

John Thomas Wosepka, age 72, of Alexandria, Minnesota passed away peacefully on July 4, 2018 surrounded by family.

John was raised in the North Dakota prairie town of Golva as the first child of Kenneth and Marian Wosepka. His first years of education came in a one-room schoolhouse. He graduated from high school in 1964 at the top of his class (of seven). An athlete, he played on the baseball team and despite barely cracking 5' 9" tall, was a five-year starter on the basketball team.

John went on to study business education and accounting at Dickinson State College. He was the class president his junior and senior years. While at Dickinson State, he was an active member of the TKE fraternity, making lifelong friendships. It was in college where he met the love of his life, Rosalie Berger, marrying her on August 24, 1968. John and Rosalie went on to have three children: Kent Wosepka, Jonalie Korengold (Michael) and Marc Wosepka (Maureen).

John spent the majority of his working life as a banker. First in Dickinson, then Webster, South Dakota; Crookston, Minnesota; Washburn, Wisconsin and Alexandria, Minnesota where he was the president of Bremer Bank. He retired from banking as the chief operating officer of Bremer Corporation. While respected for his financial judgement, he will be most remembered for the relationships he forged among colleagues and community.

John was a lifelong (suffering) Vikings, Gophers and Twins fan. If you were looking for John on a Tuesday afternoon, he was almost certainly part of a foursome on the golf course (perhaps in the rough). His golfing capstone was winning the Green Jacket Championship at the Alexandria Country Club with his buddy Denis Melby.

John gave back time, effort and heart to community and Catholic organizations his whole life. He was a board member of the Wedum Foundation, Rotary, the Alexandria Technical College, United Way, Cathedral Parish Council, Dollars for Scholars, and the Jaycees, an organization which named him one of the Ten Outstanding Young Minnesotans in 1980. In May, 2018, John was honored by the Alexandria Area Community Foundation for his years of work helping to make Alexandria a great place to live.

John loved to travel and bike with Rosalie, but one of his less well known pursuits was rollerblading. Whether back roads in Alexandria or paths along the Mississippi River in St. Paul, John could be found tearing them up on his skates.

John will be missed for his broad smile, his easy going nature, his generosity and his unfailing kindness.

## Remembering the Life Of



John Thomas Wosepka

1946 -2018

*In Loving Memory*

**John Thomas Wosepka**

January 25, 1946 † July 4, 2018

**Parish Prayer Service**

Sunday, July 8, 2018, 4:00 PM

**Rosary**

Sunday, July 8, 2018, 7:00 PM

**Mass of Christian Burial**

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Alexandria, Minnesota

Monday, July 9, 2018, 11:00 AM

**Officiants**

Reverend Father Steve Binsfeld

Deacon Jim Wosepka

**Honorary Pallbearers**

Jack Wosepka      Rose Wosepka

Connor Wosepka      Maya Wosepka

Erin Wosepka      Gainsley Korengold

Kate Wosepka      Ben Korengold

**Burial**

Geneva Cemetery

Alexandria, Minnesota

**Arrangements**

Anderson Funeral Home

Alexandria, Minnesota

*“When you were born, you  
were crying, and everyone  
else was smiling. Live your  
life so that at the end,  
you’re the one who is  
smiling and everyone else is  
crying.”*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

John's nephew, Jim Decker, handcrafted this urn,  
using a cedar log from his cousin, Alan Wosepka's  
Ranch in the North Dakota Badlands.