



Paul Larry Rooney

December 15, 1942 - December 31, 2024

Paul L. Rooney, of Eden Prairie, MN passed away peacefully at the age of 82 on December 31, surrounded by his loving family. He was born and raised in Glenwood, MN, the fourth of six children to Delbert and Blanche (nee Pederson) Rooney.

Paul dedicated 37 years of his professional life to JCPenney, starting in the stockroom of his hometown Glenwood JCPenney when he was in high school. He graduated from St. Cloud State University in 1965 while beginning his professional career with JCPenney. That same year he married the love of his life, Annette (nee Putnam). He then went on to hold many managerial positions throughout the Midwest. This led to great moves across the states with his family, from Minneapolis to Iowa, St. Louis to Illinois, and back to Minnesota, making lifelong friendships along the way. Paul retired in 1998 as the manager of the Ridgedale JCPenney in Minnetonka, MN. He was well-respected, a strong leader, fair and always true to his word, and a great listener, leaving an indelible mark on colleagues and customers alike.

A man who knew how to balance work and joy, he found great pleasure in life's simple and grand moments alike. An avid golfer, he always enjoyed a fun round with Annette or with friends. Paul and Annette had many travel adventures after retirement, which often included golf excursions, some with colleagues, at pro-am tournaments, and even playing with Chi-Chi Rodriguez.

Fishing trips with friends were also a favorite - and the source of many a great story.

His fondest memories included annual ski vacations to Colorado, watching his boys grow up to be excellent skiers, overtaking him on the slopes. And later in life, watching his grandson Tristan compete in snowboarding. Paul found peace and tranquility while working in his yard or just relaxing and reading a good book. He loved sitting and talking with Katie, Andy, and Tristan; finding out about what they were up to and how things were going. He took his role as "Papa" seriously and was the best at it. His greatest legacy is the love he shared with his family and friends, his kindness and thoughtfulness, as well as his genuine interest in how you were.

Paul is survived by Annette, his loving wife of 59½ years. Sons, Alan of Boise, ID, and Darren (Laurice) of St. Louis Park, MN. Grandchildren, Katherine Magill of Minneapolis, MN, Andrew Magill of St. Paul, MN, and Tristan Rooney of Eau Claire, WI. Brothers Richard (Beverly), Darrell, and Phillip (Theresa). And the many nieces and nephews who will miss their Uncle Paul. He is preceded in death by his parents, his older brother Gary, and his younger sister Jeanne Kuisle.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 12:00, with visitation beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel, 5000 West 50th & Hwy 100, Edina, MN. Interment will be held at a later date in Glenwood, MN. The family would like to thank the staff at Flagstone Care Center and the PNC/Methodist Hospice for the excellent and compassionate care given to Paul. In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer memorials to a charity of your choosing.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Memorial Service

JAN 11. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Reception

JAN 11. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Uncle Paul was so much more than an Uncle that we only saw once or twice a year. He was an ever-present source of love and support for his family. With his huge smile and twinkling eyes you knew you were loved. The Rooney's will miss having him at our frequent gatherings. We were blessed to have him in our lives. Rest peacefully Uncle Paul, you have earned it! Say 'Hi' to the others

Jodi Kelly - January 13, 2025 at 06:30 PM

KB

“ Uncle Paul, your loving and gentle soul will be dearly missed. I will forever remember you smiling and laughing. You always had a huge hug for me and a “Love you” when we parted. I’m so blessed to have had you in my life. Rest easy and I’ll have a hug and “I love you” for you when we meet again.

Kelly Bigelbach - January 10, 2025 at 09:33 PM

DC

“ Darrell C. purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Paul Larry Rooney.



Darrell C. - January 10, 2025 at 10:11 AM

EF

“ *Englunds and Hayes Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Paul Larry Rooney.*



Englunds and Hayes Family - January 08, 2025 at 10:09 AM

GJ

“ *Was Pail related to the Joyce's in Emmetsburg? I remember the Rooney name.I am Gerry Joyce also a retired Penney manager at Grand Forks, ND We are sorry to here of Paul's passing. I will soon be 101 and still in good health.*

Gerry Joyce - January 08, 2025 at 10:00 AM

JM

“ *Dear Annette and family,
Paul and I managed stores in the same JCP district and retired at the same time. We enjoyed time together at company events and on Canadian fishing trips. There are fond memories of quality time spent with Paul and Annette in the retirement years. Paul was a soft spoken man and always very insightful. He was as nice a person as he was a successful business man.*

*Rest in peace my friend,
John and Betty McNallan*

John McNallan - January 06, 2025 at 01:07 PM

BH

“ Dear Annette and families,
We were sorry to hear of Paul's passing.
Always enjoyed catching up with Paul and you
at North Central HCSC Gatherings.
On the business side, it was a pleasure to work
with Paul in the Chicago Regional Office and
visiting the stores that he managed. He was the ultimate
professional, peoples person and knew how to light up a room with
his presence. A class act he was!
Annette, please accept our sincere sympathy's and know you are in
our thoughts and prayers.
Our Love
Bruce and Linda



Bruce and Linda Hill - January 05, 2025 at 10:04 PM

JH

“ I have known Paul for most of his JC Penney career. Some of our
highlights were when he worked on my District staff in St. Louis. I
remember well when he got to manage his first store. Years later we
spent time in our regional office in Chicago.
After retirement Paul and Annette would come to Arizona to visit
family and we would have a chance to play golf and socialize and
talk about the good times.
We also spent time at our home in Colorado and enjoyed skiing
together over New Year's weekend. I remember Paul as one of my
closest and dearest friends within JC Penney. He was a good man
and will be missed by all who knew him.
Rest in Peace my dear friend.
John Henderson

John Henderson - January 05, 2025 at 09:33 PM

CC

Annette, Alan and Darren: many many memories of hanging out over many decades. As you know, I loved calling Paul 'Mumbles' not to mention a wild snowmobile ride or two in a ditch. Keeping you all in my prayers. Paul and Gene are having a nice reunion. Hugs

Connie Chapman - January 06, 2025 at 07:42 PM

AP

“ I always loved playing golf with Paul. A special memory is when Paul and I teamed up and won our bracket playing in the Anthem Arizona annual Dual in the Desert golf tournament. Sandy and I have fond memories of traveling to various wineries throughout the Southwest, attending various social events and just relaxing and enjoying a glass of wine with Paul and Annette.

Ames Putnam - January 05, 2025 at 03:02 PM