



Dennis Reed Cardwell

April 21, 1942 - May 14, 2014

Loving and Beloved Husband, Father, Papa, Brother, Uncle and Friend Age 72 of Vadnais Heights, died May 14, 2014. Preceded in death by parents, Norvin and Frances Cardwell and newborn son, Reed. Survived by wife of nearly 24 years, Eileen; children: Debbie (Tom) Mancuso, Jack (Courtney) Cardwell and Karen (Jon) Gerdin; grandchildren: Olivia, Grace & Nick Mancuso, Kennedy & Reagan Cardwell, and Anders & Alec Gerdin; brothers: Norvin (Joyce), Mike (Fay) and Bob (Carmen); Eileen's sisters: Carol (Jerry) Hess and Patsy Sipple; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Dennis was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky and moved to Minnesota in 1973. Whether known as Dennis, Denny, Mr. Dennis, or Papa, he was a blessing to his family and to all those whose lives he touched. He had his own unique way of bringing love, wisdom, strength, leadership, kindness, playfulness and laughter to his relationships, making even the simple everyday things memorable. He loved his family dearly, and never missed opportunities to show it, but no role or honor brought more delight to him than that of being Papa. Visitation from 4-7PM Tuesday, May 20 at HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL, 515 Hwy 96 W. at Mackubin, Shoreview. Mass of Christian Burial 2PM Wednesday, May 21 at ST ODILIA CATHOLIC CHURCH, 3495 N. Victoria, Shoreview, with visitation beginning at 1 PM. Reception following Mass. Private interment. Memorials preferred to the Sharing Korner Food Shelf, American Heart Association or Trinity High School in Louisville, Kentucky.

Tribute Wall

LH

“ Dear Jack, Courtney, Kennedy, Reagan, Eileen and Family,
We are so sorry to hear of Dennis's passing. He was such a delightful spirit and Eileen, you and he together were such fun to be with. My daughter, Allie, remembers fondly the time she spent with you - sleeping over with Kennedy and going to a show at the local high school. My father spent 6 weeks in an LTAC before his passing in hospice on March 30th of this year. Although Dennis and my Dad never met each other they have similar spirits and had a similar effect on those around them, and were loved by their family in very similar ways, I think. I am comforted to think that they are perhaps together in some way now. I wish you peace during these difficult days. Time heals. Much love to all of you.

Lise Hoy - May 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Eileen & Family:
We are thinking of you during this time. I will always remember Denny's smile. I know that Reuben is welcoming him with open arms.

Love,
Melinda, Lydia & Chris

Melinda Cardwell - May 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I remember Dennis most for his fun sense of humor and warm personality. Dennis and Eileen moved into our neighborhood in Vadnais Heights ~20 years ago and I along with several of the other neighborhood kids made an immediate connection with them both. We either sensed something interesting about our newest neighbors, or it was just our nature to be curious at that age - I was probably 12. We were quick to wander over to their house to introduce ourselves and investigate. What we found were two charming and entertaining people who seemed as excited to meet us as we were to them. A lasting and meaningful friendship was born. We spent many occasions over the years hanging out with them at their house, often times just to talk and catch up. This somewhat unlikely friendship we shared speaks to Dennis' character and the open-minded and positive attitude he had. I cherish those memories greatly and no doubt those years made a positive impact on me. It saddens me tremendously to hear of his passing.

My deepest sympathies to you Eileen. Sending love your way.

Scott Melcher - May 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM