

In Loving Memory

Gary Irving Syverson of Alexandria died May 12, 2022, at the age of 72. Gary was born on St. Patrick's Day, 1950, in Rush City, Minnesota, to Irving and Syrene Syverson. He grew up in and around Kerkhoven before the family moved to Willmar while Gary was in junior high. Gary excelled at basketball and football for the "other" Cardinals. And it was in Willmar where he met Nancy Jo Stewart, who would become a high school sweetheart and eventually his wife of almost 50 years.

Gary went on to college at Augsburg in Minneapolis, where he continued his football and basketball careers. "The White Owl" was feared by other teams throughout the MIAC conference, at least that's the way Gary told it over the years. He and Nancy wed on July 29, 1972, just before Gary started law school at the University of Minnesota.

After law school Gary and Nancy moved to Alexandria, where Gary practiced law at the Swenson Lervick firm for his whole career. After earning a well-deserved reputation as one of the best "dirt lawyers" in the area, Gary retired in 2015. In retirement, as before, Gary enjoyed spending time with family – especially his grandkids – playing golf with Nancy and his many friends at the Alexandria Golf Club, and spending time on the lake. Gary and Nancy also spent the last several winters in Palm Springs, California. Known far and wide as "Thumper", Gary enjoyed their time in the desert with fellow snowbirds and new friends; he did not enjoy spicy food, long goodbyes, or three-putts.

Gary will be remembered by his mom, Syrene, wife, Nancy, sons Scott (Brooke) and Jay (Nikki), grandchildren Alleyne, Quinn, Zoe and Charlie, brother Brad, sister Sue Lofgren, and so many other family members, friends and colleagues. Gary was preceded in death by his father Irving.

Gary's family thanks Douglas County Hospice and Gary's doctors for their care and support.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to Alexandria Dollars for Scholars.



Gary I. Syverson
1950 ~ 2022

*God hath not promised
skies always blue,
Flower strewn pathways
all our lives through;
God hath not promised
sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow,
peace without pain.*

*But God hath promised
strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
light for the way,
Grace for the trials,
help from above,
Unfailing sympathy,
undying love...*



In Memory of

Gary I. Syverson

March 17, 1950



May 12, 2022

Memorial Service

United Methodist Church

Alexandria, Minnesota

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

2:00 PM

Officiant

Reverend Gary Taylor

Pianist

Janet Eisele

Soloist

Cheryl Taylor

Congregational Hymns

“Here I Am Lord”

“Amazing Grace”

Speakers

Scott Syverson

Jay Syverson

Kurt Sieve

David Kjos

Urn Bearers

David Battey

Kevin Mahoney

Kurt Sieve

David Kjos

Interment

Kinkead Cemetery

Alexandria, Minnesota

Gary's family would like to thank you for your prayers and for joining us today to share in the celebration of his life. Memorial gifts will be donated to Alexandria Dollars for Scholars in Gary's honor.