



## Lee N. Sulander

January 27, 1928 - June 2, 2022

Sulander, Lauri "Lee" age 94, formerly of Edina and South Minneapolis, MN., passed away in hospice care at the Shell Point Retirement Community in Ft. Myers, FL. on June 2, 2022. Preceded in death by his parents Evert and Eveliina (Sikkila) Sulander, Lee's beloved wife of 51 years Esther (Jody), brothers Emil, Eli, Eino, and Robert, half-brothers George, William, Carl and Walter. Survived by his brother John and sister Laini Wehmhoff, sons Lee and Mark, grandchildren Staci, Christi, Michael and Edna Tollefsen. As a boy in the Great Depression, Lee sold newspapers near home at 27th and E. Lake St. and at 15, became the youngest-ever clerk in the railyard across the street. Lee graduated from South High in '46 and immediately enlisted in the Navy. He was later called back for Korea and was in OCS when hostilities ended. He attended the "U" and graduated from St. Cloud Teachers College. Lee began his long career in real estate at Bermel-Smaby, where he was fortunate to be mentored by Ben Bermel and Phil Smaby. As a young family in south Mpls., Lee and his wife Jody and their sons lived near Lake Harriet and were active members and volunteers at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church and Cathedral of the Pines camp and also enjoyed many camping trips over the years, across much of the U.S. and Canada. Along with his faith in God, Lee was well known for his irrepressible positive attitude. His enthusiasm, energy and positive outlook on life were contagious, and he was known as a fun person to be around. Lee was active in the Mpls. Exchange Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and was a Master Mason. Lee became well known

and respected in the Twin Cities as a leader in real-estate, and served as a director on the Mpls. Board of Realtors and was a co-founder and partner at Realty Center, Inc. in Edina. Lee and Jody also co-founded Jo-Lee Properties, with properties in suburban Mpls. and Naples, FL. In recent years as his body slowed down, Lee maintained his positive attitude and set challenging goals for himself in physical therapy and gave it 110%. His attitude and example were an ongoing inspiration to many staff and other residents at Shell Pt., along with his favorite saying to everyone: "God is Love". Memorial / Celebration of Life Service at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, 2:30 p.m. Monday, October 3 with visitation in the Narthex one-hour prior and following the service in Fellowship Hall. To view the service, please go to <https://mtolivet.org/livestream/>

In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to Mt. Olivet Community Concern Ministry. FFI, contact Washburn-McReavy.

Washburn-McReavy.com

Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 3. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

## Church Service

OCT 3. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)  
5025 Knox Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55419