
Obituaries for March 14, 2008

Wednesday, 12 March 2008

Robert Brunkow

Funeral service for Robert Lynn Brunkow, 63, Anoka, took place March 8 at Cross of Hope Lutheran Church. Rev. Fredrick Hanson officiated.

Brunkow died March 5 at Fairview University Medical Center, Minneapolis. He was born May 14, 1944 in St. Francis to Clifford Robert and Martha Genevieve (Mead) Brunkow. He was an auto appraiser.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; children, Scott (Brenda) and Sarah Nelson; and grandchildren, Gabrielle and Chloe Brunkow, Harrison and Henry Nelson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clifford and Genevieve; and brother, Curtis.

Pallbearers were Thomas Berry, Charles Hubner, Raymond Renner, Dennis Terry and Daniel and David Wilhelm.

Interment was at Garden of Hope Cemetery, Ramsey. Arrangements were by Thurston-Lindberg Funeral Home, Anoka.

Ted Christianson

Memorial service for Ted Christianson, 59, will take place tomorrow (Saturday, March 15), 11 a.m., at Chapel Hill Church of God, 12691 Hanson Blvd. N.W., Coon Rapids.

Christianson died March 7. He was born March 23, 1948.

He is survived by many friends and family.

Arrangements were by Gearhart Funeral Home.

James Dwyer

Memorial gathering and prayer service for James R. Dwyer, 76, Minneapolis, formerly of Hibbing, took place March 6 at Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

Arrangements were by Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

Jeffrey Gihl

Memorial service for Jeffrey John Gihl, 48, Coon Rapids, took place March 10 at Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

He is survived by his mother, Marie; brothers, Robert (Diane) and Douglas (Ann); and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Arrangements were by Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

Ronald Joubert

Memorial service for Ronald O. Joubert, 83, Coon Rapids, will take place tomorrow (Saturday, March 15), 11 a.m., at Word of Life Church, Coon Rapids.

He is survived by his wife, Lela (Dolly).

Arrangements were by Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

Jeannette Helfinstine

Funeral service for Jeannette Grace Helfinstine, 82, Anoka, took place March 10 at Oak Grove Church. Revs. Arthur Robbins and Jim Hill officiated.

Helfinstine died March 5 in Brooklyn Park. She was born Oct. 16, 1925 in Minneapolis to Albert J. and Hedwig

(Laskowski) Lang.

She is survived by her husband, Robert; children, Ruth (Rev. Jim) Hill, Louise Helfinstine, David (Karen) and Alan (Nancy); grandchildren, Beth Hill, Tim and Kristin Hill, Rachel and Matt Eliason, Sara Hill, David Jr. (Sarah) Helfinstine, Kristen and Chad Boysen, Kari Helfinstine, Mark Helfinstine, Joseph Helfinstine; brother, Albert W. (Dorothy) Lang; and sister-in-law, Mary Lee Lang.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Hedwig Lang; and brother, Donald Lang.

Pallbearers were David Jr., Joseph, David and Alan Helfinstine, Chad Boysen and Matt Eliason. Honorary pallbearers were Tim Hill and Mark Helfinstine.

Interment was at Glen Haven Cemetery. Arrangements were by Gearhart Anoka Funeral Home.

Joanne Knaus

Funeral service for Joanne Mary Knaus, 66, Champlin, took place March 10 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Brooklyn Park.

Knaus died of peritoneal cancer March 6. She was a paraprofessional in Anoka-Hennepin District 11 and Coon Rapids charter schools for 27 years.

She is survived by her husband, Roger; children, Janine Woods (Robert Folley), Janel Rosine (Gregory) and Jason Knaus (Irene); grandchildren, Leah Epp (Barrett), Trevor Woods (Sierra Laufenberg), Clayton and Lynnay Rosine, Cassidy, Kaily and Cole Knaus; sister, Marcia Stellmach; brothers, Sylvester (Rose Celia), Hilary (Janet) and Joseph Stellmach (Sharon); sisters-in-law, Donna Duclos Hubert and Delphine Jernberg (Charles); and nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Leona Stellmach.

Interment was at St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Dayton. Arrangements were by Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

Donna Lanoue

Funeral service for Donna Lanoue, 75, Alexandria, formerly of Anoka, took place March 7, at the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Marshall. Rev. Paul Wolfe officiated.

Lanoué died Feb. 29 at the Scottsdale Healthcare Center, Scottsdale. She was born Nov. 19, 1932 in Minneapolis to Nels and Irene (Dellar) Ausen. She and her husband Leroy moved to Anoka where they purchased the Peterson Brothers Sanitation Service and she was the bookkeeper for the company for 25 years. They purchased the Pope County Sanitation in 1988 and later moved to Alexandria in 1995 to live at their summer home on Lake Carlos.

She is survived by her husband Leroy Lanoué of Alexandria; sons, Timothy (Norma) Lanoué of Nelson, Terry (Jacqueline) Lanoué of Farwell, Todd (Kristi) Lanoué of Glenwood; daughters, Patricia Paciorek (Steve Kohrt) of Fridley, Luann (Eugene) Gibson of Nelson; 14 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; brothers, Chuck Ausen of Marshall, Roger (Joyce) Ausen of Rockford; sisters-in-law, Audrey Ausen of Marshall, Rada (Lanoué) Mitchell of Marshall; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Michael Lanoué; grandson, Jason Lanoué; and brothers Layton, Ray and Robert (Bud).

Pallbearers were Josh, Matthew and Larry Lanoué and Tommy, Zachary and Michael Paciorek. Honorary pallbearers were Sommer Paciorek, Jenny, Janelle, Jessica, Jamie and Jonathan Lanoué, Scott and Kelly Koep and Jacklyn Gibson.

Interment was at Calvary Cemetery, Marshall. Arrangements were by Anderson Funeral Home, Alexandria.

Chester Rice

Funeral service for Chester Theodore Rice, 83, Coon Rapids, formerly of Spring Lake Park, took place March 6 at Gearhart Funeral Home, Coon Rapids. Rev. Rex Beyer officiated.

Rice died March 2. He was born June 15, 1924 in Bovey to Raynard Rice and Maude Abar. He served in the Marines in the South Pacific in World War II and was awarded many medals, including two Purple Hearts. He spent 33 years at Minnegasco as a gas repair foreman before retiring in 1982.

He is survived by his wife, Doris; children, Eddie, Chuckie, Danny, Kenny, Gail and Denise; grandchildren, Dennis, Eric, Brian, Shawn, Christopher, Kirsten, Kimberly, April, Brent, Caroline, Phillip, Floyd, Crystal, Jean, Holly, Krista, Kerry, Nathan and Natalie; and 16 great-grandchildren .

Pallbearers were Tom Zeisimer, Jim Rice, John Austin, Gary Prince, Dick Druk and Scott Domogalla. Honorary pallbearer was Mike Pearson.

Interment was at Morningside Memorial Gardens, Coon Rapids. Arrangements were by Gearhart Funeral Home, Coon Rapids.

Michael Sokolik

Funeral service for Michael L. Sokolik, 53, Coon Rapids, took place March 6 at Church of the Epiphany, Coon Rapids.

Sokolik died March 1. He was born Nov. 27, 1954 and was a 17-year employee of the John Roberts Co.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; children, Stephanie (Troy) Dickenson, Shannon, Dustin, Desiree, Adam, Sondra and Michelle; grandchildren, Hailey, Brenton and Kylee; brothers, Bob (Sandy), Mark (Mary), Rich (Debbie), Tim; many nieces and nephews; and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gordon; mother, Dorothy; and brother, Ron.

Arrangements were by Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel.

Martin Stadler

Memorial service for Martin "Marty" Dennis Stadler, 49, Coon Rapids, took place March 7 at Church of St. Timothy. Rev. Chuck Brambilla officiated.

Stadler died unexpectedly March 2. He was born Dec. 3, 1958 in St. Paul to James Stadler and June McMenmey and was employed in commercial real estate.

He is survived by his wife, Lisa; children, Jack and Lauren; mother, June; siblings, Dave (Peg), Nancy Dahlen, Chris (Wayne) Van Fossen, Lisa (Tom) McKeon, Tom (Kelly); in-laws, Bill and Marlene, John and Jill; nieces and nephews; uncle, Ranny; and aunt, Joyce.

He was preceded in death by his father, James.

Pallbearers were Thomas, David and Paul Stadler, John Ellenbecker and Thomas and J.T. McKeon.

Interment was at Epiphany Cemetery, Coon Rapids. Arrangements were by Gearhart Funeral Home, Coon Rapids.

Glenn Weslander

Memorial service for Rev. Glenn Allen Weslander, 85, Santa Barbara, Calif., will take place tomorrow (Saturday, March 15), 2 p.m., at the Living Faith Center, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Weslander died March 1 at the Serenity House Hospice facility, Santa Barbara. He was born Aug. 28, 1922, in Britton, S.D., to Gustaf and Alice Weslander. He was the younger brother of Walter Weslander. He worked as a journeyman carpenter and cabinet maker, retiring from the Carpenters Union Local No. 1062 in 1993. In the early 1940's he moved from the Midwest to California where he attended Southern California Bible College in Pasadena and he began a 60-year vocation as a minister at churches in East Los Angeles, Calif., in Murdo and Gregory, S.D., St. Louis Park and Santa Barbara. He also served for over 40 years as chaplain for the Santa Barbara County probation department.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth; children, Jeanette, Robert, Shirley, Ken and their spouses; 15 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; and extended family.

Private internment will be at Santa Barbara Cemetery.