



David A. Kangas

January 29, 1937 - August 15, 2019

Born in Ironwood, Michigan January 29, 1937 to Violet (Rintala) and Bill Kangas.

At age 7 the family moved to Coleraine, Minnesota. He attended Greenway High School where he participated in many sports (even ski jumping by age 12) and played trumpet in the high school band, graduating in 1955. It was during this time in 1952 while playing in the marching band for a polio benefit in Hibbing that his legs became weak and he was later diagnosed with polio and needed to be in an iron lung for a short period, but would spend the rest of his life in a wheelchair. Later he attended Itasca Junior College before transferring to the University of Minnesota and graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1960.

He and his wife, Shirley were married in 1960, and they moved to Sacramento, California where he worked for the California Department of Motor Vehicles. Returning to Minnesota a year later they built a handicapped accessible home in which they have resided for 57 years. During which time he was employed as a research analyst for the State of Minnesota Revenue Department and the Welfare Department for seven years. Then moved to a Management Analyst position for Ramsey County Human Services for 29 years.

He has been a member of Incarnation Lutheran Church for 46 years. He was

an avid reader and enjoyed being a member of Incarnation's History Book Club. He also enjoyed boating and fishing from the pontoon at the family cabin. .

A wonderful father, neighbor and friend, David is survived by his wife, Shirley and their three children, Jennifer (Alex) Ortiz, Jeffrey (Jeanine Tasler), and Laura (Steve) Arrowood, five grandchildren and one great grandson. Brother Harvey (Jan) , Sister Norma Wourms, Sisters-in-law Phyllis (Richard) Benson, Susan Fransen and Chris Fransen, nieces and nephew.

Memorial Service 1:00 PM Wednesday, August 21st (visitation 12-1 PM) at Incarnation Lutheran Church, 4880 Hodgson Road, Shoreview, MN. Private interment Incarnation Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

LK

“ *He will be missed greatly!!!*

Lisa M Kluever - August 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *With deepest sympathy over the loss of Dave. He was a kind and gracious man who worked hard. He was always the voice of reason during times of change. If I'm not mistaken, he coined, or at least used this phrase during one of those times: "We don't just have a mission, we're on a mission." I still quote that phrase today as a call to public service. Dave contributed so much to Ramsey County through his many years of service. May his family know he made a difference to those we serve and the colleagues who respected him so much. May he rest in peace.*

Rick Cunningham - August 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ *David was a good man...we always enjoyed when you guys came to Mom and Dad's... always interested in what we were up to... always had that great smile....our hearts go out to all of you!!!!*

Joy Novak - August 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *You will be missed. You have lived a life of courage and dedication to all that is good and right. God and his angels be with your spirit and soul.*



Susan Fransen - August 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM

HK

“ *All of you are in our thoughts & prayers.*

Harvey & Jan Kangas - August 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *I didn't get to know Dave until later in my career and his. We didn't work together directly - except on some management committee assignments. After I got to know and admire his work, I ended up going to his office to get ideas, to bounce thoughts off of him or to chit-chat. He was very intelligent, thoughtful and detail oriented. If I was upset about some perceived slight, he would calm me down and save me from shooting myself in the foot. He had a great personality and a sense of humor. It is one of my great regrets that I only saw him once (out shopping) after my retirement. A Ramsey County colleague.*

Dennis Libra - August 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ *My thoughts are with the family during this difficult time.*



Karin Durio - August 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM