



Gerald "Jerry" Mundt

January 9, 2009

Mundt, Gerald E. "Jerry" age 75, died Jan. 6 at home in St. Louis Park. An architect for 44 years, his firm specialized in camp planning, senior housing and nursing homes throughout the country. Jerry was a man of action who delighted in doing it himself, whether designing and building his family home, making wine or helping solve a community problem. He served as chair of his condo board where his talent for disagreeing agreeably came in handy. He built a rustic cabin on Indian Creek in Wisconsin with lumber from the property. He and his wife of 53 years, Diane, built ponds and trails, planted trees and considered it their wildlife refuge. He was an optimist, willing to organize a board or committee to bring positive change -- in his community, his profession, out in the natural world he loved. He ran for the MN State Legislature in 1972 because of his concern for environmental issues. He joined others in Golden Valley in forming Action Now Council to address civil rights issues following the murder of Martin Luther King in 1968. He chaired Golden Valley's Building Board of Review and a committee to redevelop the city's downtown. He redeveloped an old stone wagon factory in Rushford, MN into apartments, saving a building on the Minnesota Historic Registry. Following retirement, Jerry studied paleontology at the School of Mines in Rapid City, So. Dakota. While there he discovered the complete skeleton of a plesiosaur and conducted erosion studies in the So. Dakota Badlands. He led paleontology trips for U of M's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, making many new friends. A sports standout in high school, he worked his way through

Iowa State University to earn a BA in Architecture in 1956. He was a lieutenant with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1956 to 1958, when he and Diane moved to the Twin Cities. Diane says she married him because he was a good dancer, kids and animals were crazy about him, and he had an absolute confidence in himself that she envied. He was held in high regard by those who knew him. Friends and family surrounded him in the two months between the diagnosis of stomach cancer and his death. Thanks to Fairview Hospice for making home care doable. He is survived by his wife, Diane; children, Bruce (Karen), Karen Field (Jack) and Nancy Robinson (Tim); grandchildren, Laura, Kate and Emma Field and Gabriel and Anna Robinson; sisters, Joanne Kimball and Mary Latham; sister-in-law, Betty Mundt; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial gifts preferred to a favorite charity. Private interment. A Memorial Service will be held 2PM Saturday at: Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 West 50th St. & Hwy 100