

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

# David Eugene Torgerson

WHO WAS BORN  
February 1, 1929  
Watson, Minnesota

AND CALLED TO HIS ETERNAL HOME  
March 19, 2023  
Ortonville, Minnesota

FUNERAL SERVICE  
Monday, March 27, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Clinton, Minnesota

OFFICIANT  
Reverend Jim Rach

MUSICIANS  
Bonnie Stotesbery, Organist  
Anna Torgerson, Vocalist

CASKET BEARERS  
Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

HONORARY BEARERS  
Clinton Fire Department  
Campbell Williams Legion Post #258  
Ortonville Independent Staff

INURNMENT  
Clinton City Cemetery  
Clinton, Minnesota

APPRECIATION  
Dave's family is grateful for your attendance. Your many expressions of kindness and love are deeply appreciated. Military honors will take place in the North parking lot of the church immediately following the funeral. Please join us, following the honors in the church fellowship hall, for dinner and friendship.

Mundwiler and Larson Funeral Home - Clinton, Minnesota

## DAVE TORGERSON



SERVING  
MINNESOTA  
THROUGH  
SPORTS

1986 Inductee  
Minnesota  
Softball  
Hall of Fame

## DAVE TORGERSON

Box 368 • Clinton, MN 56225 • 320-325-5152

Born Feb. 1, 1929, Watson, Chippewa County, Minnesota. Resides in Clinton, MN; wife, Lois; five children - Denese, Mark, Dale, Eric, Janine. Retired fast pitch softball pitcher. Baseball and softball officiating.

SOFTBALL: Began league pitching career in 1947. Played in Montevideo/Appleton leagues, pitched four years in Air Force. At Westover and Holyoke, Mass. in 1951 (63-2 record), was on base championship teams all four years in AF, traveled with All-Philippines AF team, during service in PI, on Rapid City, SD Air Force team in '54. Played on tournament teams from 1955-79, including with Dawson in Red River Valley Tournament at Fargo, ND where pitched 42 innings in one day without giving up a run. Becker's champions of Redwood League summer of '61; organized Clinton softball team in 60s, played with Sigloh's and Lagoon Beach, Ortonville-Big Stone League, until age 50.

Retired weekly newspaper editor and rural mail carrier; served as Big Stone County Commissioner.

NAMED TO MINNESOTA SOFTBALL  
HALL OF FAME IN 1986.

IN LOVING  
Memory



David Eugene Torgerson  
1929 - 2023





**D**avid Eugene Torgerson was born at the family farm home on February 1, 1929 in Watson, MN to parents Aane and Dolores (Russell) Torgerson. He was the fourth of seven children. He was baptized and confirmed at Watson Lutheran Church. He attended school through the eighth grade at the Watson public school and graduated in 1947 from Montevideo High School. While in high school, Dave worked for area farmers and at the Watson Journal newspaper. He also worked for a short time in Florida prior to enlisting in the United States Air Force.

While in the Air Force, he was stationed in Massachusetts at Westover Air Force Base, then was stationed in the Philippine Islands for two years. Dave was involved in a mapping squadron for Korea, and he was also fortunate in being able to enjoy his love of Fastpitch Softball with Air Force teams in the Philippines. He spent his final year at Ellsworth Air Base near Rapid City, South Dakota, where he was honorably discharged in 1954. He then returned to Watson and purchased the Watson Journal Newspaper.

Dave married Lois Hanson on April 23, 1955, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Montevideo. Lois joined Dave at the Watson Journal, which they owned and operated until 1960 when they moved for a short time to Redwood Falls, where Dave was a staff member of the Redwood Gazette. In 1961, they moved to Clinton, MN when they purchased the Clinton Advocate.

In 1965, they sold the Advocate to Lem and Jim Kaercher, who owned the Graceville Enterprise and the Ortonville Independent. At that point they became Co-Editors of the newly formed newspaper, The Northern Star, serving the north end of Big Stone County. Dave was inducted into the Half Century Club for the Minnesota Newspaper Association in 2000. Dave and Lois also spent many years volunteering at the newspaper museum at the Minnesota State Fair. While working as Editor, Dave was also a substitute rural mail carrier for Clinton, and eventually became a full time carrier while



continuing to be involved with the newspaper. Upon retirement from the postal service, he was elected as a Big Stone County Commissioner. David also was a sales representative for Rausch Brothers Granite Company for many years.

David was proud to be from Clinton and Big Stone County. He served on the Clinton City Council and was Mayor of Clinton for several years. In his leadership capacity, he was on several boards including The Minnesota Private Industry Council, Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission, Minnesota Heart Association as the Heart Fund Chairman, Governor Perpich's National Guard Committee, and the Big Stone County DFL.

Dave was also a member of the Clinton American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Clinton Commercial Club, Clinton Men's Card Club, Chataqua Concert Association, Clinton Firemen, Clinton Cemetery Board, Clinton Community Clinic, Inc. Board, and the Holy Trinity Hospital Board.

Dave's love of sports provided much entertainment and family time. He was a well-known Fastpitch Softball pitcher and in 1986 was inducted into the Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame. He was also honored to be named to the Big Stone Fastpitch Hall of Fame. He enjoyed being able to play softball with all three of his sons on his team. He loved following local and Minnesota sports teams, and was a proud father and grandfather who hardly missed a game, musical, concert or other activity of his children and grandchildren. Dave also enjoyed pool league, softball teams, and golf leagues.

Dave and Lois had many great times with their "bowling group" and socializing around the kitchen table with friends! Also known as "Handy Dad" he and some of his good buddies were great at fixing things.



David is survived by his wife of nearly 67 years, Lois; their children: Denese (Todd) Gustafson of Clinton; Mark (Cindy) Torgerson of Morris; Dale (Beth) Torgerson of Sunburg; Janine (Jim) Teske of Clinton; daughter-in-law, Heidi Torgerson of Clinton; grandchildren: Jason (Jen) Gustafson, Jeremy (Regena) Gustafson, Lindsee (Jim) Ringsaker, Jacob Torgerson, Mitchell (Ariel Garvey) Torgerson, Rachel (Nick) Lahlum, Anna (Jonathan Munstertieger) Torgerson, Samantha (Adam) Fischbach, Matthew (Kelsey) Torgerson, Maxwell (Samantha) Torgerson, Tanner (Julie Drobný) Teske, and Tori Teske; great-grandchildren: Shayni, Reese, Everlie, Ellesyn, Griffin, Blakely, Piper, Lola, Maci, Briggs, Gwen, and Orrin; step-grandchildren: Cody (Amber Landowski) Ringsaker and Dustin (Kelsey Nelson) Ringsaker; and step-great-grandchildren: Reagan and Casper. He is also survived by daughter, Cindy (David) Stansfield and her family, his sisters-in-law: Mary Ann Torgerson and Amelia Hanson; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by son, Eric; parents: Aane and Dolores Torgerson; siblings and in-laws: Robert (Virginia), Dean (LaVonne), John Paul, Lowell (Lina), Phyllis (Charles), Joan (Allen); in-laws: Clarence and Marian Hanson; sister-in-law, Kathryn; and brother-in-law, Terry.

