



## David D. Sluka

February 2, 2014

Sluka, David D., age 71 of Bloomington, MN, passed away unexpectedly Feb. 2, 2014. Dave was a caring son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, neighbor, and friend. He was a great man in the eyes of God because he knew how to serve and served others often and joyfully.

In college he studied pharmaceutical science. Throughout his career, he served in the Navy Reserve; with Detroit Teen Challenge; as a local pastor; manager of a Christian literature warehouse; semi-truck, school bus, and limousine driver; helping anyone in need everywhere he went. He was married nearly 49 years to Ruth.

Dave was a health and nutrition enthusiast. He was famous to his grandchildren for his homemade smoothies. Dave loved to visit family and friends wherever they were in the world, including visiting his sons in Russia, Costa Rica, and Paraguay. He enjoyed summer camping trips with family and friends, and was a man who could find a deal and a way to make things happen. Dave proudly and regularly wore a sweater with the embroidered names of his six grandchildren: Elizabeth, Rebecca, Abigail, Henry, Joseph, and Gwyneth. He is survived by wife, Ruth; sons David and Daniel and their families; brothers Robert, Jerry, and James and their families.

The family would cherish any memories you would be willing to share using

the Tribute Wall on this website.

His memorial service will be held Saturday, February 8, 2014, at Bethany Church, 6900 Auto Club Road, Bloomington, MN 55438. Reviewal at 1:00 p.m. Service at 2:00 p.m. with light refreshments following in the church foyer.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to support the work of Misión Betania, Paraguay. Dave and Ruth visited the mission base in March 2013 and had a special interest in their work supporting a Christian school, seminary, church, and outreach to the community. Donate securely online at <https://secure.bethanyinternational.org/donate/index.php>. Enter Misión Betania Paraguay in the "Donate to a Missionary" section. Or send a check to Bethany International with a designation to JUMIB Paraguay in memory of Dave Sluka, 6820 Auto Club Rd., Suite J, Bloomington, MN 55438

# Tribute Wall

LF

“Wow what can I say about Dave? He was so instrumental in my early Christian days. I was one of the first JESUS FREAKS in Lakeville. Dave along with SANDY and LEE RIVER opened up their garage and the first ever CHRISTIAN COFFEE HOUSE was born in Lakeville. Dave called it the LIGHT HOUSE...and oh how the light came out on Saturday night. He preached and I played all the songs God gave me at the moment. I began my ministry of praise and worship right there in that little garage and Dave was so much a part of it.

*What memories I have. Dave, I'm jealous you're on the other side. See you there someday.*

*Lindy Frank*

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**Linden Frank** - March 01, 2021 at 12:24 PM

 Todd  
Kreuscher

“Always enjoyed visiting Dave Jr's house in high school. Both Ruth and Dave were always so welcoming and fun. Dave loved God and his family without a doubt! I did not know "Mr. Sluka" real well but just the fact that he raised two outstanding boys tells me that he must have been a Great Man! I lost my dad, another Great Man, a few years back and he was only 73. Way too young, but it's so awesome knowing that they are with their heavenly father having a blast! God bless the Sluka family! Love you guys, Todd Kreuzcher Family.

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**Todd Kreuzcher** - February 08, 2014 at 02:27 PM

MK

“ I had to smile at the line about Dave knowing how to find a good deal. About thirty years ago, he swapped a Ford Matador on its last legs to my dad in exchange for a brand new fruit dehydrator. I'm fairly confident that although we got some service out of the car, Papa Sluka got the better end of that deal. Very fond memories of sleepovers as a kid with Dan and the dogs Sally and Trooper. My heartfelt condolences are with Dan, Dave, Ruth and all the extended family at this time.

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**Matt Keene** - February 08, 2014 at 12:48 PM

GE

“ Three and a half years ago, David was kind enough to take his time to help me move back home from Las Vegas, Nevada. I lived out there for nearly four years and had not heard from my own father in the Twin Cities for more than five months prior to leaving Las Vegas. David knew how concerned I was about my dad and how quickly I wanted to get home to find out about his condition.

Moving with nothing less than meteoric speed, David was in Las Vegas and met me at the airport within 24-hours of my decision to move home. I was so happy to see him standing at the main terminal of the Las Vegas airport that it brought me to tears.

He also helped me to find a U-Haul trailer for my few belongings and paid for the necessary repairs to my vehicle prior to the fifteen hundred-mile trip home. Additionally, David took responsibility for the majority of driving (often taking ten to fourteen hour marathon shifts at the wheel) and encouraged me in the Lord all the way.

We got back to Minnesota about three days later and David helped me to find a storage facility for my belongings once we arrived. He stayed with me until every piece of furniture, box and book was securely stored.

I will never forget that trip home and David's willingness to help me do the things I could not do for myself. He was truly a Servant Leader, mentor and loving father figure to me at a time in my life when I needed to know and experience the great Love of my Heavenly Father. I already miss him very much.

David Sluka truly left his family a Legacy of Love. Well done Thou good and faithful servant.

Grant Engelmann

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Grant Engelmann - February 08, 2014 at 12:28 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David D. Sluka.*



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February 07, 2014 at 11:00 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David D. Sluka.*



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February 07, 2014 at 08:18 AM



“ *To Uncle David's family. Although we are miles apart and many of us have not met I would like you to know that Uncle David left a lasting impression on me when he visited my grandmother's funeral (Aunt Millie Maglovsky). Having not seen him since I was a little girl and too young to remember much about him I wasn't sure what to expect but I quickly grew to love his personality, love for life and humor and above all that beautiful smile. He recently reached out to see my parents and showed his love in so many ways and I am so grateful for that. May God be with all of you and comfort you as only He can. Love from Debbie & Richard Johnson and Uncle Hillie & Aunt Millie Pinkleton.*

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**Debbie Johnson** - February 06, 2014 at 06:21 PM

JM

“ I met Dave last fall after he contacted me with an interest in helping out as a volunteer within our meal delivery program in the Bloomington area. So although I only knew him for a short time, it was quickly evident what kind of man he was. He was very thoughtful and helpful, not only with our clients, but with our staff as well. It's not just that he would volunteer to deliver on days he was not scheduled, and volunteer to deliver more meals than were on his route, but it was the reason behind it. He would always communicate that the reason he was doing a "little extra", was because he knew that if he wouldn't do it, someone else would have to. Because of that he was instrumental in helping us start a new volunteer base in Bloomington. We have already received calls from clients wanting to pass along the impact that he had on their lives as well. We pass along our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends.

*Jeremy Misener  
Optage Senior Dining Choices*

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**Jeremy Misener** - February 06, 2014 at 03:33 PM

TF

“ The Dobrotka Family purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of David D. Sluka.



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**The Dobrotka Family** - February 06, 2014 at 02:59 PM

LI

“ Good grief..I will miss seeing Dave walk the mall up at Normandale Village. Dave was a person that I clicked with instantly...whenever I saw him...I had positive, warm, good, feelings...he was just that kind of guy...He will certainly be missed...Jim & I send our sympathies...

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**Leslie Iverson** - February 06, 2014 at 10:32 AM

DD

“ I will never forget the many hours David labored in the hot sun to build a new deck for us. It was the summer of 2011 and Steve was spending most of his time either in bed or relaxing in his recliner. The deck was aged and becoming unsafe. The gazebo was also in poor shape. It was then that Willy and Dave appeared to do what Steve could not do. Steve called them his "angels" as he watched their work through the big picture window in the family room. David was truly a servant of the Lord. May his memories and love live on - and may the Lord cover you with His comfort and grace.

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**Diane Dahlen** - February 06, 2014 at 09:29 AM

WW

“ Wendy W. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of David D. Sluka.



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**Wendy W.** - February 05, 2014 at 09:48 AM



“ *My heart is saddened and so hurting right now. David was so instrumental in my early Christian life. In Lakeville there weren't many Christians...I was roughly the first JESUS FREAK at Lakeville High School...my senior my song was "My Sweet Lord". David turned me on to Jimmy Swaggert, David Wilkerson and the work of Teen Challenge. It has been a very difficult three plus years as I've seen the man who was first my mentor, Richard Keene Smith pass in July of 2011, my former pastor who married my exwife/first and myself Norman Nelson who passed March of 2011, and just February of 2012 the incredible Frank Sanders who I just was getting to know and in that short time had such an impact...but David he was the first real mentor I had at Lakeville. May God grant comfort and peace to Davids' family and I'll be seeing you in glory David...in the precious name of Jesus the Messiah King of Israel.*

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**Lin Frank** - February 05, 2014 at 02:16 AM

DE

“ *David befriended me at a book conference 1978. When I came home from Brazil he was a great support and encouragement during my re-entry adjustments. We became part of a men's group at church and look for ways to help others. At my college graduation in 1988 David took pictures then gave them to me. We have shared many wonderful experiences together. I am thankful to have the privilege of have David as a faithful and kind friend. I will miss him, but heaven is rejoicing.*

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**David Eby** - February 05, 2014 at 12:10 AM

JA

“ Dear Ruth, David, and Dan; the first memory that comes to mind is lasagna dinner back in the early 80's. When Matt and I were alone and struggling, you welcomed us into your loving home where we felt God presence and grace. David was a kind, gentle man who was also bold in sharing his faith. He loved God:). We had many conversations about nutrition and God's faithfulness and I can say in all honesty that he truly impacted our lives for eternity. We share in your sorrow as he will be dearly missed, and rejoice that he is happy in the presence of his Savior. Praying that you will know His comfort and peace in your loss. Jeannie Moran Androsoff & Matt Moran

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**Jeannie Androsoff** - February 04, 2014 at 09:30 PM