



Melvin Allen Jackola

March 16, 1940 - May 23, 2026

Brooklyn Park, MN - Melvin Allen Jackola, 86, of Brooklyn Park, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, May 23rd. He was born on March 16, 1940, in Chisholm, MN, to Emil and Ella Jackola. After graduating from Chisholm High School in 1958, he attended Bemidji State University and graduated in 1962. He later earned his master's degree in education.

He married Kersey Sarah Jones in August 1966. They lived in Burnsville for many years before retiring to Brooklyn Park. Mel inspired generations of students during his more than 30 years as an elementary teacher in Richfield. The computer room at Richfield Intermediate School was unforgettable, filled with intricate handmade neon-colored geometric shapes that he created and displayed under black lights.

Mel was very involved in his children's various sports teams and other activities. He and Kersey were also active in the Minnesota Jaycees, with Mel serving as president of the Burnsville chapter for a spell. He was an avid photographer and loved visiting National Parks to capture their natural beauty.

He is preceded in death by his father Emil, his mother Ella, and his son Ryan Patrick, who died at 12 days of age due to a congenital heart condition. He is survived by his wife of nearly 60 years, Kersey; his son, Lance (Danielle); his daughter, Melody; his brother, Glenn (Elizabeth); and his grandchildren, Blake

(24), Lauren (21), Madison (20) and Mallory (17).

Mel will also be missed by many extended family members and close friends. Family was the most important thing to Mel. He was deeply proud of his family and the life he built with his beloved wife, Kersey.

A celebration of life open house gathering will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2026, from 6-9 pm, at the Edinburgh Golf Course Clubhouse at 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park, MN, 55443. Family and friends are encouraged to gather to share their memories. In place of flowers, please consider a donation in Mel's name to a charity that supports education.