



Duane Benard Held

June 7, 1935 - November 20, 2015

Held, Duane Bernard was born the second child of six on June 7, 1935 to Valerius "Shorty" and Alnora Held. During his childhood, his family moved frequently and owned various businesses including two farms, grocery store, gas station and taverns. He graduated from Aquinas High School in La Crosse, WI. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1954 to 1957 doing ground radio repair. He married Marie Truempi in 1958. He earned an associates degree in electronic technology from DeVry University in Chicago, Illinois. He worked for General Dynamics Aeronautics, Boeing Aircraft, Rosemount Engineering and Control Data. He found a home at Beckman Instruments as a field service engineer in 1967 and stayed there until retirement in 1993. He and his wife, Marie, had four children: Keith, Kevin, Rhonda, and Cheryl. His wife, Marie, died in 1994. He put his time and energy into hobbies like family genealogy (suggested by his sister, Barbara), wood laser engraving, editing the Held family newsletter and piloting a sport plane. He was devoted to the annual Held family reunion and updated the memorial plaques. He liked walking around Mall of America for exercise and found a companion in Marcia Fotsch to whom he was married from 2005-2013. His greatest joy came when he spent time with each of his grandchildren. He was proud of all of them. He was preceded in death by his parents; Valerius and Alnora Held and his beloved wife, Marie Held. He is survived by his siblings: Barbara Nelson, Roger Held, Valerie Kromke, Alan Held and Rita Chandler; children: Keith (Lynn) Held, Kevin (Jaimie) Held, Rhonda (Todd) Saemisch and Cheryl West.

He had seven grandchildren: Jacob Held, Benjamin Held, Jared West, Hayden West, Kendra Held, Allison Held, Andrea Held and one great-grandchild, Christofer Held. A Celebration of Life memorial will take place at Easter Lutheran Church by the Lake, 4545 Pilot Knob Road in Eagan on Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 12:30-3:00 pm. washburn-mcreavy.com
Bloomington Chapel 952-884-8145

Tribute Wall



“ *GOOD RIDANCE!!!* ”

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