



Douglas K. Zimmerman

November 24, 2017

Zimmerman, Douglas K. Doug was many things. Devoted son, brother and husband. WWII Marine Corps veteran. Accomplished business- man. No nonsense hunter & angler with a love for the outdoors. A 50-year Mason. A 70-year golfer. Lifetime NRA member. A man's man. Fiercely loyal friend. Independent, disciplined, competitive, charismatic, private, smart. Doug was born at home during a blizzard in Minneapolis on Dec. 3, 1927. He would later joke with his mother, "Did you run out of money because all of the other kids were born in a hospital?" He was the youngest child of Robert and Alice Zimmerman with brothers Bob and Ken, and sister Norma. In May, 1945, Doug enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and headed to Paris Island, South Carolina for basic training. He received Rifle Expert designation, a distinction few soldiers obtained. In the spring of 1946, he shipped out to sea from Camp Pendleton, California for the South Pacific, serving as a PFC gunner. Upon returning to the states, Doug started working in bottling operations at Coca Cola in 1947. At age 32, Doug became the youngest Local 792 Union president of brewery workers. He soon went into management, promoted to sales manager and became plant manager for Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana operations. In 1967, Doug became an executive officer for Coca Cola, responsible for sales and marketing programs. He retired in 1983, and consulted for another 10 years. His career at Coca Cola introduced him to lifelong friendships. Doug met Norma Aanenson in 1947. She introduced him to her large family in Luverne, Minnesota, the Christmas of

1948. When he found out that her brothers were farmers, he knew there would be lots of good pheasant hunting. Doug and Norma married in October of 1949. When Norma was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1988, Doug cared for her at home for five years. Doug picked up golf on his return to the states after WWII. What started out as a hobby after working the nightshift at the bottling plant, became a passion. He golfed summers in Minnesota, and winters in Florida and Arizona. He was one of the first members to receive a Lifetime Honorary Golf Membership at Golden Valley Country Club. He played golf with other honorary members up to the end of September. When he wasn't golfing, he was hunting or fishing. Doug grew up hunting with his brothers and had an affinity for the outdoors. For many years, he fished for walleye on Lake Mille Lacs on the water and on the ice. When he stopped fishing, he still had walleye every Monday at Malone's where the staff knew him and looked forward to his visits. Doug cared for his mother. He cared for his wife. He visited his brothers and friends who became ill in their later years. He accepted these responsibilities without question, though in recent years, the emotional toll was great, having survived the passing of those important to him. Yet, he always had a smile on his face, a laugh that put others at ease, and a steadfast desire to remain independent and proud. Doug passed away in his home on November 24, 2017. Private family interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Washburn-McReavy.com Strobeck Johnson 952-938-9020