



## Robert John Barthel

October 22, 1921 - April 5, 2020

Robert John was born to his parents, Raymond and Emma Barthel, on October 22, 1921. He grew up in Pepin, WI. After graduating from high school he went to Minneapolis where he attended Minnesota Business College.

He joined the United States Coast Guard in October 1942 and was stationed in New Jersey as a voice radio and teletype operator. He was discharged in April 1946 as a Seaman 1st Class. Upon his return home from the Coast Guard he met his soon-to-be bride, Marian Ness. They were wed in August 1947. After a honeymoon in Yellowstone National Park, they moved to Moses Lake, WA, to work on the Moses Lake Dam. Later they transferred him to Cambridge, NE on another dam project. From Nebraska, they moved to Minnesota where he worked on the Hippodrome (aka MN State Fair Colesium aka Lee & Rose Warner Colesium). Word has it his initials are written in the original roof. In 1953, when the construction projects slowed down, he heard about an opening, in the accounting department, at Northern States Power Company (NSP aka Xcel Energy). He applied, was hired, and worked there for 30 plus years, retiring in 1984. During this time they settled in St. Louis Park, MN, and raised five children. This later resulted in six grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

After 40 years in St. Louis Park, MN, they moved to Crystal, MN, in 1995. In retirement, Bob stayed out of trouble by working, as a driver, at the

Minneapolis Auto Auction, for 12 years; along with repairing security fences at a townhome complex and running his own "small appliance repair" business. If you needed anything fixed he was your go-to-guy!

He loved fishing, camping and hunting pheasants.

He thought nothing of driving across the country, enjoying the scenery along the way and setting up camp with the family.

After his bride of 70 years died in 2017, he continued to live independently in his home in Crystal, MN. He loved to bake cookies (with Pillsbury Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough) and other homemade dough provided by his family, along with loaves of Rhodes bread dough and giant cinnamon rolls.

In December 2019, he fell in his home and broke his right pelvis and upper right arm. He was so disappointed in himself as he had gone 98 years without ever breaking a bone.

He died in his sleep, on April 5, 2020, in his new home at Cornerstone Commons, in Plymouth, MN. Due to COVID-19 coronavirus, his one month at Cornerstone was rather lonely, isolating and disappointing due to no in-person visitors. Bob decided to join his sweet Marian on Palm Sunday and celebrate eternity by her side.

Bob is survived by four children, John(Mary), Barbara, Mary Lee, Jo(Paul Rimmereid); six grandchildren, Bob(Jess), Tom(Erin), Darlene, Katelyn(Felix Okoth) Sara(Nate Sarrazin) and Jenna Rimmereid. Three great-grandchildren, Lillie and Theo Barthel, Julia Okoth, daughter-in-law Chandra Barthel, and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marian, in 2017, son, Robert,

in 2012 and also his parents, Ray and Emma, and sister Jeanette.

Celebration of Life Service held at 9:15am, Sunday, June 21, at Hope Lutheran Church, at 5200 Emerson Ave N, in Minneapolis, MN.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 21. 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM (CT)

Hope Lutheran Church (Minneapolis - Emerson Ave.)  
5200 Emerson Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55422

# Tribute Wall



“ So sorry to have missed Uncle Bob’s service. I just finished reading that his service was on June 21st. He must be so happy bring back with Marian. I know my parents were there to great him too. Hopefully they are all catching lots of trophy Walleyes!

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**linda** - July 04, 2020 at 01:07 PM



“ Wendy Johnson lit a candle in memory of Robert John Barthel



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**Wendy Johnson** - June 22, 2020 at 06:31 PM



“ Bob's wry sense of humor stands out in our memories. He always knew how to lighten the mood and make us laugh. May God give you peace knowing he is in the arms of the everlasting Father, to whom he was a faithful child throughout his lifetime here on earth. Much love to you, Barb and Mary and Jo and John from the LaDuke family.



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**Karen Helgesen** - June 20, 2020 at 09:44 AM

WJ

*Seated to the right of Marian is my mom, Wilma Johnson, and to the right of Wilma is my dad, Vernon Johnson. This photo must have been taken before 1997, the year my mom died. They always spoke of the fun they had whenever they got together with Marian and Bob, and the rest of the St. Louis Park neighbors. –Wendy Johnson*

Wendy Johnson - June 22, 2020 at 06:32 PM

JS

*“ Our love and sympathy to the Barthel family. Bob was so faithful over the years in being a part of our Bible studies and fellowship. We will miss him. May God be your anchor these difficult days and may a Jesus cover you as a precious family with His immeasurable peace and deep comfort. John and Barb Skeie*

john and Barb Skeie - April 15, 2020 at 02:49 PM

GL

*“ Bob was such a wonderful person..He is home now with his beautiful wife Marian and his Savior Jesus Christ.He had a terrific sense of humor .He and Marian were truely Christians.*

Gene Lhotka - April 14, 2020 at 12:21 PM

LE

*“ A special man who loved his God, his family and his friends. I'm privileged to have known him and called hi my Friend.*

Louise Erickson - April 10, 2020 at 04:45 PM