



Richard Allen Merrill

October 1, 1932 - December 24, 2025

Richard (Dick) Merrill, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025 at the age of 93.

Born on October 1, 1932 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Dick was known by his integrity, hard work, and devotion to family. He was also known for his steady presence, quiet strength, and unwavering values. Over the course of his life, he served as a guiding example to those who knew him.

Dick served in the Air Force during the Korean War and was awarded the Korean War Service Medal. He always said he "flew a desk"! After being honorably discharged from military service, he and Lois moved from Sioux Falls to Columbia Heights, and eventually settled in St. Anthony for 36 years. There, they raised their three children on Silver Lake, a close-knit lakeside neighborhood. They established friendships with neighbors that lasted for decades.

While raising their family, Dick went on to have a 50 plus year career as an attorney specializing in Estate Planning, where his deep sense of responsibility and commitment to doing what was right was premier. His last professional role was with Barna, Guzy and Steffen, LTD, where he left an indelible mark.

Ultimately, Dick and Lois moved to Blaine, MN to start their new journey in life. During retirement, he continued to enhance the lives of those around him through golf, travel, gardening and being an integral part in building

memorable moments for his family, friends and neighbors!

In the last few years, Dick and Lois hosted family and friends at their home for the 3M Open. The last time for this gathering in August, 2024, they had over 30 members of their family in their home. What a great hoorah for all! His legacy lives on in the lives he touched and the family he cherished.

Dick was a devoted husband to Lois for 67 years, and loved and took care of her to the end of this earth! He was a loving father to Paul, Ricky, and Maria and he took great pride in his family and found his greatest joy in their accomplishments and happiness. His wisdom, patience, and sense of responsibility shaped generations.

He is survived by wife Lois (Paulson)Merrill, son Paul (Becky) Merrill and daughter Maria Merrill. Grandsons Austin (Colleen) Merrill and Connor (Mary) Merrill. Great grandchildren Payton, Kennedy and Shepherd. Dick is also survived by sister JoAnn (Derald)Espeland and sisters-in-law, Alyce Merrill and Corene (Rich) DeSmet, and a multitude of near and dear nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death was his son, Richard Joel Merrill. Parents George and Edna (Hink)Merrill. Brothers and sisters Don, Glenn and sister-in-law, Carol, Shirley, Bob, and Beverly.

In honor of Dick's life, a visitation will be held January 23, 2026 starting at 10:00 a.m. and a Celebration of Life Service to follow at 11:00 a.m. at the Nativity Lutheran Church located at 3312 Silver Lake Road NE, St. Anthony, Minnesota.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to TSE Inc., Special Olympics, American Heart Association, or Alzheimer's Association.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Nativity Lutheran Church
3312 Silver Lake Road
St. Anthony, MN 55418

Church Service

JAN 23. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Nativity Lutheran Church
3312 Silver Lake Road
St. Anthony, MN 55418

Graveside Service

JAN 23. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hillside Cemetery (Minneapolis)
2600 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Tribute Wall

TM

“ As a Lehman Lane neighbor, Dick was the quintessential gentleman and I always looked forward to our meetings and conversations. Dick will be missed and I feel very fortunate to have known him. I extend our sincerest condolences to Lois and all the Merrill family.
Tom & Jo MacGibbon

Tom MacGibbon - January 23 at 02:55 PM

JP

“ Jeff S Paulson purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Richard Allen Merrill.



Jeff S Paulson - January 20 at 11:12 AM

JP

“ Jeff S Paulson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Richard Allen Merrill.

Jeff S Paulson - January 20 at 11:12 AM

RK

“ Our family lived next door to Mr. and Mrs. Merrill (as I called them) for a few years on Silver Lake in Columbia Heights. Their entire family was very kind and down to earth. Mr. and Mrs. Merrill were very good to me. I was able to accompany Maria with her mom and dad on a trip to Colorado Springs when I was in grade school. We were able to take in a celebrity golf game in Aspen where I was excited to see Clint Eastwood at a distance. What I do remember of Mr. Merrill was that he was a man of integrity that treated everyone with respect. You will be missed.

Rita (Peloquin) Krueger - January 10 at 06:36 PM

FK

“ We lived on Lehman Lane with Dick and Lois for many years. They were kind and welcoming to new residents on our little Lane. Shortly after we moved in we were invited, along with the other new residents, to their home for pizza and a social hour. It was their way of informally welcoming us to the block. I also played golf with Dick a number of times. His golf swing matched his life style. An easy swing, always an even mood, but with great results. We will miss you Dick! If there is golf in heaven I know you will be on the "A" team!

Fred Kunze - January 08 at 12:18 AM

RK

Dick was a wonderful, caring, and down to earth person. He played a huge part in helping us through our stucco remediation, which saved us several thousand and never asked for a dime. I pray that Lois (Miss South Dakota) will find peace. You will definitely be missed Dick! May you RIP!

Ralph & Sonja Kloibr - January 08 at 06:52 PM

FK

“ 2 files added to the album *The Merrills: our Lehman Lane Neighbors*



Fred Kunze - January 08 at 12:11 AM