



## Clayton W. Thorson

July 22, 1930 - November 27, 2023

Clayton Wallace Thorson was born on July 22, 1930, and passed peacefully into the presence of Jesus on November 27, 2023, at home in Bloomington, MN. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ditmar and Florence Thorson, and his siblings, Wyman and Deloris. The surviving family includes his wife of over 70 years, Betty; his son, David & Roxanne Thorson and their two children, Sarah and Sam; and his daughter, Sherrie & Stu Erdenberg, and their two children, Shawn and Scott; and a large extended family.

On February 21, 1953, he married Betty Margaret Cassell, in Tomahawk, Wisconsin.

Clayton lived most of his life in the Minneapolis area, but also spent 8 years in West Lafayette, IN, and another 9 years in Cross Lake, MN.

Clayton graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1948. He studied pre-engineering at Hamlin University and continued his education at the University of Minnesota. He worked at Honeywell, Magnetic Controls, Research, Inc., Gresen Manufacturing, Eaton Corporation, TRW, and his own company, Thorson Fluid Power. His expertise was Mechanical Engineering with a specialty in Hydraulics. He holds five patents, most of which are still in production today. Other professional involvements include membership in the Eaton Society of Inventors, American Society of Engineers, and National Fluid

Power Association. He was the Chairman of the International Standards Development of the Hydraulic Pump and Motor committee. In addition, he received the National Fluid Power Association Standards Development Award and helped to author a college textbook on hydraulics.

Service will be held at Wooddale Church, 6630 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie, at 11am Monday, December 4. The visitation and lunch will immediately follow.

Interment will be 11am, Tuesday, December 5, at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Memorials preferred to Orphans Joy.

Clay will always be known as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and faithful follower of Jesus. A life well lived.

Livestream available starting at 10:45: <https://www.wooddale.org/events>

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Snelling National Cemetery

7601 34th Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55450

# Previous Events

## Church Service

DEC 4. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Wooddale Church  
6630 Shady Oak Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

## Visitation

DEC 4. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Wooddale Church  
6630 Shady Oak Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

## Graveside Service

DEC 5. 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM (CT)

Fort Snelling National Cemetery  
7601 34th Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55450



# Tribute Wall



“ *Dear Sherrie and Stu,*

*Sending our deepest condolences for you and the family. Praying for God's comfort and the love of being surrounded by family and friends as you grieve the loss of your wonderful father. I wish we could be with you, but we are with you in prayer.*

*Lynne & Wayne LaForge*

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Lynne LaForge - December 03, 2023 at 09:40 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Clayton W. Thorson.*



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December 02, 2023 at 11:57 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clayton W. Thorson.*



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December 01, 2023 at 09:25 AM

JF

“ Jim, Janis, Dan, Judy, Joe, Tom & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clayton W. Thorson.

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**Jim, Janis, Dan, Judy, Joe, Tom & family** - December 01, 2023 at 09:01 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clayton W. Thorson.



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December 01, 2023 at 09:01 AM