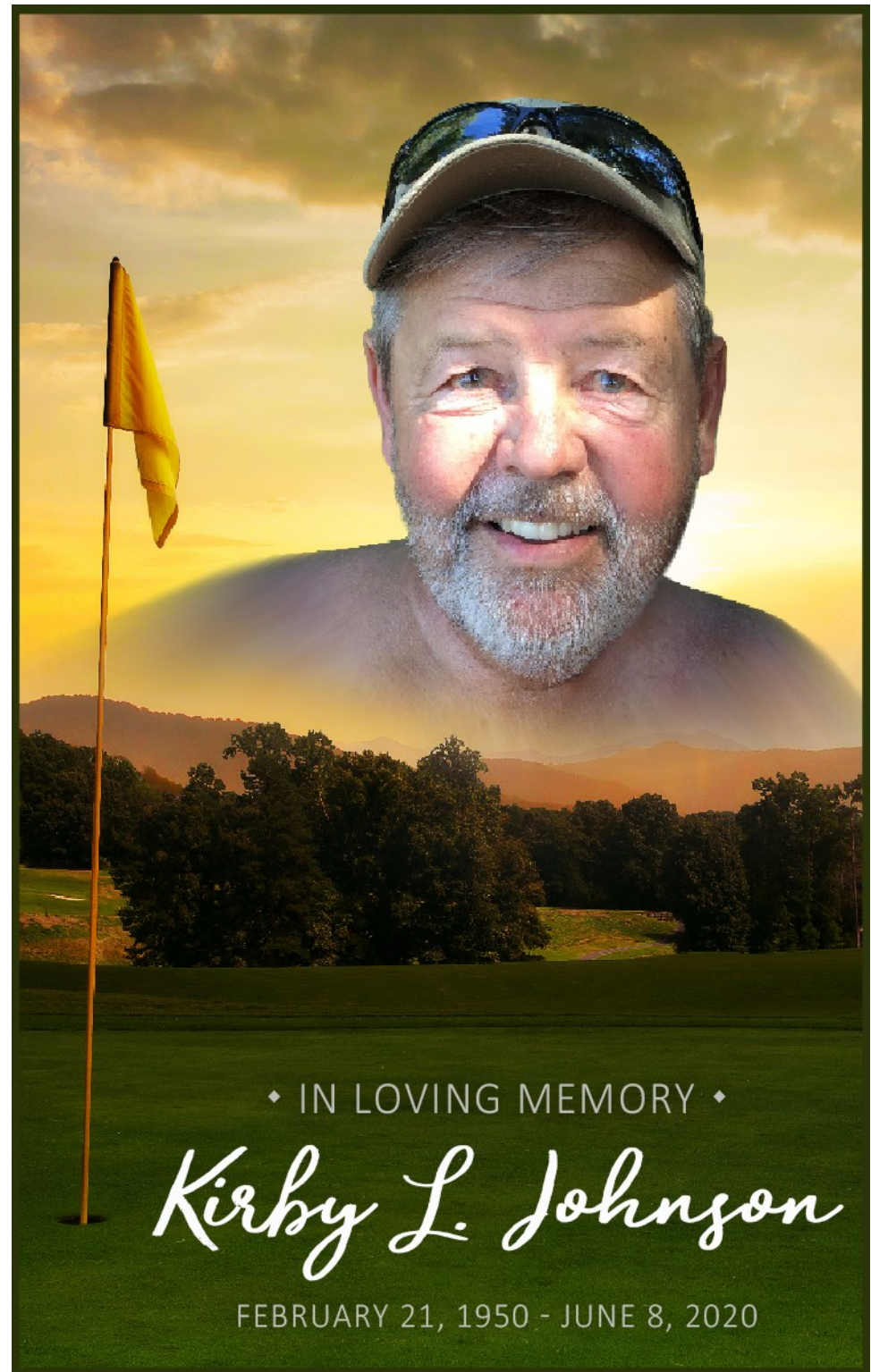


One night I had a dream. I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One was mine, and one was the Lord's. When the last scene of my life appeared before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand, and to my surprise I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints. And I noticed that it was at the lowest and saddest times in my life. I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most." The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, where you see only one set of footprints, I was carrying you."

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Kirby L. Johnson, 70, of Mandan, passed away June 8, 2020 at CHI St. Alexius, Bismarck surrounded by his loving family.

Kirby Johnson was born February 21, 1950 to LJ “Chuck” and Alma (Krebsbach) Johnson in Bismarck, ND. Kirby was raised and educated in Washburn. While attending Washburn High School Kirby started dating his best friend, Linda (Rodgers). Their love for each other is an image of unconditional love. Following high school Kirby went on to attend Dickinson State College, where he was selected as the Homecoming Chief his senior year.

His love for Linda only continued to grow over the years, leading to Kirby and Linda getting married May 27, 1972. Their family grew larger with their children Tessa and Tyler. Kirby loved God, his wife, his family, his many friends and his country.. He embraced the word love; he was a friend to many, and was always ready to add to his friendship list. He was a man who loved and was loved by all.

Kirby was known for his love to entertain his family and friends. He always ensured that everyone was invited and felt welcome, even if it meant going out of his way. His love to grill made him a great host, especially for the 4th of July celebration. Kirby would always be the one to make up a game or contest to be played, and before you knew it everyone was having a great time playing along. Whether it be family and friends racing around the house or balancing a balloon on a stick everyone was included and had a great time.

Kirby was a role model in many aspects of his life. He was a man of integrity. He was the husband, father, friend, and businessman that people trusted. He would always make time for anyone when they would need it. He was proud of where he was from and was always quick to point it out to friends and strangers. He would go out of his way to buy local and always supported those who were close to him.

Kirby was a teacher for four years, even though it was four short years the students still remember him to this day. Striving for the best for his students he would walk on his hands to lighten the students up before taking their hard tests, something they will never forget. Following Kirby’s teaching career, he went on to working at The Finder for about eight years, and the Bismarck Tribune for about eight years. Kirby found a passion for selling insurance and investments, he carried his career at Horace Mann Insurance for 27 years. All while still finding the time to be on the church council for 12 years.

While not working Kirby enjoyed all sports and was active in baseball, softball, football, and golf. He played multiple sports in high school and college. Later in life he enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren play sports. He also enjoyed dancing and being a Packers fan.

Kirby will be greatly missed by his wife, Linda; children, Tessa (Ryan) Brandt and Tyler (Sarah) Johnson; grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Luke Brandt, Elizabeth, Joseph, Cecilia, Anastasia, Dominic, and Lillian Johnson; siblings, Dianne Wolf, Maureen (Ben) Kautzman, Wanda (Dewey) Oster.

Kirby was preceded in death by his parents LJ “Chuck” and Alma Johnson; siblings, Kay (David) Schuler, Sister Donna Johnson, Lowell “Butch” Johnson, Cheryl (Roger) Wingerter.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be sent to the American Heart Association.

*Following the service the family invites you for
lunch and fellowship at the Mandan Eagles.*

In Loving Memory Of

Kirby Lee Johnson

February 21, 1950— June 8, 2020

Funeral Liturgy

Friday, June 12, 2020; 2:00 PM

Spirit of Life Catholic Church

Celebrant

Reverend Brandon Wolf

Musicians

Jeremy & Carrie Davis

Prelude

“I Can Only Imagine”

Opening Song

“You Are Mine”

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 29: 11-14a

Lector

Tessa Brandt

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23

“The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want”

New Testament Reading

2 Timothy 4: 1-2, 6-8

Lector

Dewey Oster

Gospel Reading

John 14: 1-6

Homily

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Song

“Hail Mary, Gentle Woman”

Communion Meditation

“Here I Am Lord”

Final Commendation

“Song of Farewell”

Closing Song

“City of God”

Urn Bearers

Kaitlyn Brandt ~ Elizabeth Johnson

Honorary Urn Bearers

All of Kirby’s Friends

Graveside Service

To be held at a later date