



## Gary Wayne Holmberg

April 21, 2018

Gary Wayne Holmberg was an aficionado of a good fishing hole, a long yarn, lazy afternoons with his dogs, and a baking pan full of salted chicken livers.

He moved on from this life to his next adventure on April 21st, 2018.

Born in 1941 to Arne and Mildred (Holmquist) Holmberg in Minneapolis, Gary was fond of remembering the ruckus he caused with his brother Denny during their childhood. Known for his strong Nordic frame, young Gary was a gymnast, football, and tennis athlete. In later years, coaching and battling his weedy nemesis, Creeping Charlie, became the bulk of his workouts.

An early programmer, Gary worked with JPL and other companies before settling back in the Twin Cities (much to the delight of his future children) where he stayed for the rest of his life, building a career in graphic design and printing.

Gary met the love of his life, Barbara (Meyers) Holmberg, in 1971 and convinced her to marry him in 1973. Over 47 years together, they raised their kids, Tara and Brett, ran their business, travelled, hosted parties, and cooked up hundreds of sunfish from Gary's outings. Brett's family, wife Robin and twins Adam and Eric, brought Gary joy in the last years of his life. Tara and Gary took many hare-brained cross-country trips together, the last to the east coast where she settled and met her husband, Dan.

Coach Gary was a sideline staple throughout his kids' childhoods. Through seasons of softball, basketball, baseball, and football, he put hundreds of miles on his shoes cheering. Swimming was also a big family sport and Gary's

booming voice likely still echoes in pools around the region. Frequently, his voice was used for impromptu performances of Elvis and Motown songs. Gary loved to sing along in perfect harmony or acapella; the Holmberg kitchen, garden, and cars were full of music.

Friends meant a great deal, especially those he could share boat or dock time with. While he did get personal satisfaction from having the day's largest catch, Gary was (mostly) a gracious fishing partner. Friends and family were frequent audiences for his latest tale or joke, some of which were not suitable for all audiences, but were only spun to entertain those he enjoyed spending time with.

Barb, Tara, and Brett hope that friends and family always smile when thinking of Gary. Special thank you to Intrepid Hospice for their care and kindness. A celebration of his full and vibrant life will be held from 3-5 PM on Tuesday, April 24th, 2018, at Glen Haven Chapel, 5125 West Broadway, Crystal, MN. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society ([www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org)) or the MN Department of Natural Resources (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/nongame/donate/index.html>)

# Tribute Wall

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“ My sincere condolences go to the family for the loss of their dear loved one. I would like to share a Comforting thought from the bible found at Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your mental powers by means of Christ Jesus. 🌹

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**Anastasia** - April 28, 2018 at 12:12 PM