



## Dean Raymond Affeldt

February 22, 1937 - February 4, 2025

Dean Raymond Affeldt, age 87, a longtime resident of St. Anthony Village, passed away peacefully on February 4th, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on February 22, 1937, in Fosston, Minn., to Leland Sr. and Lillian (Reierson) Affeldt. Dean was baptized and confirmed at Kingo Lutheran Church, attended school in Fosston, and graduated with the class of 1955. While in high school Dean participated in many activities, including chorus, band, and marching band as a saxophonist. Following high school, Dean attended Bemidji State College, graduating in 1959 with a Bachelors of Science in Teaching.

Dean was a lifelong teacher, dedicating over four decades to formal instruction. He began his career teaching instrumental and vocal music in various Minnesota communities, including Browns Valley, Prior Lake, and Blue Earth. For the final 34 years of his career, Dean proudly served in the Anoka Hennepin School District, where he inspired and shaped the lives of countless students.

Dean was also a lifelong performer. He performed with the Minneapolis Choralaires, the First Nighters, appeared in several musicals, played the saxophone in the Holidazzle Marching Band, and was a stand-in and extra in famous Minnesota movie productions including "Grumpier Old Men" and "Mighty Ducks III."

Dean lived a full and meaningful life. He always looked for the best in others and gave the best he had. His passion for music, education, the performing

arts, and people from all walks of life touched many hearts, and his impact will be remembered by all who knew him.

Dean is survived by his sister, Frances Nicklason, her family, as well as many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, lifelong friends, and neighbors. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Lee Affeldt Jr. (Verna), his sisters, Ilane Huso (Arthur), Marilyn Thompson (Warren), and brother-in-law, Robert Nicklason.

A heartfelt thank you to the staff at Langton Shores in Roseville, Minn, for providing exceptional care to Dean and comfort during his convalescence, and to the Optage Hospice team for their loving care and support of his end of life wishes.

A memorial service will be held at 11AM on Friday, April 4th, with visitation one hour prior at Nativity Lutheran Church, 3312 Silver Lake Rd., St. Anthony. A luncheon will follow his service. Dean's interment at Kingo Lutheran Cemetery, Fosston, Minn., will be on a later date.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Nativity Lutheran Church  
3312 Silver Lake Road  
St. Anthony, MN 55418

## Memorial Service

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

Nativity Lutheran Church  
3312 Silver Lake Road  
St. Anthony, MN 55418

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dean Raymond Affeldt.* ”



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April 01, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ *I heard an old familiar song today, and it reminded me of my days as a youth playing that song in band in middle school back in the late 1980s, and Dean Affeldt was that band teacher. I thought to look him up after all these years, and found that he recently passed away. To deal with precocious middle school kids is no small feat, and I was no exception. He was patient and kind, and more importantly, he believed in me and gave me the confidence to move forward and face the world and helped give me a profound interest in music. I am willing to bet there are so many others over the years for which he had such a similar, lasting impact. His legacy will live on through us. God bless.* ”

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**Dan Emmerich** - March 06, 2025 at 04:14 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dean Raymond Affeldt.* ”



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March 05, 2025 at 02:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dean Raymond Affeldt.

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March 05, 2025 at 02:48 PM



“ Frances, I am so sorry for your loss. I truly loved Dean. He was so good to me when I lived next to him for over 20 years. He helped me through absolutely everything. His photo should be next to the definition of a "gentleman" in the dictionary. I feel so blessed to have been able to share part of his life. Hugs to you and your family.

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**Sheila Fearing** - February 07, 2025 at 04:46 PM