



## Robert W. Nelson

May 6, 1926 - March 5, 2016

Bob Nelson, age 89, died on March 5, 2016 at Lyngblomsten Care Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. Bob was born on May 6, 1926 to Rev. A. B. and Esther Nelson in Chicago, Illinois. He spent his formative years in Tacoma, Washington and Ashland, Wisconsin. He was baptized in his father's church in Tacoma in 1935. Bob graduated from Midwood High School of Brooklyn, New York in 1944. He continued his training at Bethel College in St. Paul and McPhail School of Music studying music and education. Being led by his love for country life and horses, he got his first teaching job in Stanford, Montana. Shortly after, he was drafted to the United States Army where he played in and assisted directing the military band during the reconstruction of Germany after World War II. Upon completion of his military service, Bob returned to McPhail for his masters and courted the lovely Vergie Lois Dahlman. Bob and Vergie were married on May 29, 1954 at Stanchfield Baptist Church in Stanchfield, Minnesota. The couple resided in Joel, and then Clear Lake, Wisconsin where they raised their three children. Bob was employed by public schools as a K-12 music instructor. In 1979, Bob and Vergie moved to Stanchfield, where he was employed in various jobs involving music and educational administration. Retirement brought them back to Wisconsin in 1993 where they enjoyed the quietness of the woods and time with friends from years past. One of Bob's greatest joys was ministry in music through the span of his life - from directing his choir of toys as a toddler to playing piano for his fellow residents in his last years. Bob also loved working in the woods

and raising ponies and dogs. Throughout retirement, Bob immersed himself in Swedish language, music and the history of Swedish fabod life. He was always delighted by visits from his seven grandchildren. Bob Nelson is survived by daughter Barb and her husband Dan Eckert, son Kurt Nelson, daughter-in-law Andrea Nelson, seven grandchildren: Kari and Koby Eckert, Luke, Matthew, Joshua, Allegra and Serena Nelson, and step-brother Roger Moberg and 2 nieces Linda and Katrina Johnson. He was preceded in death by his wife Vergie and son Jon Nelson. The memorial service will be held at Lyngblomsten Care Center Chapel, 1415 Almond Ave, St. Paul, MN 55108 on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at 3:00 PM.

# Tribute Wall

GK

“ Our family first meet Bob Nelson when Kurt brought him to our home a couple of years ago. What a precious man! We had a meal together and then Bob, Kurt and my son Anthony played music together. The afternoon was planned for a time of fellowship and it turned in to an amazing time of entrainment and enjoyment. Bob played the piano amazing well! He didn't need any music, had everything memorized and even added to the music Kurt was leading with his trumpet. Thank you Kurt for your presence, and bringing your father Bob to our home, it was a beautiful time of fellowship.

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**Greg Korpi** - March 11, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Truly talented musician and music writer. Will always remember the duet arrangement he wrote (Sweet hour of Prayer) for Kurt and I (Randy) to play in high school competition that earned us exceptional performance marks--Kurt being much more exceptional! Bob was always encouraging and willing to help. Great man, great family legacy.

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**Randy and Michelle Plageman** - March 09, 2016 at 12:00 AM