



## Dennis Safe

October 19, 2009

Safe, Dennis Raymond Age 69 of Edina, formerly of Cannon Falls, MN, passed away 10/15/09 surrounded by his family from Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis. Preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Harriet. Survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Bonnie; children, Sherrie Stoker of Wisconsin, Sara (Jay) Witta of Shorewood, Christopher (Amy) of Savage, Stephanie Safe of Prior Lake; 4 grandsons, Bennett, Brody, Brooks, and Griffin who think the world of their "Bopa"; also survived by brother, Darold (Char) of Cannon Falls; step sisters, Sandy Rooney, Pat Paulson, Marie Duncan, and Cloreen Wells; step brother, George Johnson. Denny was born in Cannon Falls, MN 12/3/39 and served in the US Navy onboard the US Intrepid. Denny was very proud to have served our country. He met and married Bonnie Fishbaugher in Rochester, MN in 1964 where they lived until 1973. The family then moved to Edina where they still reside. Denny loved his work in commercial lending and loved to "work the biscuit" with his cocaptain, Jonn Lundeen. He had a tremendous zest for life, a day was never wasted with Denny and he had a smile that would light up any room. He also had a genuine belief in the goodness of people. He will also be deeply missed by his dogs, Ruby and Cannon. Denny enjoyed boating in the summers in Lake City, MN, he would love to stop and get a "toddy for the body" at the local VFW. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, friend, mentor and business associate. We all know that he is happy on the other side with his parents and beloved Cody and if he could he would say "I'm finer than frog hair". DENNY

LIVED LIFE. Funeral service TODAY 1 PM with visitation 1 hour before at  
Wooddale Church, 6630 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie. Washburn-McReavy  
Eden Prairie Chapel 952-975-0400

# Tribute Wall

RU

“ *Papa, I miss you so much! I hope you see that Im doing the best I can with our company. I think and talk to you everyday and I just hope you hear me.. Grace and hank see you often and that majes me think you are with all of us at all time.. I love to her feel that. miss you papa!*

~

*rudy,*

*prior lake, Minnesota*

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**rudy** - February 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Papa, It has been a 1 and a half and not a day goes by that I wish I had you by my side. I'm carring the touch the best I can, and I hopr you see that I'm doing the best I can with out the best teacher in my life... I hope I make you proud papa. I love you and I can't wait for the day we can reunite again.. love you, Rudy..*

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February 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ *Happy birthday Dad! Carson and I sang happy birthday to you this morning! Miss you and love you!* ”

~

*Chris, Amy & Carson*

*Contact Me*

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**Chris** - December 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Hey Denny - Turkey Day is coming up! And it's time for some Mtka Alumni hockey, football, your stuffing and a TODI on Gleason Road! I miss ya man! Love ya lots! Jaybird!

~

Jay Witta,

Minnetonka, Minnesota

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**Jay Witta** - November 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Cant believe you have been gone for a year. the worst year of my life, but trying to get thru it. I miss you dad and cant wait to see you in heaven.

---

October 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ First water ski day weekend without you. Not very much fun! Lots of tears, stories and cocktails! Miss you Dad! And your little grandson wishes he could have met you!

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June 28, 2010 at 12:00 AM



BS

“ To Bonnie and Family, I am sorry to hear of Denny's passing. I worked for Dennis at Safe Transportation in Roseville back in the early 70's. Dennis let me hit the road as a young kid to get my feet wet when nobody else would. Had a great time hauling all over the metro area. Denny was always pretty cheery in the office and a real friendly guy. My best to all of you during this time.

~

*Brian Soderlund,*

*Farmington, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Brian Soderlund** - March 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



SE

“ My message to Bonnie, Steph, Chris, and family. I cannot begin to tell you how much this has moved me. Denny and I became friends from the time he walked into Heigl Mortgage. He infected so many lives around him, my family, your family, and friends from all corners. I truly enjoyed the time we spent together which was much too short. He always told me that I mentored him in this crazy world of secondary markets and the products we offer our customers. Little did he know that he mentored me in ways that are much more important than interest rates and counterparty risk. He taught me about being a decent man and doing the right things that your family respects and cherishes. For all those times and talks, I am forever grateful. I will miss you. Love Scotty from Texas

~

scott eggen,

mansfield, Texas

*Contact Me*

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**scott eggen** - March 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ Hey Guys, I'll never forget the happy hour at Arnies in Shakopee in 1995 with Chris and Denny and I. Chris and I were in our early 20s and pretty green. Denny had way more faith in me than I did. It was his business that helped Title Protection take the next step and grow into a company that has provided for my family and I for going on 18 years. I will be forever grateful to Denny for helping to advance my career and will remember those crazy early days with great fondness. I hope the sadness will continue to fade and all that will remain are the good memories...and a ton of awesome cliches. So to take a cue from Denny, take care all, I've got to wrap this up so I can "work the biscuit" this morning!

~

*Alex Grundhoffer,*

*Cleveland, Minnesota*

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**Alex Grundhoffer** - February 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ It was great to see Chris last night. I am so saddened to hear about your father. He was a great guy. I am really sorry to hear about this so far after the fact. Best of everything to all the Safe family and I know you will miss Denny.

~

*Brad Anderson,*

*Eden Prairie, Minnesota*

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**Brad Anderson** - December 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ *Happy birthday Dad! Miss you every single day. It's not the same without you around. We are going to Lions Tap tonight to celebrate your BIG 70th! Love you~Chris*

~

*Chris Safe,*

*Savage, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Chris Safe** - December 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ Chris, I'm so sorry to hear about your father, my prayers and thoughts are with you and for your family.

~

Anne Byron Anderson,

St Louis park, Minnesota

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Anne Byron Anderson - October 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sorry to learn of Denny's death. Please know that you and your family have been in my thoughts and prayers in recent days. Evelyn (Peterson) Stapelkamp Cresco, Iowa

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October 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Stephanie and family, I'm sooooo sorry to hear of your father's passing. I remember how much u always adored your dad and I know this is probably just unbelievable. My heart and prayers go out to you and your mom and bro. If you ever need anything, seriously call me and we'll go out for drinks. Hang in there girl. With love, Molly Hart 612-269-6147

~

*Molly Hart,*

*Edina, Minnesota*

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**Molly Hart** - October 23, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bonnie, Just received, via Email, news of Dennis's death. Know that I hold you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. You have my deepest sympathy, Kathy(Stork)Hollman Lake City, MN. former classmate from Harmony High School

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October 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ *Bonnie, there are just things you do not think you will see and one of those would be Denny's obituary. So sorry for your loss, Denny was one of a kind. Denny was my first boss I worked for back in Rochester in the spring of 1968 washing National Car Rental cars and after I graduated from college I went to work for Denny and you on Lake St in Mpls renting EZ Haul trucks. Too many stories could be told. My prayers are with you and your family.*

~

*Steve Knudsen,*

*La Crescent, Minnesota*

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**Steve Knudsen** - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *Bonnie, I just heard about Denny's death. I am so sorry to hear the sad news. I was your next door neighbor in Rochester. My parents were Bill and Evelyn Kearns. Growing up, you and Denny were so kind to the Kearns girls. I bought my first car, a 1969 Mach One Mustang through him. Please know that over the years I have thought about both of you often. My prayers are with you. Paulette Kearns Wojchik*

~

*Paulette Wojchik,*

*Rochester, Minnesota*

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**Paulette Wojchik** - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Bonnie, Chris, Steph and the rest of the Safe family. I just last evening learned of Denny's death; thus I wasn't at the reviewal or funeral. I'm so sad to know Denny is no longer living down the street; that I won't see him standing out front with a wave and his big smile when I go by. I first met Denny in the early 70's in Rochester when I worked out of the Holiday Inn Downtown lobby in a real estate office right next door to Denny and National Car Rental. He was upbeat as a young man and carried that demeanor throughout his life. I remember lots of good times and laughs over beers at Lake City Marina in the 80's and have always been proud to be able to say I knew Denny Safe and his family. Denny left a legacy of a kind and gentle man committed to his family, always ready to lend a hand to a friend and lived his life with integrity, thoughtfulness and purpose. He left his friends and family better for having known him. God Bless you Denny...in my eyes, you succeeded in this life.

~

Gene Flicek,

Edina, Minnesota

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Gene Flicek - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Bonnie, Sara and Chris and family, I am sorry to hear of Denny's passing. He was always a bright sunshine in our world at Regency Title and after. And always had interesting sayings! My prayers are with you and your family. Sue Basiago, Bloomington, MN

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October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris and all of the Safe family, the best testament to a father is through the living example of his children. As I read the memorialization of Denny's life, I can't help but think how proud he would be of his family members choosing to emulate him...especially with the wonderful, positive attitudes...like that I enjoy experiencing each time I see Chris. May God grant you peace. Dave M

~

Dave Malmberg,

St Petersburg, Florida

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Dave Malmberg - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ I first met Denny in the 80's and found him to be a refreshingly upbeat and positive person. Over the years, I have worked with him on occasion and he always retained that attitude. He will be missed.

~

*Kent Lee,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Kent Lee** - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

HG

“ *Bonnie, Steph, and the rest of the Safe family. Denny will be missed by us all. I remember sitting at the VFW tipping a couple and talking about how much we both enjoyed Jimmy Buffett. Denny had a contagious smile and a zest for live that everyone should have are time is so short. I can't image Lake City without Denny and my heart hurts just thinking of our neighbor being gone. Love to all of you.*  
*The Grunewald's*

~

*Hank and Michelle Grunewald,*

*Rochester, Minnesota*

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**Hank and Michelle Grunewald** - October 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *My heart goes out to you at this time and in the days ahead.*

~

*colleen Rooney,*

*Playa del Rey, California*

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**colleen Rooney** - October 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Sorry to hear of Denny's passing. I met Denny in 1970 when I was working at National Car Rental and he operated our location in Rochester. He was a young man then and I was most impressed with his energy and high ethics. I bumped into him again just five years ago and had a nice chat with him. My regards to the family.

~

*Richard Foley,*

*Edina, Minnesota*

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**Richard Foley** - October 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ Chris and Family, I am so sad to hear of your loss. From the other entries, your Dad seemed like a wonderful man! He will be deeply missed. May God be with you in your time of sorrow, and may he comfort you in your time of need. With deepest sympathy. Heather O'Shea and Family

~

*Heather O'Shea,*

*Eagan, Minnesota*

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**Heather O'Shea** - October 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Denny, where do I start? For 20 years, you have inspired me daily. As a best friend, father, husband, grandfather to my children, mentor and business leader. You are a great man Safer! Oh by the way today "It's so nice out, I think I'll leave it out"! It is a great day to celebrate all you have done for so many! I Love you very much! Thank you for leading me.

~

*Jay Witta,*

*Shorewood, Minnesota*

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**Jay Witta** - October 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Denny will always be remembered as a person you want to be with. A positive, friendly, nurturing person always willing to help if needed .In a world of critics, and tough times he would always stand as a person who was ready to get something positive done . Even when he was down, he was up.. and with that great smile and enthusiasm he would make you feel like you could do anything.He will be missed, as he made many friends throughout his life.. and dearly loved his family.He will continue to smile in our memories.He was a WINNER in life.Darrell and Marilyn Hill

~

*DARRELL/MARILYNN HILL,*

*PALM DESERT, California*

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**DARRELL/MARILYNN HILL** - October 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ Denny, you are and will always be the man! We were so happy to have met and gotten to know Denny! I will never forget each and everytime I would call the office and get the good ole, "Tyler, How the hell are ya?" Makes me smile to think about it. We will miss that!! know you are living the dream right now on your boat or golfing it up! We will never forget Denny and know he left a great mark here, raised some great kids, including one of my best friends! Kristin and I love ya Denny!

~

*Tyler, Kristin and Gracie Layman,*

*Prior Lake, Minnesota*

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**Tyler, Kristin and Gracie Layman** - October 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I will always remember Denny's laugh and positive attitude. He was always "Busier than a one-armed paper hanger." So funny! I met him in '92 when I went to work at Heigl, then met the rest of the family when I worked for him in 97-98. Steph, Chris, Sara, Bonnie - I feel for you. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Love, Barbi (Snyder)

[Contact Me](#)

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October 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I think of two things when I think of Denny. First of all that smile! Who could not love that smile? His whole face would light up and he always had a twinkle in his eye. He treated us like royalty whenever we saw him. He would do anything for us or anyone else. Second thing I think of is riding on the front point of the boat. He'd always say "wait til we get out of the marina then hop up there!" Once we got out far enough he'd stop and let me, Chris & Sara get up there. Then he'd "hit it" and we'd laugh and tell him to hit the waves!! What a blast!! I think of all the fun time's with the Safe's quite often and always will!! We love you Denny and the Safe family!!~ Lisi (Burnham) Walkky

[Contact Me](#)

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October 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Love you Denny, will never forget the weekends at Pepin. Your supreme generosity and kind-hearted attitude created some of my most fondest memories in my youth as we boated around Lake City, Red Wing and Pepin. I think about those days often, and will never forget your smile and child-like laugh. My best to your family. Love, Brad Burnham Family, Anthem AZ

~

*Brad Burnham,*

*Anthem, Arizona*

*Contact Me*

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**Brad Burnham** - October 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ So many memories of fun (sometimes, too much fun) with Denny, Bonnie, 'Sara Safe am I', Chris and Steph. Memories so meaningful that Brad, Jay, and Lisi, took all their kids (9 total) to Pepin this past July to re-live those great times.....of which the Safe family was so much a part. We love you guys, and will see you soon....

~

*joe and carol burnham,*

*rochester, Minnesota*

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**joe and carol burnham** - October 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM