



## Edward LeRoy Novak

December 17, 1933 - June 24, 2022

Please click here to view the livestream of his service: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1RZkwVf3w0>

On June 24, 2022, Reverend Edward L. Novak passed away to the waiting arms of his Lord and Savior. Ed was born in Omaha, NE on December 17, 1933, the son of Sena (Mandsager) and Edward John Novak. In 1946, his family, including his two brothers Gene and Bob Haycraft, moved to Eagle Grove, IA. While in Eagle Grove, Ed participated in plays, operettas, vocal and musical ensembles and thrived in football, track and academics. However, the highlight of moving to Eagle Grove was meeting the love of his life, Lorene (Olson) Novak whom he married on August 27, 1955. After high school, Ed attended Eagle Grove Junior College and graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN in 1955. Ed attended Luther Theological Seminary and upon graduation in 1959 began his life-long commitment of serving his Lord and Savior. After seminary Pastor Ed served his internship at Central Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA. His first call was to the three-point parishes of Flaxville, MT - Zion, Pleasant Prairie, and American Lutheran. In 1963, Pastor Ed became the organizing pastor for Atonement Lutheran in Billings Heights, MT, where he served until 1968. In 1968, Pastor Ed was called to First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD where he served as Associate and Senior Pastor until 1975. From 1975-1980 Pastor Ed served the congregation of First

Lutheran Church in Glasgow, MT. In 1980, Pastor Ed and Lorene accepted a call to St. Peter Lutheran in Dubuque, IA, where he served until his retirement in 1998. After retirement, Ed and Lorene moved to New Brighton, MN in 1998 where Pastor Ed once again accepted the call to ministry and served as Visitation Pastor for Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Throughout their lives, Ed and Lorene not only served the local parish but were always active members of each community by serving on various boards and civic organizations. In 2007 Ed was diagnosed with a mild form of dementia. Until his passing, Ed dealt with his progressive illness with acceptance, humor and ultimately relied upon his life-long partner, Lorene, to meet his basic needs with loving care and kindness. Ed was a leader, a father, a faithful husband, grandfather, great-grandfather and ultimately a faithful servant of the Lord. His life's work was dedicated to promoting equality and justice. During his long and fulfilling life, Ed enjoyed hunting, fishing, golf, swimming, his golden retrievers, and travelling. Most importantly, he enjoyed spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Lorene, whom he loved unconditionally, his daughters Heidi (Joseph) Flores, Karin (Clint) Stockwell and his son, Nathan (Julie) Novak, his grandchildren and great grandchildren. A celebration of Ed's life will take place on July 30, 2022 at 11:00 am (Central) at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MN with visitation starting at 9:30 a.m. The service will also be broadcast virtually via a link available through Bethlehem Lutheran Church or Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels.

Please click here to view the livestream of his service: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1RZkwVf3w0>

# Tribute Wall

KF

“ Grew up in St. Peter’s with him - a great pastor and an amazing man. He will be deeply missed. Sending love to the family.

Katie Fassbinder - August 01, 2022 at 08:11 AM

JC

“ Dear Novak family. I am so sorry to learn Edwards death. He was a very special person. Romans8:31-39 will bring you hope and comfort. May God wrap his loving arms around you all. May Ed Rest In Peace.



john cerwinske - July 27, 2022 at 04:28 PM

JH

“ Dear Novak Family--

*Pastor Ed was my confirmation teacher/pastor at First Lutheran in SF---he was a hunting friend of my Dad (Ken Herbert)---when we sat in the goose pits (I was in 9th grade), Ed asked my Dad not to share he was a pastor---the conversation among the hunters was rather salty---and Ed while a man of the cloth, did not want them to change their upfront behavior just because of him---it was rather entertaining. My Mom (Lois Herbert) thought a great deal of Lorene and while it was a trying period for FLC, Ed steadied the ship---God Bless all of you and know the FLC family holds you in our thoughts and prayers---*

*Jeff Herbert*

Jeff Herbert - July 17, 2022 at 08:09 PM

RG

“ *I was one of Ed's interns in Glasgow. I am forever grateful for his wise pastoral guidance and all the love and friendship shown to me by his family. Ed Novak lived what he believed. His witness and Lorene's was utterly genuine.*

*Please accept my heartfelt sympathies. Reverend John L. Golv*

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**Rev. John Golv** - July 10, 2022 at 02:18 PM