



## Philip Lee Potter

October 5, 1936 - September 8, 2020

Philip L Potter

October 5, 1936 - September 8, 2020

Married for 65 years to Jean W. Sell, the love of his life and the best mother their kids could ever have. Born & raised in Windom, MN. Survived by wife Jeannie, children Dean (Jane), Dave (Linda), Doyle, Debbie, Dawn (Steve), grandchildren Zach, Chelsea (Elliott), Carly (Dan), Bailey, Duncan (Mari), Molly, Bridget, Amanda, Great grandchildren, Simon & Olivia. Proceeded in death by his father, Howard, mother Dolores, and brothers Mark and Bob. Oldest of 8 siblings & survived by Jerry, Jeanie, Ken, Mike & Mary.

Philip had successful careers at 3M and the Minnesota National Guard spending 35 years with both organizations.

Military experiences include:

20 years as a US Colonel in Command Assignments

10 years as the 47th Division Commander of the Artillery

Nuclear Officer on active duty

3 years stationed at Fort Sill, OK stayed in Eisenhower's billet

6 years as the Chief of Staff of the 47th Division, working for 2 Star Generals

Retired as a Bird Colonel

3M experiences include:

Started in Fairmont, MN as a tape maker

Transferred to St. Paul, MN as a Manufacturing Engineer - built the machine that made the nose clips for the first face masks 3M made

Transferred to Naperville, IL as the Plant Manager of the Bedford Park, IL - medical, industrial & tape products facility

Transferred to St. Paul, MN as the Corporate Director of the Adhesive Tape Division until retirement

Education:

Graduate of Windom High School, star athlete on the football & basketball teams

University of Minnesota

Double Engineering Degree; Mechanical & Industrial

Graduate of the US War College

Graduate of the US Industrial College of the Armed Forces

Metropolitan State University

Bachelor of Arts Degree - Business Management

Completed at the age of 50! Oldest graduate of his class!

Hobbies & Passions

Phil loved to hunt with sons, family & friends; pheasant, duck, geese, turkey,

deer & caribou

He also loved to fish on Lake of the Woods with the love of his life, Jeannie along with other family members & friends. Life on Lake of the Woods is good! Often times Jeannie would out fish him - which he loved to see!  
Phil & Jeannie loved spending winter months in Oahu, Hawaii.

Rest in peace my love! You will be greatly missed by me, our children, family & friends.

Mass of Christian Burial at St. Odilia Catholic Church, October 6, 2020.

Visitation 10am, Mass 11am, Internment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery with full military burial. Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home, [www.holcombhenryboom.com](http://www.holcombhenryboom.com)

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ I served with Col Potter when he was the battalion commander (LTC Potter) in Duluth. I was the Headquarters Battery Commander. Thanks for letting us know about his death. My condolences to his family. Then, Cpt John Ourada

John Ourada - October 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Lisa & I are thinking of you, Jerry, Betty & family as you say farewell to your brother.

Jo & Lisa - October 07, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Love, Hugs & Sympathy to the Potter Family!

Connie (Wahl) Johlfs



Connie Johlfs - September 21, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ A great man who loved to laugh and of course fish. There was always fun when Potter was in the area. Hope you have a fast and smooth flight to heaven.

Roy Lang - September 19, 2020 at 12:00 AM