



Robert Lowel Woodburn M.D.

June 27, 1930 - October 2, 2015

Age 85 of Arden Hills. Dr. Woodburn (Woody) passed away peacefully on October 2, 2015 of complications from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He studied medicine at the University of Illinois and was a pathologist in St Paul for 35 years. As a second career, he and his wife Sally owned a hardware store for 18 years. A resident of Arden Hills for 53 years, Woody had deep commitments to public service. After moving to the city, he served many years on the Arden Hills City Council, the Planning Commission and the Finance Committee, among others, and for 7 years was the mayor. At age 84, he returned to community service. At the time of his passing, he was serving again on the Arden Hills City Council and was the council liaison to several Economic and Financial committees. He was an advocate for fair, deliberate, slow and steady change. He was a friend, colleague, neighbor, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was a pathologist, hardware store owner, woodworker, world traveler, pilot, skier, dog-owner, motorcyclist, home repairman extraordinaire and avid internet user. Woody and Sal shared a passion for flying. They would fly out West for ski trips, and on the spur of the moment, would fly to Chicago and Nashville to listen to favorite musicians. Twice, they piloted their twin-engine plane from Minnesota to France. Woody was an avid reader with far ranging interests. He was known for keeping those around him on their toes. Friends were frequently encouraged to question their assumptions underlying what they believed they knew to be true. His regular gatherings and sharing of political and world

commentary of shared interest underscored his thoughtfulness and valuing of friends. Preceded in death by his beloved wife, Sally Torrey (West) Woodburn, Woody is survived by three children, Deb, Matt and Jeff, four grandchildren, Spencer, Tristen, Bailee and Bob, and a great granddaughter, Tori. Visitation is at 2 PM on Saturday, October 17, followed by a memorial celebration at 3 PM, at Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home, 515 W Hwy 96 at Mackubin, Shoreview, MN.

Tribute Wall

SW

“ I just came across the obituary for your dad online and wanted to express my condolences. Your dad was a favorite person in my life growing up and I can still hear him calling me Suzaphone! He had such a quick wit and kindness about him and I enjoyed talking with both your parents during card nights at my parent's house. All the best to you, Deb, Matt and Jeff. Suzy Whitten (Sue Saylor)

Suzy (Sue Saylor) Whitten - March 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Pour moi, Bob était un aventurier. He was always interested in learning about new things. I was so lucky thanks to Debbie to spend a summer at Bob and Sally's at 1220 Ingerson Court. I remember how much he loved liberty too and always questioning the law. Twice when he and Sally piloted to France I had the great pleasure to meet them and once to travel with them down to the Spanish border. He loved simple things and was always curious, questioning me on French politics or sending me articles from the WSJ. He always wanted to know more. I will miss him and his great emails. I do think of his children, grandchildren and great grand child too. At this very moment the service is going on. I can't be there but I am with all of you with my mind.

Dominiquet Sylvie RICHARD - October 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VV

“ Woody was a cousin and a friend. I will miss him.

Vern Vater - October 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Although I did not know Woody Woodburn, his daughter Deb is a good friend of mine. She has toured on motorcycles with me and another friend for two summers. My understanding is her father also had a love of motorcycling as well as having an adventurous side which Deb has inherited. From his photo I can understand where Deb gets her infectious smile. My condolences to Deb and her brothers.

Sally Koenecke - October 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EA

“ Much love to you Deb and your whole family.

Elaine Ambrose - October 13, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BV

“ Heartful hugs to all of Woody's family. I always enjoyed sharing time with him at extended Vater gatherings in various Wisconsin locations. It was a bonus when my daughter Katherine lived in St Paul for a few years and was able to see Woody and Sally and form a bond with them. There is much to miss, his tiny carrot greetings among many.

Barbara Burnett Vater - October 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ A dear, dear friend and we will miss the stream of information he gave us on life and society. My late husband, Lowell, shared his interest in pathology and we considered Sally and him as very special in our lives. Robert and I shared and enjoyed his great emails.

Carolyn Kvam and Robert Hansman - October 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM