



James Richard Olsen

January 6, 2017

Olsen, James Richard age 70, of Eden Prairie, MN passed away January 6, 2017 in Edina, MN due to prostate cancer. Jim was born September 15, 1946 in Minot, ND to Elias and Esther (Fosse) Olsen. In eighth grade, his family moved to Jamestown, ND and he began dating Sharon Floan in tenth grade. They were married in 1967, and after graduating from North Dakota State University as a member of the Reserve Officers Training Corps, Jim entered the United States Army full-time and served a tour in Vietnam, earning a Bronze Star among other commendations. After his service, a love of cars led him to a 35-year career in the automobile business, starting at Chrysler Corporation where he held positions in Fargo, Minneapolis, and Denver, working his way up to National Business Manager in Detroit. Not fond of corporate life, Jim returned to the Twin Cities to work as a sales manager at a Chrysler dealership before becoming the President and General Manager of Arrow Pontiac-Buick-GMC in 1982, a position he held until his retirement in 2005. Jim was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who enjoyed golf, hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family and friends. After his retirement, he spent winters in Mesa, Ariz., in the house he and Sharon designed on the first fairway of Red Mountain Ranch Country Club. He was preceded in death by his parents and cousin Karen Olsen. Jim is survived by his wife Sharon; son Sean (Angela); grandchildren Lauren, Abby, and Ryan Olsen; sister Judy Bollinger (Gerry); nephews Gerry (Kim) and Darren Bollinger; and cousins Jeanne Olsen, Paula Greelis (Tom), and Helen Lacher

(Al) and many friends. A memorial service will be held Friday, January 13 at 11:00 AM with visitation one hour prior at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 16515 Luther Way, Eden Prairie, MN. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Mayo Clinic Cancer Research and Fairview Cancer Center. Washburn-McReavy.com Eden Prairie Chapel 952-975-0400

Tribute Wall

MF

“ We are sad for you and your family at the loss of a great guy, husband, father, grandfather and friend. I hope you can find some comfort in the love and support of family and friends. Jim and Marcie (DeGroot) Flasch.

Marcie Flasch - January 13, 2017 at 12:09 PM

NP

“ Sharon & family,

We were so sad to read that Jim had died. When we met lately, you were excited about new house in Mesa.

We are sure the grandkids will bring you comfort.

We will keep you in our prayers.

Nancy & John Paumen

Nancy & John Paumen - January 12, 2017 at 05:00 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Richard Olsen.



January 12, 2017 at 06:32 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Richard Olsen.*



January 11, 2017 at 10:30 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James Richard Olsen.*



January 11, 2017 at 09:50 AM



“ *Jim was a big part of my life. I worked for Jim for 18 years. He was a fair and honest man and a generous employer. He was a strong mentor to me and many others. He had a great sense of humor. (I witnessed him dance in a Tutu.) On January 6th God received a good soul to walk beside him. Thank you for your Service to our Country during your time spent in The Armed Forces. R.I.P.*

Steven Novivk - January 10, 2017 at 04:42 PM



“ *Dear Sharon & family, Our hearts are sad at the loss of Jim. He was a courageous guy with a lot of heart. May God's Peace be with you and your family. Go Blue Jays! Class of 64! Love, Jill (Enzminger) and Ben Bjornson*

Jill Enzminger Bjornson - January 09, 2017 at 06:51 AM