



Gary Paul Kasner

April 3, 1946 - January 15, 2025

Gary's huge heart left us January 15th. He grew up in the Linden Hills neighborhood and graduated in 1964 from Southwest High School. He played hockey at Mankato State where he graduated with a business degree. He cherished the relationships he made in school and still would get together with many of them. He made many friends playing tennis, platform tennis and then got into pickleball before it was the cool thing to do. He was a competitor and would risk life and limb for that one shot that would often times be a complete winner. He loved sharing his hockey prowess with the kids and often was heard saying "Coral stop pinching in". After meeting Carolyn in 1998 his consummate bachelor life was over. He embraced her family like they were his own. He enjoyed the annual pumpkin patch party, hosting family parties and watching the kids play hockey. Carolyn and Gary took many epic trips. Their favorite warm weather vacation spot was Cancun and their last trip started in London and ended in Amsterdam. He also enjoyed their trip to Normandy as Gary loved history. Gary is preceded in death by his parents Bea and Ray Kasner, his brother Jay Kasner and his golden Sadee. He is survived by his best friend Carolyn Ball, Lucy his golden, his sister-in-law Joanne Kasner, his best friend for 50 years, Stu Alexander and wife Diane, Gary's God children, Brook and Stuart, Carolyn's 3 sisters and one brother-in-law, six nieces and nephews and their partners, 10 great nieces and nephews and two cousins Tom Kasner and Nancy Peterson. Services are at St. Andrews Church in Eden Prairie, 3pm Thursday January 23rd. Visitation one

hour prior and reception following. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to St Paul Urban Tennis or the American Cancer Society.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **23**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (Eden Prairie)
13600 Technology Drive
Eden Prairie, MN

Memorial Service

JAN **23**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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13600 Technology Drive
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Tribute Wall

JH

“ I've known Gary since we were little kids at Audubon School in SW Mpls, and later as young bachelors sharing apartments together and living the good life. Regardless of what each of us was up to on our separate pathways through life, we always somehow stayed in touch with one-another. Much later, when the constraints and duties of our working lives were no longer prevalent or at issue, we met for intimate lunches and laughter. I have many memories of Gary that will sustain me, but my fondest memories of Gary will always be our simple warm weather get-togethers over cigars at The Little Park where we played as kids, in the old neighborhood, not far from our boyhood homes in Linden Hills. He would drive in from Eden Prairie, and we would sit in our folding chairs, smoke cigars, and reminisce about our abundantly humorous pasts, complain about the cloak of invisibility of now being aged seniors, and speculate about our futures. But always, always with humor, laughter and mutual respect and admiration. Gary, I will miss you most dearly. But you made the living of my own life so much more fun and lively.

James Boyer, Linden Hills - January 21, 2025 at 05:09 PM

KT

“ My heartfelt condolences to Carolyn and the whole Kasner family. So many great stories about Gary, he was the life of the court or whatever he was playing that day. I had the privilege of playing doubles with Gary for about 10 years on Wednesday nights at Midwest with Gregg Wong and Tom Rowe. Gary was my partner and we had so much fun playing together. Gary didn't love playing the net but I would always tell him how great he was up there!!

When Gary missed a shot, Wonger and Tom would try to get in his head but I would tell Gary that they were only jealous that they weren't as good as him and that fired him up even more!!

Gary always had passion for whatever sport he was playing!! When he played golf he probably had more passion then skill, I remember giving him a golf lesson once out at Rich Acres to work on his swing and he listened intently and tried so hard and I always admired that about him.

I will leave U with this one golf story. One day I was playing with Gary at Braemar and we start on the front nine. The first hole he shot a 5 on a par 4 which was a very good score. The second hole was a par 5 and on his third shot he holed out from 200 yards, I am sure it was his only eagle on a hole. So now he is 1 under par after 2 holes and he was pumped up!! The third hole was a par 3 and he shot a 4. We walk up to the 4th tee box with Gary being even par after 3 holes and I told him how awesome 😎 he was playing!! I went to get a ball out of my bag and when I looked up he was heading to the club house with his pull cart. I said Gary, where in the hell R U going!! He stopped and looked back and told me his round was over!! I said, OVER, we have only played three holes R U feeling OK?? He said he felt great but he wanted to finish his round at being even par, I said but U only played 3 holes and we both started to laugh 😂. On that day his round of golf lasted only 3 holes but he was even par when he finished!! He told me he was 100% confident that he would completely screw this round up if he continued!! I am pretty sure he was right about that. That story

*always brings a huge smile to my face and my memories with Gary
always do, I will miss seeing him at Lifetime!!*

Your friend always. Kelly J Tritz

Kelly Tritz - January 21, 2025 at 08:03 AM