



Roger Glenn Porter

September 14, 1932 - February 16, 2020

Porter, Roger

Age 87, longtime Bloomington resident, passed away Friday 16, 2020. Survived by his loving children Cyndi, Bruce, Karen and Gary Porter; grandchildren Alec, Ethan, Isaiah and Aaliyah; brother Richard Porter (Judy) and their family Susan, Lynne and Jim; brother-in-law Frederick Blanch and his daughter Susan, her children Simone and Marley; granddog Morgan. Also survived by Bev, Donna, Del, Lila, Sig, Wayne, those lifelong high school fishing buddies, Dale Johnson and his family, and too numerous to mention more friends. Preceded in death by wife Priscilla (Blanch) Porter, parents Joseph Vincent and Mabelle (Hershberger) Porter.

Roger was born September 14, 1932 in Saint Paul. He was raised in the Lyn-Lake neighborhood, where he spent much of his youth at Bryant Square Park honing his baseball skills, tagged with the nickname Blazer; he was the neighborhood's Minneapolis Star and Minneapolis Tribune carrier for many years, earning a promotion to station manager. After high school, following a brief stint at the Minneapolis Star and Tribune Company, Roger enlisted in the United States Air Force; basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, then starting March 1952, 4 years active duty at March Air Force Base in California as a Lithography pressman (his highest rank staff sergeant NCO, top secret clearance, good conduct and national defense service medals,

recruited intensely each year to pitch as a ringer for the officer's softball teams). During one military leave, he hitched his way back to Minneapolis where, long story short, he discovered Priscilla Blanch, the love of his life; during a subsequent leave, they married June 12, 1954. March 1956, with Cyndi in tow, they returned to Minneapolis. June 1956, Roger and Priscilla moved into their freshly minted Orrin Thompson home (without a garage), which Roger enjoyed sharing a story about of how he negotiated Orrin down \$25 to \$11,975; in this home, together always, they raised 4 children while creating untold memories for the next 65 years. Priscilla passed unexpectedly July 23, 2019, Roger passed 208 days later of a broken heart; their magic potion, a pact, mood aside, to always fall asleep holding hands.

Roger's professional lithography career kicked off as a pressman with NorthStar Litho Plate in Saint Paul, then next with the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, ending with Colour Graphics Corporation in St. Louis Park, where he prospered as one of the Twin Cities' premier color-separations salesman; among his favorite clients (the people at) were Fingerhut, North Central Airlines, Northwest Airlines, Modern Medicine, TWA and Webb Publishing. In retirement, he loved the simple everyday pleasures: cooking eggs for breakfast, checking the box scores, tinkering in his yard, sitting in his porch while watching Twins baseball with Priscilla, anything with Priscilla.

The "Jolly Roger" loved to laugh and joke, and he had an endearing quality to exaggerate affectionately about family and friends. He was a talented carpenter hobbyist, building his home's garage and helping to build his parents' home on W 40th St. He loved to fish, and treasured the annual trips up north with his buddies to catch some walleye. He loved everything baseball, coaching many Bloomington youth teams, and when pressed, he liked to recap his "brush with fame" New York Yankees tryout with the self-deprecating scouting report "ah, I was all pitch, no hit."

Most notably, Roger put his children first. Reflecting back, we were so lucky to have the epitome of "hands-on dad" and his perpetual commitment, common sense, encouragement, financial support, involvement, and wisdom. He was so incredibly fun, it was kind of like we hit the dad-jackpot. Among myriad "how did he make that happen for us" was when he purchased an OMC tri-hull fiberglass boat (a tri-hull, so we wouldn't be afraid of tipping over) and taught us how to waterski, and through our youth, plenty of marvelous memories and celebrations at Bryant Lake and on the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers. Awesome dad seems like an understatement.

Public interment, for both Roger and Priscilla, Friday June 12th, 11am Fort Snelling National Cemetery Lane #4, followed by an open house celebration of Roger's life at David Fong's Restaurant, 9329 Lyndale Ave S., Bloomington from noon to 2pm; lunch is on Roger one last time (call/text RSVP for lunch to Cyndi @ 612-384-9673). In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations for a park bench memorializing Roger and Priscilla.

PORTERS

An Honor Service for

Roger Glenn February 16, 2020

alongside his wife

Priscilla Blanch July 23, 2019

will be held at Fort Snelling

National Cemetery Friday,

October 8th at 10:45 am. Line up at 10:30 am. Assembly lane #4.

Tribute Wall

DR

“ I worked with Roger for many years at Colour Graphics, he was was great fun to work with and a big part of the success of our company. Sorry to see him go but happy to see that he had many years of happy retirement!

*David Rogde
Vancouver, WA*

David Rogde - February 26, 2020 at 10:45 AM