



## John A. Sellner

March 27, 1938 - May 25, 2016

John Sellner, age 78, of Shoreview, Minnesota, formerly of Earlville, Iowa, passed away peacefully at his home on May 25. John left this earth on a warm spring night to begin his eternal life in Heaven. His final days were spent at his home, where he raised and loved his family. Visitation 4-7pm (with prayers at 7pm) Monday, May 30 at HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL, 515 Hwy 96, Shoreview MN. Mass 11am Tuesday, May 31 at ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH, 835 2nd Ave NW, New Brighton MN. Additional 1-hour visitation preceding Mass on Tuesday at 10am at ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST. John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Ann (nee Landsteiner); his children Dan (Sarah), Chuck, Kathy (Terry) Thiele, Laura (Mike) Watters, Carrie (Tim) Jennings, Joanne, Liane, Erin (Cliff) Jennings, and Kristin (Tim) Fredricks; grandchildren Billy, Dana, Renee, Andrew (Kia), Robyn, Luke, Katelyn, Benjamin, Anna, Grace, Jon Michael, Natalie, Nathan, Collin, Gavin, Addison, Amelija, Julija, Cecilija; step-grandchildren Mary Ann (Shawn), Sherri (Dustin); great grandchildren; step-great grandchildren; brothers and sisters Germaine Goedken, Delores Burkle, Irvin (Donna) Sellner, Carol (Merlin) Krapfl, and David (Carol) Sellner; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Carlyn Sellner, Bonnie Sellner, Don Welte, Vincent and Anna Marie Landsteiner, Helen Gilbertson, Lorraine Templin, Carol Landsteiner, Frank and Jan Landsteiner, David and Bonnie Landsteiner; many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents Dorothy and Andrew; son Jonathan; brothers James and Donald Sellner; sister Mildred Geistkemper;

brothers-in-law and sister-in-law Gilbert Goedken, Raymond Geistkemper, James Burkle, Berniece Welte, Daryl Gilbertson, Anthony Templin, and Kenneth Landsteiner. His life was defined by his service to God and compassion for his fellow humans. He was a thinker, a listener, a teacher, and a philosopher, and always interested in what others had to say. He believed in doing a job right, and that every problem had a solution if you thought about it long enough. He had a sly sense of humor, and loved a good, old-fashioned prank. As a kid on the farm, and then as a man in the lumber yards, he learned the value of hard work. His studies at Loras College influenced his life-long Christian values and devotion. It was in the church choir in Earlville that he met the love of his life Ann. In their 55 years of marriage, they were blessed with 10 children, 19 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren. John and Ann moved from Earlville, Iowa to St. Paul, Minnesota in 1961, when John was transferred to Great Plains Supply Company's St. Paul office, where he worked for 25 years, earning the position of General Manager. After leaving Great Plains / Harvest States, John purchased, developed, and published TV Dispatch magazine. Because of his natural interest and ability to connect with people, he enjoyed a career as an insurance agent for Prudential for many years. John spent his time enjoying the beautiful natural setting of their home in Shoreview, where they lived for 46 years. He loved reading, hunting, fishing, gardening, woodworking, and sharing his love for the great outdoors with his children and grandchildren. John touched many lives through his involvement in his community, including volunteering at St. John the Baptist Church, and St. Bernard's High School, where he served as school board president. For many years, John served as a weekend retreat coordinator at the Demontreville Jesuit Retreat House where he continued to enrich his faith. John served as a member of the board at Beaver Valley Camp and Standing Cedars Community Land Conservancy, fulfilling his passion for nature and wildlife conservation. John was a natural teacher, with a subtle way of sharing his wisdom and experience. He made serving with compassion, selflessness, and

generosity his life's mission. His kindness, warmth, gentleness and humble nature will be remembered by all who knew him.

# Tribute Wall

JZ

“ I am lucky enough to be Dan Sellner's neighbor. He and those of his siblings that I have had the pleasure of meeting over the years are wonderful, kind hearted and insightful people. They are not perfect, none of us are. As a group though they are a delight to know and be around. They are a reflection of their parents. I knew John in passing, and he was always kind, caring and considerate of others, their needs and did his best to share a smile, do no harm, make every life better, for having touched it. The Sellner family is a kind caring group, I am certain that they have moments of discord, in fact I have seen some. But discord demonstrates core personalities. And it is an unusual group that can tolerate discord and concentrate on keeping things respectful, even in disagreement. This is John's legacy. He raised a group that is respectful of other's beliefs, and demanded that others care about each other, and the world we live upon. In my book that is one of the greatest gifts anyone could give. Ensuring that the world was a better place because of how you lived your life. Thanks John! ( In my brain you are always Mr. Sellner.)

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**James Zieska** - May 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ My condolences to the family.

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**Michael LaClair** - May 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Sorry for your loss.

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**Michael Atkinson** - May 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Our condolences to John's family. We both enjoyed many years working with John at Beaver Valley Camp. He was such a pleasant & caring gentleman!*

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**Jerry & Peg Swanson** - May 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM