



Howard Walter Bloom

April 26, 1935 - May 23, 2021

Bloom, Howard Walter age 86, of Lakeland, FL formerly of Arden Hills, MN went to be with the Lord surrounded by his loving family in his home on May 23rd. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Donna Mae (Tower) and six children - Denise Engberg (Mike) of Burnsville, Diana Bloom of Arden Hills,, Dale Bloom (Susanne) of Houston, TX, Douglas Bloom (Laura) of Elk River, David Bloom (Deb) of Andover, Debra Heiser (Terre) of Mpls. As well as 13 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren all with a special place in grandpa's heart.

Howard was the second son born to Walter and Alice Bloom of Mpls. He had an adventurous childhood, he shared many stories of his and brother, Les' antics. He served as an Army technical trainer right out of high school and attended Northwestern before being hired by 3M. He had many records of invention and was recognized at the Engineering Achievement Award dinner from 1978 to the present.

Howard attended Park Avenue Covenant Church as a child and was confirmed and baptized by Rev. Gustaf Johnson. He had to memorize portions of scripture which he remembers to this day. One of them that stood out to him was John 3: 1-16. It was the story of Jesus telling Nicodemus how he could be born again. He reflected recently how that was a very difficult scripture to live up to and somewhat hard to understand.

While at Park Avenue Covenant Church, he met the charming Donna Mae. She was in high school and he was at the University. They dated for several years and then were married in 1958 and raised 6 children together.

After 32 years at 3M, Howard retired in 1995, they were seldom apart and their lives were full. They took up residence in Lakeland, FL spending time cruising, traveling and road trips.

When in Minnesota, they loved family celebrations! Birthdays, holidays, graduations, and weddings were never missed. He was the official ham and turkey carver. Family barbecues found him grilling the meat to perfection. He and his brother Les used to joke that every party had to have chips and pickles.

In the summer, you would find them at their cabin in Brainerd, MN. Les and wife, Arlene used to live next door and every weekend would be spent with family, having coffee, dipping the occasional line in the water, talking politics on the deck, and swatting mosquitoes. They even purchased another adjacent cabin so there was room for their growing family to enjoy together.

All his life, Howard has enjoyed sports. His early years were spent playing basketball and softball. When their kids came along, he went from playing to coaching. Then as a grandpa, he enjoyed watching his grandchildren play in their activities and golfing with his oldest grandsons and friends. He passed along this passion to his grandkids, watching his favorite teams and always critiquing the performances of each athlete and team.

Along with Donna, his girl Friday (Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday too!) Howard enjoyed tinkering, troubleshooting and technology; it was his tonic. She intuitively assisted his many projects by

assembling tools, giving encouragement (and advice) and getting everything back in its place. He was either involved with a project of his own or helping someone else with theirs, he was on top of his game when he could create, renovate, innovate or calibrate. In his eighties, he attributed his clear mind and thought process to these challenges and lifelong endeavours.

As his health declined, he used his engineering prowess to keep himself going as his pulmonary fibrosis was increasingly challenging. He was first diagnosed in late 2010 and was told the disease would take him in 3 to 5 years, he outlived that life expectancy and was able to stretch that time another 6 years. He would rig up his oxygen machines in various ways to get the most out of the respiratory therapy. It was so much effort for him each day and we were so proud of the way he kept going but it really took its toll. Dad decided that he wanted home-hospice care and Mom and Diana made that a reality. Family members were able to drop in virtually and in-person to visit so his last days (as through his whole life) were spent with family.

Dad was cherished and will be dearly missed. We know that his spirit will live on in his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Dad said that he was confident that we will all be together again someday in heaven. Reminding us in an old hymn, "When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be! When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory!"

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to Covenant Pines Bible Camp <http://covenantpines.org/donate-to-cpm> there is a place on the website under the amount you donate to "give in honor or in memory" just add for Howard W. Bloom. They are renovating the outside amphitheatre that dad had a part in originally. Dad loved projects; Mom thought it was fitting to have his memorials go toward many more years of praise gatherings for campers lifting their voices to heaven. Dad will enjoy that.

Visitation is Sunday, June 6th 1:00pm with Celebration of Life at 2:00pm at the Hillside Chapel with private family interment.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-1999
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Chapel Service

JUN 6. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-1999
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Tribute Wall

DE

“ 1 file added to the album Howard's Family



Denise Gale Engberg - June 08, 2021 at 09:32 PM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Howard Walter Bloom.



June 04, 2021 at 04:07 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Howard Walter Bloom.



June 03, 2021 at 10:33 PM

AP

“ I had the privilege of working with Howie many times at 3M over the years. He was a wonderful mentor and had an unparalleled understanding of technical issues. My condolences to Howie's family in your loss.

Arlyn Poppen - 3M Industrial Business EHS, Retired

Arlyn Poppen - June 03, 2021 at 09:16 AM

WB

*“ I AM TRULY CHAGRINED BY HIS PASSING. MY CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY.
i WAS PRIVILEGED TO HAVE WORKED WITH HOWARD FOR MANY YEARS AT 3M PI&CS ENGINEERING AND ALWAYS ADMIRED HIS TALENTS AND GREAT ATTITUDE. A BIG LOSS ALL AROUND!*

William Bader - June 02, 2021 at 11:45 PM

PG

“ When I first started working at 3M, I remember Howie telling me that, at the time, in all the years he had worked at 3M, he had never missed a day being sick. I remember how blessed he and 3M were to have each other. Such a great role model!

Pat Gehring - June 02, 2021 at 04:32 PM

FB

*“ Howie, thank you for your service to out country.
RIP.
Fred Banholzer, 3M Retired Sourcing Manager, Vietnam Veteran-USN*

Fred Banholzer - June 02, 2021 at 03:00 PM



“ Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Howard Walter Bloom.



June 02, 2021 at 02:30 PM

AM

“ *Andi and Tom Moffatt purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Howard Walter Bloom.*



Andi and Tom Moffatt - May 30, 2021 at 07:58 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Howard Walter Bloom.*



May 30, 2021 at 12:09 PM