



Frank Robert Cardarelle

August 28, 1932 - October 26, 2025

Frank Robert Cardarelle, a lifelong resident of Edina, Minnesota, and a cornerstone of the community's development and civic life, passed away peacefully at the age of 93. His life was a testament to his family, service, stewardship, and a deep-rooted love for the city his family has helped shape for over a century.

Born and raised in Edina, Frank's family legacy in the area began in 1874 with the arrival of his great-grandparents, Joseph & Elizabeth Roberts, who became founders of Edina when they and other farmers seceded from Richfield. Frank's grandfather served on Edina's first school board, and Frank proudly graduated in the inaugural class of Edina High School in 1951. From a young age, he worked alongside his father, John Cardarelle, in land surveying, laying the groundwork for a career that would leave a lasting imprint on the region.

Frank's proudest legacy is his family. Frank shared 65 years of marriage with his beloved wife, Lois Cardarelle. Together, they raised their family near the original family homestead. In a fitting tribute to their partnership, the Edina street "Lois Lane" is named in her honor-Frank's favorite collaborator in life. The Cardarelle house was a bustling hub of activity for decades. With three busy children, the house was never still, and with large extended families, Frank and Lois' home served as frequent host for family reunions and community gatherings.

Frank threw himself into being a grandfather, supporting each of his

grandchildren from childhood to busy adult lives. He delighted in taking them fishing, hearing about their adventures, and enjoying the warmth of the family table for Sunday dinners.

Frank founded Cardarelle & Associates, a land development firm instrumental in the growth of Edina and neighboring Eden Prairie. During a time of rapid expansion, he described the pace as "plattng as fast as we could," a reflection of both the demand and his tireless work ethic. Frank served as the president of Minnesota Land Surveyor's Association in 1968. Frank's industriousness continued to the end as he led the business into his 90s and even when he did retire at 90, he never stopped pointing out the various homes he surveyed over the years while driving in the car with his loved ones. Beyond his professional achievements, Frank was a devoted civic leader. He joined the Edina Rotary Club in 1957 and served as its president from 1969 to 1970, leading the honor of having Vice President Humphrey speak to the club. He played a key role in founding the Edina Historical Society and was a driving force behind the city's Fourth of July parades and the Edina Veterans Memorial. His contributions were recognized during the Rotary Club's 60th anniversary, where he was honored as one of its longest-serving members. Frank's legacy lives on in the neighborhoods he helped build, the institutions he supported, and the countless lives he touched through his quiet leadership and unwavering dedication to community.

He was preceded death by his parents, John and Genevieve, and siblings John, Esther, Bill and Jim.

He is survived by his loving wife Lois, their children John (Liz), Amy, and Julie (Matt) Buxton, and grandchildren, Jessica, Nick, Hannah, Maddie, Chaz and Tyson, his siblings Don and Ruth (Waldo) Anderson, many nieces, nephews and extended family, and a city that will forever bear the mark of his vision and care.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to: Edina Historical Society, Edina Rotary Foundation, Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors (formerly Minnesota Land Surveyor's Association), and the Minnesota Humane Society.

The Visitation will be held Wednesday, November 12th from 4-6 pm at Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel at 5000 West 50th Street & Highway 100. The Memorial Service will be held Thursday, November 13th from 4-5 pm at Normandale Lutheran Church, 6100 Normandale Road, Edina, MN, 55436.
www.Washburn-McReavy.com
Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **12.** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Memorial Service

NOV **13.** 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Normandale Lutheran Church
6100 Normandale Road
Edina, MN 55436

Tribute Wall

RD

“ On behalf of the Edina Historical Society, I want to share my deepest sympathy with the Cardarelle family. Frank’s early support and commitment helped shape the Society in its earliest days, and we remain truly grateful for the care he showed for Edina and its history.

Thank you for honoring his memory through the EHS. Please know that his spirit and generosity continue to touch our community.

*With warm condolences,
Raquel A. Dwyer
Executive Director
Edina Historical Society*

Raquel A. Dwyer - November 15, 2025 at 05:42 PM

SK

“ Frank Carderelle was interested in the support of the next generation of surveyors. Carderelle and Associates, a highly respected surveying company, had summer interns. In 2004 when, as Dean of Technical Programs at Saint Paul College, met with their supervisor at Carderelle of surveying program's summer intern. The intern received excellent training and experience.

It was a pleasure years later in 2018 to be in Edina Rotary with Frank, where he had served as president 1969-1970. Frank was welcoming and ready for conversation. He is missed.

My sympathies to the family.

Sandra Gehlen Krebsbach

Sandra Gehlen Krebsbach - November 12, 2025 at 03:10 PM

MW

“ I lived across the street from Frank. I remember when he got the 65 powder blue Mustang for Lois. I used to cut their grass, his yard was big so he gave me 2 days yo get it done. He had an early snowblower that he used to do the neighbors drive ways. He always had a great smile and a kind word. He will be greatly missed.

Mark Wicka - November 08, 2025 at 09:04 AM

NH

“ Dear Family and Friends,
It was our pleasure to care for Frank at this important time.
With Sympathies,
Nurses and Staff at NC Little Hospice

NC Little Hospice - November 04, 2025 at 12:59 PM

DC

I am so sorry to hear of Frank's passing. My mother recently passed away. She spent her last days under the incredible and passionate care from NC Little Hospice. Hugs to you all- Dawn Cardarelle

Dawn E Cardarelle - November 04, 2025 at 10:29 PM