



Jack

April 6, 1930 - March 17, 2018

Leeds, John "Jack"

Age 87, passed away peacefully into the Lord's arms, March 17, 2018. Preceded in death by 20 days, his loving wife Joan of almost 68 years. He attended St. Louis Park HS where he met the girl of his dreams, Joan Ruedlinger. They were married in 1950 and had 3 wonderful daughters; Jack loved his female dominated household. He was a great teacher who taught his girls about hard work, responsibility, and the love of the outdoors. Jack was born John Clarence Leeds on April 6, 1930 to loving parents Teres and Clarence Leeds. Jack loved to work! He worked for his father even while in high school. The Leeds family business began as a watch parts and repair business in 1933 as C. R. Leeds Co. During the late 1940's both Jack and his brother Bob worked tirelessly in the business learning their trade and gaining success by a simple rule that was continually taught by their parents, that is, focusing all energies on servicing and satisfying their customers better than any other company. Under the direction of Jack and Bob Leeds, the C.R. Leeds Co. restructured its business in 1968 under the name Jewelmont. The business continued to grow throughout the early 90's, as Jewelmont expanded its sales and manufacturing capacity and was considered to be the largest manufacturer and distributor of fine gemstone and diamond jewelry in North America. Jack's love of the outdoors remained a constant in his life. In

later years, he was able to find more time to hunt and fish around the world; something that he and Joan did together. They travelled to Canada, Alaska, Africa, and India. Once, Jack was called by the gov't of India to come and help kill a man-eating tiger that was killing villagers daily. Jack and Joan loved spending time at their cabin in Canada with family and friends. Jack wanted those walleyes so badly that he would leave at 5:00 AM to get that "big catch". Jack always said, "The best restaurant in town is right here, sitting on this rock, eating fresh walleye and a can of beans." His love of animals and the outdoors led Jack to start the Minnesota Chapter of Safari Club Intl. in 1974. In 1988, Jack and C.J. McElroy started the International Wildlife Museum in Tucson, Arizona. The International Wildlife Museum, an educational program of the Safari Club Int'l Foundation, is dedicated to increasing knowledge and appreciation of the diverse wildlife of the world, as well as explaining the role of wildlife management in conservation. (www.thewildlifemuseum.org). Jack was part of our family and hearts for 87 wonderful and unforgettable years. There was never a challenge that seemed so large that he could not overcome. His memory will live on in our hearts forever. Jack is preceded in death by Teres & Clarence Leeds, brother Earl (Delores) and wife Joan. Survived by brother Robert Leeds (Ursula), daughters Terri Rovick (David), Barbara Benjamin (Rollie), Lori Weathers (Kit), grandchildren Laura Rovick, Heidi Holmes (Ryan), Kristin Tix (Robert), Christina Benjamin, great grandchildren Riley, Parker, & Grayson Tix, Ainsley & Hudson Holmes. A celebration of Jack's life will be held at a later date. Memorials preferred to the Alzheimer's foundation www.alzfdn.com or a charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ *i worked for jewelmont in its hay days good man* ”

Chris Jensen - May 26 at 01:54 AM