



Paul Douglas Lefebvre

January 31, 1943 - August 25, 2023

On August 25, 2023, the world lost a remarkable individual, Paul Lefebvre, whose life was a testament to compassion, dedication, and kindness. As we honor his legacy, we reflect upon the significant impact he had on the lives of those fortunate enough to know him. Paul's journey through life was marked by his talent for connecting with people from all walks of life. He possessed the ability to make every person he encountered feel valued and heard, leaving an indelible mark of warmth and understanding. His laughter and genuine smile could light up the darkest of days, reminding us all of the power of joy and positivity.

Paul was born January 31, 1943 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Having grown up in the Midwest, its character never left him over the years. In his recent writings, he spoke of his childhood as a tapestry of adventure and camaraderie. Anchored in the WWII era, his memories evoked a sense of nostalgia and wonder for a time he felt deeply connected to. His earliest memory, a glimpse out of a train window, was a poignant departure from Minneapolis to Dayton, Ohio—a journey that would bring his family closer to his father's new job. The house on Dayview Avenue became a haven of warmth and joy, with the sounds of laughter, the presence of loved ones, and the echoes of planes taking flight at the nearby Wright-Patterson airfield all combining to paint a vivid picture of his formative years. Friends and neighbors became companions in these youthful days—names like Carolyn,

Larry, Eddie, Steve, and Kurt stand as testaments to the bonds that time couldn't break.

Through the poignant lens of his memoir, we witness the inevitable passage of time-moving from Dayton to North Minneapolis, transitioning from childhood to youth. The streets of North Minneapolis become a canvas for friendships and youthful energy, where games and adventures took on a different flavor. As Paul navigated through these transformative years, the seeds of his worldview were sown within the close-knit community, shaping his outlook and values. Paul's journey through life was interwoven with moments of love, adventure, and deep connections, none more profound than the bond he shared with his beloved wife, Anna. Amidst the tapestry of his memories, one chapter stands out-a tale of serendipitous encounter and unwavering commitment that exemplifies the strength of their relationship.

In a dance hall in Derry, Northern Ireland, during his time with the US Navy, destiny wove its magic as Paul's eyes met Anna's across the floor. Their first evening together marked the beginning of a love story that would shape their lives. From that moment, their connection blossomed, culminating in a proposal that changed the course of their futures. Despite the challenges that life presented, their love endured. In the face of an unexpected presidential tragedy, their wedding plans remained steadfast, and on November 28, 1963, amidst a time of national mourning, they exchanged their vows in St Eugene's Cathedral in Derry. The tale of their journey continued with Paul's return to America to prepare for Anna's arrival. Overcoming hurdles and uncertainties, they navigated the path to their new life, guided by their shared determination and commitment. As they embarked on the adventure of building a family, they faced each challenge hand in hand, their love becoming the foundation of their new beginnings.

As the chapters of Paul's life unfolded, he was joined by Anna, his steadfast partner, in writing a love story that became the cornerstone of his existence. A

new chapter began when, after his graduation from St. Cloud State, they established their home in Minneapolis next to his parents, forming a multi-generational bond that enriched the lives of all involved. Together, they welcomed five beautiful children-Paul Jr, Jacqueline, Danny, Conor, and Sara-into the world. Their births brought the gift of parenthood and a new depth to their shared journey. Like their grandparents, the children all attended St. Anne's parochial school, a testament to the continuation of family tradition and values across generations. Paul's dedication to his family was a shining example of his character. His unwavering commitment to nurturing connections, passing on wisdom, and supporting his loved ones transformed his legacy into one that resonates through time.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Parkinson's Disease Research in Neurology Fund at the University of Minnesota.

"Write to be understood, speak to be heard, read to grow." Lawrence Clark Powell

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

AUG **29**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Bloomington Chapel
2300 W. Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431
(952) 884-8145
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul Douglas Lefebvre.* ”



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