



O. "Curt" Risvold

June 20, 2007

Risvold, O. Curtis "Curt" Curt was reunited with the love of his life, Beth, on June 18, 2007 at the age of 86. He died peacefully surrounded by all 10 of his children. Also preceded in death by parents O.E. & Marie; brother Howard; and grandparents Osmund and Sophia. Survived by his brother Floyd (Sophie); his children, Nancy Grimes (Tim), Ron (Sandy), Sue Gudden (Ben), Mary Luikens, Rita Johnson (Bruce), Steve (Char), Rick (Cathy), Dave (Sue), Annie Ritchie, and Mike (Robin); 22 grandchildren: Annette, Dave, Donna, Larua, Mike, Chris, Dana, Bob, Angie, Christie, Joe, Adam, Matt, Anne, John, Dan, Bobbie, Danny, Andy, Alyssa, Katy, and adopted grandson Ryan; 11 great-grandchildren: Rochelle, Crystal, Kara, Ashley, Logan, Olivia, Grace, Elizabeth, Andrew, Jayden, Kyran and his beloved dog Buddy. He served in the US Coast Guard in WWII as an Aviation Radioman 1st Class with the mission of rescuing pilots shot down at sea. This increased his passion as an amateur radio operator. He had the unique ability to instantly become a friend to those he met on the radio bands and in person. When traveling overseas, he was greeted by radio operators that he had met on the airwaves and was treated as a brother. He always looked forward to extending the same courtesy when others visited his home. He and his brothers expanded their father's infant product business. They built O.E. Risvold & Sons into the largest infant product distributor in the country before selling the company in the 1980s. His passion in business was sales, a craft that he truly enjoyed and passed on to many of his children. He loved spending time at "the lake,"

where he built a log cabin on an island near Bigfork. Curt was a huge sports fan, attending his first Gopher football game in 1934 at age 14, a year they won the National Championship. He was a season ticket holder and Goal Line Club member. He even helped recruit current offensive lineman Ryan Ruckdashel, whom he called his adopted grandson. Faith and family were the center of Curt and Beth's daily life. They were active members at St. Patrick's Church in Edina. He attended Mass every day and showed great character, compassion, integrity and generosity. He made a difference in every life he touched. Curt suffered a stroke in 2004 that left him unable to walk or drive a car. That didn't slow him down. With the help of family, and especially his daughter Mary, he was able to live at home. With his new van, he was able to continue to enjoy life, going to family events, lunches, and football games. He was an inspiration to many at Courage Center, developing a special relationship with his therapists, Stacey, Carmel, Heather, Mary, and Heidi. The family is thankful to all of the loving medical professionals and caregivers, especially Dr. Chuck Meyer, Jan, Carmen, Dana, Lyle, Kathleen, and Cindy. Visitation Thursday 5-7PM, with Prayer Service at 7PM at WASHBURN-MCREAVY, EDINA CHAPEL, West 50th Street at Hwy. 100. Funeral Mass Friday, 10AM at ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, 6820 St. Patricks Lane, Edina with visitation one hour prior. Interment Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Courage Center. Dad, your legacy lives in the example you have set for your family. It's now our job to carry that on. We can only imagine the reunion with mom in heaven. Our angels are together again! Washburn McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall

GL

“ My parents, Clifford (Vern) and Leona Lofdahl, lived on Elliot Avenue in south Minneapolis and were friends of Curt and Betty. I last saw Curt when he was kind enough to attend my father's funeral in June of 2003. We always spoke about our shared interest in ham radio, and I have fond memories of both of them. Please accept my belated sympathy; I only search Minneapolis obituaries for my parents' friends twice a year. 73s and 88s always, Curt.

~

Gail Lofdahl,

Quartz Hill, California

Contact Me

Gail Lofdahl - November 02, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SG

“Hi, Dad. It's Suzie. Besides Ben, you will always be the love of my life. Having you in our lives 3 extra years was such a wonderful gift from God. It was an honor to care for you. You paid for our educations, braces, clothes – everything. Mom designed a beautiful suburban split-level home plus a log cabin up north. You gave so much to us, that it was only right to take care of you in your own home no matter how long you lived. You taught us how to live with humor and courage in spite of severe disabilities. I have adored you for as long as I can remember. I was so lucky to retire early so I could be with you and Mom before she died. I loved being your secretary and spokesperson. I got to know you so well during our summers at the lake. I often knew what you were going to say before you said it. Enjoy your new life in eternity. You deserve every bit of happiness after what you have suffered. You will always be my brave man, and I will be brave for you. I know you and Mom are watching over us and helping us. I am reading a book called "We Are Their Heaven" by Allison DuBois. She claims that parents and their children are so closely connected that the bond exists even after death. The connection transcends the physical world through love, through spirituality, through years of communication and guidance. I feel that bond so much that I view your death and Mom's death as nothing more than a brief separation until that glorious day when we meet again. Love, Suzie.

~

Sue Gudden,

Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota

Contact Me

Sue Gudden - July 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ I was sad to hear of Mr. Risvold's passing. I was not privileged to have met him, but knew of him through emails with one of his devoted children. My prayers go out to the Risvold family.

~

Bruce Baker,

Waynesville, North Carolina

Contact Me

Bruce Baker - July 02, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ To the Risvold family, Sad to hear of Curt's passing. My prayers go out to the Risvold family. It was a great honor to have met and talked with Curt; He was always friendly and upbeat. As a fellow ham radio operator, I will miss our chats, on the air, from the cabin up north. 73 Curt.

~

Jim Haynie,

Henderson, Minnesota

Jim Haynie - June 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Hi Dad,I love you and miss you. We've all lost count of the number of times we've reached for the phone to call you in the last week. The hole in my heart will slowly be filled by the thought of how happy you and Mom are at this very moment. I saw that Brewster landed the number one punter in the nation last week, and couldn't help but think that you had something to do with it. You and Mom will remain in my heart forever.Until we meet again,Love David

~

David Risvold,

Kansas City, Missouri

Contact Me

David Risvold - June 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ *This was nice to be able to read this and my prayers are with Curt's family in this troubled time.*

~

Wesley Smith,

Cape Fair, Missouri

Contact Me

Wesley Smith - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ To All the Risvold Family. So sorry to hear of Curts passing. I will always remember how friendly he was whenever I saw him. He was a special person. I hope that he knew how much we always enjoyed going up to the Lodge on the Island.

~

Larry and Ginny Hvinden,

Watson, Minnesota

Contact Me

Larry and Ginny Hvinden - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *Risvold Family, We never had the opportunity to meet Curt, but we can only imagine his character and family dedication as it lives on in his son Mike. We all have the opportunity to serve others through our respective roles in Wayzata and Mike is a integral part of that mission. We are so sorry for your loss as a family. Today is difficult but with each day you will find comfort in sharing memories and laughter - isn't that what life is about?*

~

The gals at Meridian Manor,

Wayzata, Minnesota

Contact Me

The gals at Meridian Manor - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ Nolan Stewart, Employed 1971 Steve, thoughts and prayers are with you. Your father was not around much when I worked there. I believe he was also a salesman for JVEE, and JToo, The crew: Floyd, Howard, Nelda, Melody /I ain't got no roller skates, I ain't got no key. Steve Stoffer, Jeff, Luke, Jim, Helen, Mike, Nolan

~

Nolan Stewart,

Minnitrista, Minnesota

Contact Me

Nolan Stewart - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Dear Grandpa Curt, Looking back on your life and realizing how many lives you have touched makes me realize how proud I am to be your granddaughter, and part of the Risvold family. You are truly and amazing person and I'm so proud of you. I love you so much and will miss you. I'm so happy and can't even imagine how happy you are now, to be with Grandma Beth and God. I'll never forget all the fun handshakes you taught me. I was always so interested to hear one of your stories, I remember when you told me how you met Grandma. You always made me smile. Love Alyssa

~

Alyssa Risvold,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Alysa Risvold - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Grandpa Curt-You said to me, "You've got a great guy there, David." you are right! I think you inspire him to be the man he is, and for that I am so thankful. You started and kept great family traditions, and David and I have great memories of Christmas Eves, and visits from Santa. Your encouragement, love and support meant much to both of us. Although, your earthly presence will be missed, in our hearts we carry happy memories and joy that you can now be all the places you have missed this past few years, do the things you long to do, and be reunited with grandma again. We love you.

~

David and Jeannie Grimes,

Coon Rapids, Minnesota

Contact Me

David and Jeannie Grimes - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ Dear Grandpa, I knew this day would come when we would have to say goodbye, but it's still very hard. You always had so much love in your heart. You made each and every one of us feel important and loved. You were such a special man who charmed everyone in your path. I have so many special memories with you – especially time spent with you up at the cabin. Your sour cream pancakes were my favorite! On the cabin deck we enjoyed an ice cream drink you officially named “Fuzzy Wuzzies” I'm so glad we were able to sing “Silent Night” one last time before you left. It comforts me that you are no longer suffering and you are now home with God and Grandma. The last thing I said to you was “I'll see you soon”. I believe our time here on earth is a blink of an eye and I really will be with you again soon. I love Grandpa. Chris

~

Christine VanDenBerge,

Burnsville, Minnesota

Contact Me

Christine VanDenBerge - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ To the Risvold family: As one of Curt's many, many "ham" buddies, I am deeply saddend by his death. I am proud to say that I knew Curt for over 25 years, and never did I hear anything but encouraging and uplifting words from him. He was a true gentleman, and always willing to help others in any way he could. As a sales person, I can attest to his zeal for his work and that of others. His characteristic sign-off as we concluded a radio contact was always, "hey, Larry, do me a favor will ya...go sell something!" What a guy! I thank Dale Hagert for introducing me to Curt and for the generation long association we had. May he rest in Peace in the assurance of the resurrection.

~

Larry Menzel,

Northfield, Minnesota

Contact Me

Larry Menzel - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ *What a magnificent life! Our heart felt sympathy to the entire Risvold family. Mike and Robin, Andy, Alyssa and Katy, have carried on your incredible family values and are treasured friends. Our prayers are with them today and always. Love, The Knudson Family*

~

Tod and Carole Knudson,

Lake Worth, Florida

Tod and Carole Knudson - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Well done Dad. You taught us faith and family. You backed up everything you taught with your actions. No one that knew you is telling me that they are sorry for my loss. They are all saying, "What a great guy." How true. You made everyone you came in contact with feel important and special. Your love was so unconditional. Every time you talked to me you told me you were proud of me. You told us all you were proud of us. We couldn't be more proud of you. We got to call YOU our Dad. Only 10 people on this planet had that honor. I'll give "The Little Lady" a hug for you, along with the rest of my family. We love you so much. #10 and FamilyPS - Give your "Little Lady" a hug for me!

~

Mike Risvold,

Minnetrista, Minnesota

Contact Me

Mike Risvold - June 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Dad, All is well! Knowing that you can dance again even though mom said you were a lousy dancer brings me peace. The two of you up in heaven must be like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Don't worry that Mom always said that you are a lousy dancer. Heck, Mom once told me that I didn't have any rhythm. (Char would agree) The Goal Line Club pre game parties will never be the same without your positive attitude. The e-mails and calls from fellow members telling me how much they will miss you is mind boggling. You touched the group young and old. You have brought my family great joy. Every person that you touched you made them feel important. I will do my best to be more like that. Thank you for being the greatest Dad a kid could ever wish for. You have taught me right from wrong. I will try my best to exemplify how you lived your life. You were a guy that everyone truly loved. Goodbye for now. until we are reunited in God's mercy, Fredo P.S. Do me a favor and sell somebody something up there!

~

Steve Risvold,

Burnsville, Minnesota

Contact Me

Steve Risvold - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ *We only know you from the pictures and stories that your daughter Sue and son in law Ben were kind enough to share with us. Everytime Sue would talk about you, her face would light up. You meant the world to her. Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family.*

~

Steve and Amy Johnson,

Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota

Steve and Amy Johnson - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *No honor or recognition can peg exactly how amazing of a man he was. All the years that could have been memories break my heart the most. I hope I make you proud.*

~

Matthew,

Minnesota

Matthew - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Grandpa Curt, Thank you so much for everything you ever did for me. I will never forget the times we spent together at the cabin, when you came to watch me play football, or spending Christmas at your house, it meant the world to me. I will never forget the last thing you ever said to me "I love you." It makes me feel safe to know you will always be watching over me and protecting me throughout my life. I love you and I will be sure to keep it in between the ditches.

~

Joe Risvold,

Eagan, Minnesota

Joe Risvold - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Hey Dad, It's me Hector. You and Mom are out of the pickle. I will make sure all of your wishes are carried through. You are still my very best friend! I love you Dad! Say hello to Mom! Hector

June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

C=

“ Curt, You will be missed incredibly by all those who love you and who's lives you touched during the wonderful 86 years God allowed you to spend here on earth. I am excited for you to reunite with your dear loved ones in Heaven, especially our Saviour, Jesus Christ. I want to say 'Thank You' from my heart for being such a wonderful 'Dad' to my brother, Benny. When our parents died, you and Beth truly were loving parents to Benny and always treated him as one of your own children. For that I am so grateful. I didn't know you well, but I always knew you as an awesome person with a big heart and a great sense of humor - even to the end! Our party here on earth eventually does come to an end, but your party in Heaven is eternal! Knowing how much you richly embraced life here on earth - I know you will enjoy it! Party on! Love in Christ, our Lord & Saviour!

~

Cathy (Gudden) Smith =),

Cape Fair, Missouri

Contact Me

Cathy (Gudden) Smith => - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PB

“Curt - You have had a great life and family. You and Beth have produced wonderful children. Your son, Dave is the best possible son-in-law that I could possibly hope for. He has been a wonderful husband to my daughter, Susan and a wonderful father to my grandchildren, John and Dan. And for that I am eternally grateful. Paul Bouchard

~

Paul Bouchard,

Spring hill, Florida

Paul Bouchard - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RB

“Curt was a person of integrity and faith. He was easy to be around and never made anyone feel anything but welcome. He led an incredibly full life and was never at a loss for stories to tell of his numerous adventures. The first time I met him he made me feel like we were already friends. He will be missed. Our condolences to his family.

~

Richard Buck,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Richard Buck - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Grandpa Curt taught me that God, love & family are what matter in life. He never said it, but showed me by his example. I will do all I can to teach this to my children. Thanks Grandpa! Love, Dana

~

Dana Tutland,

Champlin

Dana Tutland - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TH

“Curt, I miss the times you stopped by the house before you had your stroke. You were always so energetic, so upbeat about everything and you had such a great sense of humor. You had a wonderful knack for making others feel special. And thanks for inviting Dale and me to the cabin and for fishing me out of the lake after our boat tipped over. I have many happy memories of you and will miss you always. Love, Terry

~

Terry Hagert,

Eagan

Terry Hagert - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *No bond is as great as that between a parent and child. My deepest condolences are with you as you grieve.*

~

Shirley(granny),

North Tonawanda, New York

Shirley(granny) - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Dad What size are the crappies in Heaven? I'll always remember the first drink of water at the lake. Please say hello to the Mayor of Antler Lake for me. I would like to congratulate you on a life well lived. Your loving son and family.*

~

Rick Risvold,

Crystal, Minnesota

Contact Me

Rick Risvold - June 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DP

“Curt, Thank you for always welcoming me and my family into your home and to all of your wonderful family gatherings. Your many words of wisdom and living examples about life, family, friendships, business and more have been so helpful to me. My sympathy goes out to the entire Risvold family. Your father/grandfather was a very special man!!

~

Diane Peterson,

Lakeville, Minnesota

Contact Me

Diane Peterson - June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Curt, I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have been welcomed into your life, the experiences in life that you shared with me and getting to know your family. Your ham friends and I will miss very much not hearing your ham call when a new country was on the air. I will however take solace in the fact that knowing you has made me a better person. 73's for now Dale

~

Dale Hagert,

Eagan

Dale Hagert - June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept our deepest sympathy for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Friends at Medtronic Inc.

June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WP

“ *On behalf of the entire Wayzata Police Department, I want to express our heartfelt sympathy to the Risvold family. Our prayers are with you all.*

~

Wayzata Police,

Wayzata, Minnesota

Wayzata Police - June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Grandpa, I love you so much, thank you for always being there for me. We had so many good laughs together and many fun times at the gopher football games. I'll never forget all those memories we shared together. You will always be in my heart and I will always be your tickles. I promise that I will keep the meat loaf recipe in the vault and never let it out until it's time to pass it on. I love you,
Danny Ritchie

~

Danny Ritchie,

Burnsville, Minnesota

Danny Ritchie - June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AR

“Daddy Did I tell you today that I am proud of you. You are my rock and I will forever feel your unconditional love I will always be your little girl, your Puella You are my angel with MomAnnie (Puella)

~

Annie Ritchie,

Burnsville, Minnesota

Contact Me

Annie Ritchie - June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“Dad (Sparky), You were the very best dad a girl could ever have dreamed of having. A day won't go by where I won't think of you and miss you. You and mom are now our Angels. Love, Rita (Tita)

~

Rita Johnson,

Greenfield, Minnesota

Contact Me

Rita Johnson - June 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM