



Lanny John Christensen

September 8, 1946 - June 12, 2024

CHRISTENSEN-

Lanny John Christensen died June 12 at St. Therese Senior Living Center in New Hope. He was born September 8, 1946 in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin to Ray and Marie (Davison) Christensen and grew up a mile north of town at his family's gas station, Ray Gas & Oil, with his older siblings Barb and Bob. Even as preschoolers, the boys were impressing customers with their abilities to make change. By the time they were in their early teens, the boys were minding the station in the evenings while their parents ran errands in town. Lanny attended Wisconsin State University in River Falls for two years, and then transferred to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where he graduated in January of 1966. He was drafted into the army and served in Vietnam, where he was an MP guarding convoys.

He returned to Wisconsin, did a short stint selling insurance and then became a route manager for UPS. He decided he wanted to upgrade his computer skills, so he moved to Phoenix and took a course in machine language at DeVry University. From there he moved back to Minneapolis and worked for NCR for approximately 15 years.

He met Joyce (White) Banks in 1997 and they were married Sept. 20, 2015 in Brooklyn Park, MN. By this time Lanny was driving school busses for Anoka-Hennepin District II. The job was a wonderful fit for Lanny's friendly personality, and many of the kids learned to love him. He was greatly missed when he was forced to retire for medical reasons.

Lanny loved to read, enjoyed TV and movies, and was a big fan of the Highlander TV show in the 90s. He and Joyce were occasional gamblers, and enjoyed traveling to Las Vegas and to family reunions.

Lanny is survived by his wife, his siblings and their spouses, 4 nieces and a nephew, 5 great-nephews and 2 great-nieces. A memorial gathering for close friends and family was held July 18 at Washburn-McReavy Funeral Home in Coon Rapids. Interment will be in Fort Snelling at a date to be determined.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JUN 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Celebration of Life

JUN 18. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (CT)

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