



Mr. Otto Peter Trettel

February 10, 1927 - September 30, 2018

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Otto passed away peacefully September 30, 2018 at Sunrise of Minnetonka from complications of dementia. He grew up in Little Falls, MN. On his 18th birthday, Otto quit high school and joined the Navy to serve our country during World War II. After getting out of the service, he graduated from high school and went on to college at St. Cloud State Teachers College where he majored in business. He also served in the Korean War.

October 8, 1955, Otto married his beloved wife Nancy (Cairney) after meeting at the (St.) Dominic Club, for single Catholics. He was a loving and devoted husband, tending to Nancy's physical difficulties as an amazing caregiver over the past 10 years. Most of his career was spent at M.L. Gordan Sash and Door where he went from sweeping the floor to purchasing. He was a trusted and loyal employee.

Otto used self-deprecating humor to put others at ease. His quit wit was legendary. Each grandchild has a favorite Grandpa Otto quote and he was often called on to entertain. He loved to watch high school and college sports, keep up on current events, and spend time with family and friends.

Everyone Otto met became close as he loved to ask questions and hear people's stories. He was generous beyond measure with both his time and possessions. He was positive, light-hearted, hard-working, and kind. He served in many volunteer capacities for his children and later in life spent time with people in hospice.

Otto was preceded in death by his parents, brother Charles Trettel, sisters Millie Ebert and Alice Romano, and a daughter Ann Marie. He is survived by his wife Nancy, children Mike (Patricia) Trettel, Jean (Mike) Moore, John (Sandy) Trettel, Cathy (Mike) Brennan, Mary (Brian) Lubinski, 11 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. He will be sorely missed and held closely in our hearts.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, October 6th, 2018. Visitation will be at 10:00 am, funeral service at 11:00, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Minnetonka.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to our Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life or Courage Center.

Otto left us each with a smile as he enjoyed every step of his life and loved unconditionally. Thanks dad, grandpa, friend, and partner, for all you gave.

Cemetery Details

Fort Snelling National Cemetery

7601 34th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church
13505 Excelsior Blvd
Minnetonka, MN 55345

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 6. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church
13505 Excelsior Blvd
Minnetonka, MN 55345

Tribute Wall

SA

“ My twin sister, Sue, and I at age ten, went to our Aunt Nanc and Uncle Otto's home to stay for two weeks in the summer to help out with their three young children. This started what became a summer ritual for the next eight years. What an absolute delight to be in their home! Otto was so funny, kind and caring. Nanc was gentle, loving and such an example of great mothering. When I became a new parent and was befuddled about parenting issues I would ask myself "how did Nanc and Otto handle this?" Otto was truly my father figure and Nanc taught me so much that I still remember to this day. Sue and I were blessed to experience their love and kindness.

The world has lost a good and kind man!

Sandy Guter Larson

sandra - October 06, 2018 at 07:05 AM

MT

Thank you for thinking of Dad.

Mike Trettel - June 26, 2019 at 09:44 PM

BL

“ Otto was like a father to me and his legacy of faith, generosity and kindness laced with humor lives on in those his life touched, especially his family. I know of no other family who reflects the legacy of their father as well as Otto Trettel's family. Otto's family will do well journeying forward, because their father lived so well. My prayers are with Otto's incredible wife of 63 years, Nancy, and their 5 amazing kids, Mike, Jean, John, Cathy and Mary.

~Brian Lubinski

Brian Lubinski - October 03, 2018 at 10:14 PM

NW

“ Sara Trettel, Otto's granddaughter married our son Eric Wilson in 2012. We were delighted that so many of the family from around the country made their way to the wedding in upstate NY. Otto made the trip and I found him to be a wonderfully warm and interesting person. I am so happy to have made his acquaintance, on such a happy occasion. We have had you all in prayer as you supported Otto through his transition.

Our prayers continue to be with you, as you heal from your loss, but rejoice in the wonderful memories his life brought you.

May God continue to bless you all.

Sincerely,

Rick and Nancy Wilson

Nancy Wilson - October 03, 2018 at 08:02 PM

TR

“ My name is Tom Romano, Otto Trettel was my Uncle. I was born in Little Falls , MN., in 1948 but moved to NY when I was 6 weeks old. After only seeing Uncle Otto once or twice when I was young, I didn't know to much about my relatives in MN. In 1968 I flew out to Plymouyh ,MN. to apply for a job at McQuay in Plymouth, MN. I didn't think they would offer me a job but they did. I accepted the job but had no car and no place to live. I had Uncle Ottos address and decided to go to his house to see if he knew were I could rent a room. When I knocked on his door, I told him I was his sister Alices son and just took a job in Plymouth, MN. and if he knew where I could rent a room. Otto and Nancy already had a full house with 5 young children running around. I think Otto and Nancy felt so bad for me they said why don't you stay with us for a little while. They had to move the kids around to different bedrooms to make room for me. I lived with them for 2 months and they treated me with love and I got to see such a loving family. It was truly an amazing sacrifice they did for me. Thank you Uncle Otto and Aunt Nancy for letting me stay at your home when I had no place to go. Love Always, Tom Romano

Thomas Romano - October 03, 2018 at 05:08 PM

NK

“ I just want to say that Uncle Otto will always hold a special place in my heart. Otto is my mother's (Alice Trettel Romano) beloved "baby brother". She adored her brother as he was always funny, kind and just a genuine good person. Since we live in New York it was always a special treat to take a trip to MN to visit our aunts, uncles and cousins. We stayed at Otto and Nancy's house many times and it was always so much fun as they had all those kids with lots of toys and things to do. Uncle Otto always went out of his way to show us a good time. He took us to Dairy Queen for ice cream since we didn't have any Dairy Queen's in NY.

I find comfort knowing that Otto is now reunited with his siblings and parents in heaven. I picture them all together singing and laughing. I think God needed a funny man up there so he chose this time for Otto.

My deepest sympathy to Aunt Nancy and my cousins. Your Dad was "one of a kind" and he will never be forgotten.

*Love,
Nancy Knips*

Nancy Knips - October 03, 2018 at 04:07 PM

DC

“ A few years back Nancy and Otto invited members of the Cairney-Kirwin family to their home to see a quilt that was made by some of the Kirwin ancestors. Unbeknown to all of the guests when they arrived, the electricity was out in the neighborhood. One of the guests was Otto's brother-in-law Tom Cairney. Well, Tom started to harass Otto saying "Gee whiz," (not his exact words, if you know what I mean), "Otto if you need money to pay your electric bill all you have to do is ask." Otto got that wry smile on his face, went to the closet, got out a hat and handed it to Tom and said "Okay you can start the donations." I think Tom put in a quarter. We all got a laugh out of that. Nancy and Otto were awesome hosts, they didn't miss a beat even though we didn't have electricity. It was a wonderful day. We are so thankful to have had Otto in our family and to have great memories such as this.

Dick and Celie Cairney

Dick & Celie Cairney - October 03, 2018 at 11:17 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Otto Peter Trettel.



October 02, 2018 at 09:42 PM