



Eugene Douglas Ortiz

March 23, 1943 - January 14, 2023

Eugene (Gene) Douglas Ortiz of St. Louis Park, MN, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, January 14, 2023 at the age of 79 years.

Gene was born on March 23, 1943 in New York, NY to Ralph and Eadie Ortiz. In 1952, he moved to Hopkins, MN, with his parents and brother, Ralph. He married his Hopkins High School sweetheart Mary Puck on January 30, 1965 and they were blessed with 57 wonderful years together.

From 1963 to 1967, Gene proudly served his country in the US Navy on the USS Fort Snelling with an honorable discharge. He continued to serve his Brothers and Sisters by supporting their families through the MN Patriot Guard's missions. He maintained strong unshakable bonds with several fellow shipmates.

He loved spending time with his family and enjoyed his time up North at their cabin in Cromwell, MN. Gene retired from General Mills, his favorite work place for almost 20 years. Co-workers and friends have described him as a genuinely sweet, selfless, compassionate man known for his sharp wit and smile that made his eyes twinkle.

Gene is survived by his wife, Mary (Puck) Ortiz, his children, Lisa Anfinson, Julie Polikowsky (Josh), Andy Ortiz (Julia), his grandchildren, Tessa Anfinson,

Robert Anfinson Jr (Ashley), Shane Holthaus, Bella Holthaus, Cruz Polikowsky, Ryan Ortiz, Lily Ortiz, Adria Ortiz, his great grandchildren, Novalee Jones, Nayvi Jones and his brother, Ralph (Carolyn) Ortiz, along with many other family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ralph and Eadie Ortiz.

Gene will be especially remembered for his warm greeting and goodbye hugs that always included a kiss on our cheek. His love that extended throughout his family and friends made us all feel a special connection and relationship with him. We miss you Pop/Papa and will love you, always and forever!

Celebration of Life will be held in his honor at the Congregational Church of Excelsior, 471 Third Street, Excelsior, MN on Sunday, February 5th, at 1 pm followed by a gathering in the social hall. For those who wish to attend virtually please contact the family for the live stream link.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the MN Patriot Guard (<http://www.mnpatriotguard.org/>) and the Sojourner Project (<https://www.sojournerproject.org>) that provides support for victims of violence and abuse.

Tribute Wall

AB

“ *What a special pleasure it was to meet both Gene and Mary through the IWC. You welcomed me into your pack and had such a lovely way of making everyone feel special. I especially remember our trip to Yellowstone and what a great trip that was, not only because of the location, but because of special people like Gene and Mary. Mary, my condolences to you and your family. Ann Beyer*

Ann Beyer - February 23, 2023 at 11:21 PM

LO

“ *I will always remember how you made me feel at the family gatherings...like family! I will miss your huge smile, the long hugs and how you welcomed me with open arms the very first time we met, but most of all, I shall miss YOU! Mary, we send our deepest condolences and love you all to pieces! and Lisa...you know!*

Laura Ortiz - February 03, 2023 at 01:10 PM

JS

“ *We are very sorry to hear about Gene. We have many years of fond memories. remembering how hard he would work on the floats for the Raspberry Parade. Working with the dancers & helping with all the shows. Our sympathy & prayers are with Mary & the families. Joe & Shirley Schmit*

Joe Shirley Schmit - February 02, 2023 at 12:43 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene Douglas Ortiz.*



February 01, 2023 at 02:16 PM



“ *I fondly remember sharing your birthday celebration in Gardiner, Montana (Yellowstone) in 2018.. you will be missed.. Mary, you and your family have my deepest condolences*

Andi Nelsen - January 31, 2023 at 05:38 PM



“ *He was the best uncle, he was kind, gentle, & taught me how to whistle loudly w/my fingers, New York style. He was supportive, & always welcoming. Big, huge heart. Sending deepest condolences & love to aunt Mary, Lisa, Julie, Andy, & all of his grands. I bet he was a great grandpa.*

Teresa Ortiz Reich - January 30, 2023 at 05:34 PM



“ *We spent a great time with Gene and Mary in Spain and Minnesota. We want to send our deepest sympathy and our love to Mary*



Juan Blanco - January 30, 2023 at 04:24 PM

DT

“ We feel very privileged to have met Gene. He emitted such warmth, and genteel kindness. Such a thoughtful and interesting man. He lived a wonderful life and we know his love for Mary and family was eternal. He cared so much.
Our condolences on this monumental loss for your family. Sending our love and warmest regards.

Dick & Deb Thiel - January 30, 2023 at 08:33 AM

SC

“ Steve and I send our love and condolences to Gene's family. We spent many lovely times with Gene and Mary and will deeply miss that. Gene was so proud of his children and grandchildren. Love to you all in your loss.

sharon cizek - January 29, 2023 at 09:52 AM

CH

“ Geno and I at a MN Patriot Guard mission ❤️



Chris H - January 26, 2023 at 06:37 PM