



Richard John Harju

October 24, 1935 - February 9, 2024

Richard John Harju of Mounds View died Feb. 9, 2024, at 88 years of age. Born in Hibbing, he attended Nashwauk High School, Itasca Jr. College, and the University of Minnesota School of Mechanical Engineering.

He married Doris Kvaale in 1958, had three children, and enjoyed family vacations to Montana, Florida, and later, to Finland, with his three children, their spouses, and eight grandchildren.

He dedicated his career to HVAC design and operation and held leadership positions in ASHRAE (The American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers) and at 3M.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife Doris and sons Allen and Robert and was survived by daughter Judy (Rick) Galliher, daughter-in-law Mary Harju, and special friend Caryl Weaver.

He was blessed by relationships with his grandchildren Russell (Lindsey) Harju, Kelley (Tyler) Bryan, Alanna (Nick) Porter, Tyler (Jordan) Harju, Rachel Harju, Ryan Galliher, and Jess Galliher and nine great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 11 am on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024 with the visitation at 10 am at Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home, 515

Highway 96 at Mackubin, Shoreview.

Memorials can be given to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (jdrf.org), ASHRAE (ashrae.org), or the donor's choice in lieu of flowers.

Livestream available at:

<https://youtube.com/live/csRJnmD8atQ?feature=share>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Chapel Service

FEB **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Reception

FEB **16**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Tribute Wall

LF

“ We lived next to Dick for many years in Mounds View and he was such a kind and considerate neighbor, always willing to help out and lend a hand.

Pete and Lindsey Fabian

Lindsey Fabian - February 16, 2024 at 11:52 AM

MG

“ Mr. Mayor! I gave Richard that nickname because he always seems so involved with everything he did, from working with the people in his neighborhood to fixing every little thing that needed to be fixed. Mr. Fix it! I enjoyed our conversations and how we would figure out things together. Our times in Omaha together with Lindsey and Russ were really good memories. I admired his relationship with Russ - so close! When he started the email joke a day program, I got a smile every day. Every time I added one of my friends, we had such a good time on email afterwards. Richard (I'm sorry, Mr. Mayor- we have to use the correct title) Well done, good and faithful servant and friend, you will be missed! Mark Greenwell (Russ Harju's father in law) Papillion NE

Mark D Greenwell - February 16, 2024 at 09:41 AM

LT

“ I also worked with Dick Harju and found him to be like his photograph in this obituary. Always pleasant, always capable and willing to go the extra mile to get it done right. RIP and sending prayers to the family.



Linda Tanner - February 11, 2024 at 09:46 AM

FB

“ To the Harju family, I did not know Dick during our 3M working years, but I did know him thru the 3M Retired Engineering group as he shared many articles from the Star and Tribune with me to share with others-it was appreciated!.

May he RIP.

Fred Banholzer, 3M Retiree

Fred Banholzer - February 11, 2024 at 09:12 AM

RM

I worked with Richard on a few projects. He knew his stuff. My condolences, Reynold

Reynold Mack - February 11, 2024 at 09:31 AM

JH

I know Dick through engineering, and I later worked with him in plant engineering. He was a great guy with a great sense of humor.
Jerry Herbst

Jerry Herbst - February 11, 2024 at 02:28 PM

UR

Goodbye my friend, I enjoyed your company at many Finnish events and the Oppitunti.

Urho Rahkola - February 11, 2024 at 02:56 PM

SB

Dick was an integral part of the Fridley Jaycees, where we came to know him, then when I lived in Shoreview, he was one of the helpful neighbors, always wearing his big, warm smile, as his photo shows. We'll miss him and his e-mail jokes. Life will be boring without Dick in our lives...Condolences to his family and friends.

Sylvia Britton

Sylvia Britton - February 12, 2024 at 02:36 AM

CB

Sending prayers to the entire Harju family! Everytime I met him, he was smiling! I know he was a great grandpa to you all. Judy and Mary, hugs to you all.

colleen Bull - February 13, 2024 at 08:05 AM

SS

The Sweeney's knew Dick and Doris from ASHRAE. Doris was my friend from the time I met her. Dick continued to be our friend. We are heartbroken. Prayers for them and family.

Sherm and Julie Sweeney - February 13, 2024 at 10:10 PM

JN

Richard and I discovered we were distant cousins through Ancestry DNA. We intended to figure out how we were related, but unfortunately that didn't happen. He was active in the Finnish Genealogy Group of MN as was I and we talked about it during times we actually met in person pre covid. Joan Laituri Newman

Joan Laituri Newman - February 18, 2024 at 03:01 PM