



Mr. Myron Joseph Biros

March 21, 1932 - November 6, 2021

Myron Biros 1932-2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our Father, Husband, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather, Uncle, Brother, Friend, Myron Biros, who died peacefully on November 6, 2021 at Abbott Northwestern Hospital surrounded by his loving family. He was 89 years old. To remember and reflect on his full life well lived, please read on to relive his story and remind ourselves how lucky we were to have him in our lives.

Born on March 21, 1932, Myron grew up on 37th & Columbus Ave in Minneapolis, where he was the oldest of three children. His mom Hannah was a teacher, and his dad Joe had a variety of jobs, including working at his father's liquor store & bar in Bowlus MN, working at the bureau of engraving (where he began his interest in collecting stamps) and as a delivery driver for Associated Ice, delivering ice in the summer, and coal in the winter.

His family had dogs, including Blackie, a labrador retriever. The family enjoyed fishing and hunting, and often ate what they killed. Myron recalled riding the train to Bowlus at age 7 by himself to visit family. He recalled that his dad was friends with Charles Lindbergh, and he rode motorcycle with him.

In 1944, his dad got their first television set from the neighbor across the

street. He traded a shotgun for the television. He also remembered that they had many books in the house. One of Myron's neighbors growing up was Bobby Pearson (Pearson Candy Company), and when Myron cut the grass for the Pearsons, he was sometimes paid with Salted Nut Rolls that failed the quality check.

His first job was at the Nokomis movie theater, where he was an usher. Later he ushered at the Minneapolis Armory, where the Minneapolis Lakers played professional basketball, and also at the Radio City Theater, where live shows included Fibber McGee & Molly; the Marx Brothers; Frank Sinatra; Bing Crosby; and Dean Martin.

Myron was the #1 caddy at the Edina Country Club, and he took the street car to work at 4:30am with three transfers to get there. He once caddied for both Sam Snead and Ben Hogan in the same day (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) and earned \$60 for the day.

Another job was working for OK Pedderson, hauling pianos and refrigerators, as well as working in the Christmas Tree lot.

Myron got his driver's license by mail for a cost of 35 cents. There was no test to get the license. His first car was a green, 4 door, 1938 Dodge. He paid \$25 for the car and worked it off selling the Christmas trees.

Myron attended Minneapolis Central High School, and he graduated in 1950. At Central, he met Shirley Hallin, who he married in October of 1953.

Myron attended the University of Minnesota where he studied technical engineering, and he completed a three year program in two years. He joined the army on 1/5/53, and went to basic training at Camp Roberts in Pasa Robles, CA. He was headed for Korea, but his battalion was diverted to

Seattle, WA where he was selected to go to weather school. In this role, he was responsible for assessing weather conditions for how they would affect the operation of anti-aircraft guns that were along the US/Canadian border. He was honorably discharged 1/5/55, and came home to his wife, and baby daughter Laurie. Mark was then born in 1955, followed by Lynn in 1957. After his military service, he joined his father-in-law, Ted Hallin, and Ted's cousin Fred Hallin, at the Hallin Insurance Agency, where he was an independent insurance agent. This was Myron's career until he sold the agency at retirement. Myron's parttime retirement job was driving the courtesy van for a couple of local car dealerships.

In 1961, the Biros family moved to a new rambler on Boone Avenue, where Myron lived for nearly 60 years. Carol was born in 1962, and Dan in 1969. The Biros family was active in the community, attending Holy Family Catholic Church, and St. Louis Park public schools.

Myron's first wife, Shirley, had brain surgery in 1961, removing benign brain tumors. After that surgery, Shirley was legally blind, so Myron was the household driver, in addition to the full time breadwinner. Shirley made weekly grocery lists for each of the local stores, and Myron would go to all of them to get the best prices. Every Saturday morning, Myron ran errands, including his weekly trip to the post office to pick up the weekend mail, and a stop at Palm's Bakery to pick up our weekly bakery order. The Biros family regularly attended Sunday mass at 9:00am, and sat in the same pew each week. Myron was a lector at mass, a regular in the reader rotation. He was a member of the Men's Club at church, and Myron & Shirley participated in a monthly bible study group (four couples + the current parish priest). This group was the staple of their social calendar.

In 1975, Shirley's health declined, with more brain tumors and surgery. These

health challenges lasted until her passing in 1979. At that time, Laurie, Mark and Lynn were college graduates, while Carol was in high school and Dan in grade school. As a single parent, Myron focused his time and energy on the kids, and his support of Carol and Dan's extracurricular activities filled his calendar.

Carol was a member of the St. Louis Park High School danceline, the Parkettes, and Myron dedicated many volunteer hours to this group, selling programs at Viking games, organizing other Parkette fundraisers, planning and attending the annual Parkette trips, and his service as the unofficial photographer of the group. Myron's participation with the Parkettes lasted for many years beyond Carol's 2 year stint.

One of the Parkette fundraisers was working at the Fresh French Fry stand at the MN State Fair, starting in 1980. Myron loved the energy of the fair, and continued to work there for many, many years. The friends he made in that role were some of the most special people in his life. Even through bouts of health challenges, you couldn't keep Myron from working the French Fry Stand. Myron was able to attend the fair for one last round in 2021 - and he loved every minute of it.

Dan was a cub scout/boy scout, and he continued in that program through earning his Eagle Scout Award. Myron participated in many scout trips, and camping trips, and he led many den and pack activities. Dan also participated in the St. Louis Park High School theater program. It was during the first ever high school production of A Chorus Line in 1985 that Myron arrived to help with sewing costumes, and met Ann Scoggins, a friend of the choreographer, who was also there to volunteer. Ann and Myron's first date in November of 1985 was at the Good Earth at The Galleria, followed by a movie. Their second date was a walk around Lake Harriet. By spring of 1986, Ann and Myron were hearing wedding bells. They married on May 24, 1986 at St.

Stephen's Episcopal Church in Edina, MN.

With Ann's three adult children, Anna Ruth, Dana and Mike, and Myron's five, the kids now numbered eight. Over the years, the kids added spouses and friends, as well as 19 grandchildren, and 11 great grand children. Family gatherings soon required a banquet hall with 40+ attendees. Christmas night at 5:00pm; Easter too. These gatherings have been energy filled, full houses, and are such a tribute to the legacy of Myron and Ann.

Over the years, Myron was a collector of many things, including coins, stamps, currency, model trains, model airplanes and moustache cups. He was a skilled chip carving artist, with several entries at the Minnesota State Fair Creative Activities Building. He enjoyed these hobbies, and participated in coin shows and stamp clubs for many years. He was also a member of Exchange Club, a volunteer service organization where members gathered and shared their hobbies, interests and experiences. Myron volunteered his time driving for STEP, the St. Louis Park Emergency Program, which serves food and social services to residents in need.

Myron was an avid golf enthusiast, playing whenever he had the chance. He belonged to the Monticello Country Club in his retirement years. He enjoyed watching golf on television, and following the weekend tournaments.

Myron played the banjo and he enjoyed listening to country music. Some of his favorite classical performers include Jim Reeves, Patsy Kline, and Robert Goulet. He also enjoyed watching the Lawrence Welk show.

Perhaps, Myron's most notable feature was his waxed moustache, and in the later years, he added his grey ponytail. Myron was an active member of his communities, he and will be remembered by all who knew him.

Memories of Myron

With the passing of our beloved family patriarch, members of the family were asked to share personal memories, sort of in the vein of "When I think of Myron, I think of WHAT? (Fill in the blank). Thoughts were compiled over several days and it's my distinct privilege to share some of what people relayed. As expected, there were many similar responses. Overarching themes loosely fell into several distinct categories. I also want to include some miscellaneous tidbits tied to Myron's travel adventures and a couple of shout outs directed at two groups important to Myron's life.

Category #1 includes I guess what I'll refer to as Myron's "unique look," which of course is marked by his trademark handlebar mustache, and in later years, his ponytail. Whether a casual acquaintance, or a close family member, people REMEMBERED and LOVED Myron's mustache. As the story goes, Myron grew the mustache some four decades ago after a dare from a family member. Let's face it; you don't see a lot of handlebar mustaches these days. In history, Wyatt Erp and Buffalo Bill had a handlebar mustache. Then there was Snidely Whiplash from the Dudley Doo Right fame. One specific relayed memory had Myron approached one time for an autograph by someone who had mistaken him for longtime baseball pitcher Rollie Fingers, who sported a great handlebar mustache. But in Myron's particular case, it was generally agreed by most that his mustache gave him a sense of style and panache. Another memory shared was Myron sitting on a bench while on one of his European trips and being approached by US tourists looking for directions or information, with the misguided assumption that Myron was actually a Local. I think that mustache gave him a sort of an International flair. This seems to be the consensus.

Category #2. There was a lot of mention of Myron's time at the MN State Fair

and his days at the French fry stand. It would be an understatement to say that Myron loved his time out there and was truly in his element. This, despite the dusk til dawn schedule, the sometimes chaotic environment, endless noise and blaring music, and working with mostly teenage co-workers. When family visitors arrived to see Myron, he'd come bounding down the stairs wearing his Fresh French Fry cap, yellow tee shirt and apron. People relished the time spent at the stand with Myron, eating the fries, standing next those countless pallets of potatoes, quizzing Myron on the news of the day. During his many years at the French fry stand, his duties varied, but many people mentioned his role as the "Money Man," both in counting and processing the hundreds of thousands of dollars in currency that flows through that place, and also as the guy who passed out the cash bonus dollars to the staff. In later years, when Myron's health prevented him from working at the French fry stand, family member fairgoers felt a void and emptiness when passing by the stand. Things were no longer same without Myron on the scene.

Moving on the next topic, it would be a huge understatement to say that Myron had a lot of hobbies and collections that were especially pronounced during his retirement years. There were a lot of memories relayed tied to things like his coin collection, his stamp collection, his collection of old fashioned mustache cups, his model airplanes, his excellent skill in chip carving. Myron also loved his bird watching. Visitors to his home remember his many bird feeders. Rest assured, Myron could quickly differentiate between a chickadee, a finch or a nuthatch. The key point to make, however, is unlike a lot of people who just loosely maintain hobbies; Myron was unusually passionate about his hobbies. He was extremely knowledgeable about his collections and spent countless hours tending to them. There were endless stamp and coin shows where Myron loved to chat with other equally passionate collectors. Myron's complete collection of Vatican stamps had him visit the actual Vatican post office in Rome to spend quality time with the local Postmaster. Another family member reflected on Myron and the camera. At family gatherings, Myron would roam about taking pictures with his old

Polaroid camera, at a time when few people actually used a Polaroid any longer! Myron also loved taking lots and lots of pictures on his many overseas vacations. Upon his return, he'd rush off to have literally hundreds of photos developed. At holiday gatherings, he loved to share and reminisce with anyone who wanted to see and hear all the travel stories.

The final topic of memories to touch on ties to what I guess we'll call Myron the person, the family man, the husband, the father, the grandfather. He was known to everyone he met for his soft spoken demeanor and style. Everyone in the extended family mentioned his downright pleasantness and that Myron was a quiet, unassuming observer of sorts. During those crazy holiday gatherings, with all that bedlam from countless grandkids running about, there was Myron, always calm and collected, taking everything in stride with a smile on his face. He was a sweet man and a joy to be around. Myron's children and grandchildren remember him as someone who rarely raised his voice over years. One specific memory recalled Myron, back when his kids were teenagers, stretched out on the living room floor near the front door awaiting the return of an overdue teenager out past curfew. It was a lost cause trying to sneak in and step over a half snoozing Myron. "And what TIME is it???" Myron might ask the offender. The bottom line, however, was that there were seldom harsh words spoken. All of the kids recall a loving, supportive dad that prioritized a quality family life and had high expectations for each of his children. Myron always found time to engage with each his kids and enjoyed spending time with them.

Next a few words about Myron's love for travel. It likely began with Shirley and small church group on a cruise to the Caribbean in the late 1970's. He built on his love for travel with the many trips he helped to plan with the Parkettes to Mexico, the Caribbean, and Hawaii during the 1980's, including several cruises. He also did some charity work in Puerto Rico in the late 80's and early 90's. Later in retirement, up until just a few years ago, he traveled the globe frequently with Ann and Dan and visited all six continents including

stops in at least 25 countries. His love for travel fit well with Myron's engaging and loving personality as he made friends wherever he went. Making connections with strangers was something Myron really enjoyed. One of his most favorite highlights was in 2008 when he had the chance to see the very small northern Slovakian town where his grandparents were from. A final, often mentioned Myron memory, relayed by several family members, was his cruise vacation to Spain and Morocco where he showed his ninja side. Myron trounced on some local pickpockets in Barcelona when they tried to take his wallet during a cruise day stop. Let's just say that it didn't turn out well for the other guy. Such cherished memories from the many great times abroad.

Finally, a couple of quick shout outs....Myron was a proud member of the Minneapolis Central High School Class of 1950. He very much enjoyed his long ties to the school and consistently attended the all-school reunions. He greatly enjoyed spending time with his many classmates through monthly lunches during his senior years. Minneapolis Central graduated several luminaries over the years including the likes of actor Eddie Albert, broadcaster Halsey Hall and the musician Prince. Family members would like to think that Myron was also one of the very best that Central High ever produced.

Also, during Myron's final years, he very much enjoyed his twice a week outings to Augustana Open Circle, a Senior Activity Day Care destination in Hopkins. It provided Myron with countless things to do and think about, including art activities and trivia games that Myron excelled in. He loved the music portion each day and hearing all the old classic country music songs. The Staff at Open Circle were kind and supportive and provided great attention to the individual needs of everyone who attended. Thanks for all that you did for Myron!

The last accentuation point to the Memories of Myron saga is that with his

passing, family members lament the loss of the "Greatest Generation Biros" family member. Myron was our best link to a past era of history, including family history. He was our Sage and our best resource to "all that was" and the countless memories of a now bygone era. We'll miss Myron and his warmth and steady presence, all the stories he shared and the love he brought to each and every member of the extended family:

Myron's family

Brother: Ron Biros

Judy (Carl); Mary (Dave); Jim (Susie)

Sister: Patsy (Bob) Andrus

Cyndy (Brady); Michelle (John); Joe (Cindy);

Mike (Susie)

Beloved wife: Ann Biros

Children:

Laurie (Rich) Ruff

Chad Ruff (Christie)

Grace, Harrison, Violet

Melissa (Jason) Brosnahan

Jasmine, Kenzie and Charlie

Mark (Terry) Biros

Lucie, Noah, Hannah and Jordan

Lynn (Larry) Robertson

Will and Ted

Carol Maloney (Kit Welchlin)

Kyle, Shauna and Bre

Dan Biros

Step-Children:

Anna (John) Goodrich

Emy, Carly

Dana Enzler

Samantha (Nick) Sanchez

Leo

Sidney, Sylvie

Mike (Peggy) Scoggins

Brandon (Natalie)

Lyla, Sabine

Wesley Scoggins

Kyler

Emma Scoggins

Jojo, William

Funeral Service 11am Monday November 15th with visitation beginning at 10am at Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel. Interment St. Margaret's Cemetery.

To attend the funeral virtually please go to

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/authorise.php?k=1636495149147266>

Cemetery Details

St. Margaret's Cemetery (Minnetonka)

Bren Rd & Shady Oak Rd
Minnetonka, MN 55343

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436
(952) 920-3996
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Chapel Service

NOV 15. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436
(952) 920-3996
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Chapel Service for Myron Joseph Biros in memory of Mr. Myron Joseph Biros



Washburn-McReavy - November 15, 2021 at 10:40 AM

GF

“ To the Biros Family,

I remember your dad well. I appreciated that his funeral was available online so I got to be part of it and see his grown children a little bit. I grew up across the cul-du-sac from you on Boone Ave. until I was in my 16th year (1971-1983 I think?). He was such a lovely, fun, kind dad. I was jealous and envious of all the good times you guys had over there. I remember wanting to be part of your family! I also remember when Shirley died, I was 13 or 14 and my mom told me about it. I remember she and some other neighbors organized meals for your family. My brother (Dan) played nicely with Dan B. back in the day as they were in the same grade but I also think I played with them and some other neighbor kids at that time as well. Carol or another sibling babysat for us a few times? I'm very sorry for your tremendous loss. He was a heck of a guy, into so much good stuff during his life, made himself useful in a variety of volunteer realms and obviously very loved. Sending you lots of peace and healing vibes.

Gail Freedman - November 17, 2021 at 02:34 PM



“ *With Distinction* was purchased for the family of Mr. Myron Joseph Biros.



November 13, 2021 at 09:54 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Mr. Myron Joseph Biros.



November 13, 2021 at 11:59 AM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of Mr. Myron Joseph Biros.



November 13, 2021 at 10:18 AM

JU

“ Our family lived next door to Ann and Myron for over 30 years, so we consider ourselves lucky to have had such wonderful neighbors and friends for all those years. We raised four kids and now our grandson, who all watched Myron do some of the favorite things he so loved, but especially watching him practice his golf in the front yard. When the boys heard the news of Myron's passing, they looked at each other and started sharing the memories of Myron practicing his chip shots in the front yard. And then, of course, all of the years that we stopped by the French Fry stand to visit him and share a few fries. The best part for me is when he brought leftover potatoes home from the stand in a gunny sack so that we had a good supply of the best potatoes we had ever had. There were many late nights for Myron at the stand always hearing the car pull into the driveway at 1:00 or 2:00 a.m. after a long days' work. We sure miss you, Myron, we will cherish our memories as neighbors for many years to come. Love, Julie, Mark, Ben, Noah and Sam



Julie - November 12, 2021 at 08:12 PM