



Frank Leroy Mitchell

December 6, 1933 - February 21, 2024

Frank Leroy Mitchell, age 90, of Mounds View, passed peacefully to his heavenly home on February 21, 2024. He is survived by the love of his life, Kathy, his wife of 69 years.

Frank was a dedicated father to his five children, Steve (Jeanne), Sharon (Brian), Sue (Randy), Theresa, and Doreen (Tracy). He loved his 11 grandchildren fiercely, Rita, Rob, Keith, Kortney, Kyle, Kenny, Amber, Megan, Caitlin, Cody, and Chase, as well as his 10 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Mary.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Catherine Mitchell, and siblings John, Pat, Helen, and Peggy.

Frank was born in Denver, Colorado, the fourth of six children, and learned at an early age that he liked to make people laugh.

He served his country in the United States Navy where he met Kathy when she wrote to him at the request of her cousin, Frank's shipmate. Little did they know that was the start of a life-long love story. Frank and Kathy moved around early in their marriage, settling in Cottage Grove to raise their family.

He valued hard work and spent his career in the computer industry, as a

computer programmer and later as an instructor. He was especially proud of his part in the Apollo 8 space mission at NASA.

He was quite the storyteller and one of his greatest joys was to bring laughter to those around him, whether through his endless supply of jokes, or as Knufie the Clown. As a long-time member of the St. Paul Clown Club he spread joy through numerous parades and volunteering at community events.

He was also a friend of Bill W and volunteered his time to help others in their AA journey.

He liked to keep busy and after his retirement he spent time doing woodworking, winning State Fair ribbons for his creations. He also enjoyed delivering flowers for a local florist as it allowed him to meet new people and brighten their day.

Through life's ups and downs, Frank never lost his faith in Jesus Christ and would read the Bible with Kathy every night.

Spending time with his family was his true love and passion. He will be missed dearly and his memory will live on in the hearts of those that loved him.

Memorials preferred. Private Interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

A special thank you to the caring nurses in the ICU at Unity Hospital for taking such great care of him.