



Paul Benton Kelley

September 9, 1927 - March 14, 2020

Kelley , Paul Benton died peacefully on March 14, 2020 from the complications of congestive heart failure. He was surrounded by his children at the time of his death. His wife and life partner Lois Kelley died April 17, 2014; they were married for 64 years. Paul was born September 9, 1927 to Roy and Angie Kelley and had one brother who died as an infant and two sisters. He grew up in Hopkins, Minnesota and attended the Hopkins public schools where he met Lois and was an athletic standout in football, basketball and track. He enlisted in the Navy near the end of World War II and was honorably discharged. Paul and Lois were married in 1950 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Quonset Hut in Glen Lake. After his graduation from the University of Minnesota where he played football and lettered in boxing, Paul taught and coached for several years in the Chaska schools. He then switched careers to his lifelong passion, real estate. He worked as a broker and then started Kelley Realty Co. in Glen Lake. He and Lois also began investing in land for themselves. Their business ventures gave their children memorable experiences: growing up on a small farm in Minnetonka with horses; helping to run a small fishing resort near Nevis, MN; working at a large supper club in Detroit Lakes; living in a restored farmhouse in Carver; vacationing on an island in Gunflint Lake; and running a family property management firm. A six-week family camping trip through the U.S. west was an amazing effort for mom and dad. Paul loved to hunt and fish and passed on those skills to his children and grandchildren. He also loved the time he

could spend lakeside in northern Minnesota. In his last years he found pleasure in restoring rural lands he owned to prairie. His children Steve (Sophie), David, Kathy Holschuh, Jim, Nancy Smith, Susie Torgerson and Linda Dysart (Mike Dysart), along with 13 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren, grieve his passing and celebrate his generous and enthusiastic spirit. Burial of his ashes alongside Lois will occur at Ft. Snelling Cemetery and a celebration of his life will be held after the virus emergency has ended.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418