



Kenneth Parsons

April 17, 2005

Parsons Kenneth Charles Parsons, age 81, of St. Anthony Village. Born in Redwood Falls, MN on Aug. 20, 1923, passed away in his sleep of kidney cancer on Tuesday, April 12, 2005. He was an Eagle Scout, graduated from Redwood Falls H.S., proud president of his 1941 class, organized class reunions every five years since including 2004. He graduated from U of MN in 1944, B.S. Mech. Eng.; served in U.S. Army in Europe 1944-46. Received master's degree from U of MN in 1947 and married Irene Kramer in 1947. He worked in Cleveland, OH at Cleveland Diesel, 1947-1950, followed by a career in engineering management at Honeywell, 1950-1987. He worked with Habitat For Humanity and a local food shelf in Columbia Heights. He was a member of Community United Methodist Church since the 1970's, where he sang in the choir. He delivered hot meals to shut-ins, volunteered for paint-a-thons, played a role in major church building improvements, worked in foreign mission church building projects and set up a scholarship trust fund for church members and other mission projects. Ken was an enthusiastic U of MN sports fan and supporter. He and Irene traveled extensively including an archeological dig in Mallorca for Earthwatch. He was an avid golfer, bridge player, gardener, cook and birder. He shared his love of the outdoors and state and national parks with his family through camping, skiing and fishing trips. Ken was generous to the less fortunate, rarely turning down requests for financial help, particularly from needy American Indian tribes and environmental causes, but family came first. He was a loving husband and

devoted father, a decent, gentle man. He was preceded in death by parents, Jim & Edith Parsons; sisters, Patricia and Evelyn; and brother, Richard. Survived by wife, Irene; son, Greg (Sita) of Melbourne, FL; son, Charles (Sheila), grandchildren Katrina and Chris of Atlanta, GA; daughter, Jane (Skip) Windmeier, granddaughters Abby and Malee of Champlin, MN; son, Nick (Kelly), granddaughter Anna of Isanti, MN; brothers, Jim and Roger. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, April 23, 11 AM at Community United Methodist Church, 950 Gould Ave NE, Columbia Heights. Visitation will begin one hour prior to the service. The family prefers memorials to the church. Washburn-McReavy Columbia Heights Chapel 763-789-4436