



Rolf Lee Strand

September 7, 1956 - February 29, 2024

Rolf Lee Strand of Crystal, MN, peacefully joined the Lord on February 29, 2024.

Rolf Lee was born on September 7, 1956 to his proud parents Rolf and Marcella Strand in Redfield, SD. He grew up in White Bear Lake, MN, with his five siblings, RoxAnn, Rose Ella, Rodell, Rory and Rollo. While attending junior high he met his lifelong friends who became part of his family.

He graduated in 1985 from the University of Minnesota as a mechanical engineer while he started his career at Honeywell. This year marked his 45th year working at the same location where he started, now known as Resideo. His love for learning and education could be seen in his joy of helping his colleagues with any project they brought his way. It also encouraged him to become a self-taught systems engineer. Due to his passion for programming, he continued to work until his passing.

He met the love of his life in 1978 but did not know it until 1984 when his wife Miriam returned from Guatemala to visit his family. They were married in July of 1984 and began their life together. They moved into their home in Crystal, MN, in 1986 where they raised their three children Erica (Isaias Alcantara), Wesley Strand and Julianna (Edgar Aguilar). He was blessed to enjoy many adventures with his two grandchildren Leonel and Annabella and their cousin Kamila. He spent the last year loving their dog Muffles as his own.

He enjoyed taking family vacations, going up north to the cabin, jeeping in the woods, geocaching, and just spending an afternoon in the summer having a picnic at the park. He spent his time fixing his project cars, creating and launching rockets, and visiting historical museums.

He leaves behind his parents, loving wife, children and spouses, grandchildren, siblings and many more family members and friends. He will be forever loved and missed. A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 16 at 11AM with visitation starting one hour prior at Community of Grace Lutheran Church, 4000 Linden St. White Bear Lake, MN 55110, with a light lunch to follow.

His family will be honoring his lifelong dream to retire in Guatemala by taking him one last time to lay him to rest in the land of the eternal spring.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Rolf's memory to offset the expense of bringing him to his final resting place in Guatemala would be appreciated by the family. Any remaining funds will be donated to the School of Engineering and Arts where his grandchildren currently attend, as he believed that education was very important and always donated to this cause.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Community of Grace Lutheran Church
4000 Linden Street
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Church Service

MAR **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Community of Grace Lutheran Church
4000 Linden Street
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Tribute Wall

ZV

“ I have been working for Honeywell/Resideo in Brno, Czech Republic since 2004, most of the time for legacy Combustion North America team - same team as Rolf just opposite side of ocean. I worked with Rolf very rarely however I could remember the time when he visited our site in Brno. He was geocaching fan so we went to hunt one geocache close to the Macocha abyss (nice place in a woodland close to Brno). Rolf was standing on a heap of stones where the cache was hidden and could not find it for some time. Finally he used his marvelous brain instead of GPS and find the cache immediately. I know him as an excellent engineer always eager to learn new things and explore new technologies. I and my Brno team will miss him.

Zbynek Vancura - March 15, 2024 at 11:39 AM

LF

“ I knew Rolf for some 19 years. We met after I went to work for Honeywell. He was a great friend. We had much in common with interests: Steam engines, clocks, electronics, machining, and rockets, to name a few. The last few years Rolf was a member of our Balls Rocket launch team traveling to the Black Rock desert in Nevada. My son David and I will miss him oh so greatly. Such a wonderful man.

LYNN FLIGER - March 15, 2024 at 08:08 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Rolf Lee Strand.



March 13, 2024 at 02:08 PM

TF

“ *The Resideo Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rolf Lee Strand.*

The Resideo Family - March 13, 2024 at 02:08 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Rolf Lee Strand.*



March 13, 2024 at 12:39 PM

JA

“ Rolf was such a great person to have as a friend.

It was so much fun watching his creativity in action. Some people can throw out ideas, but Rolf could deep dive the engineering and turn it into a reality.

If something caught his interest it would not be long before he had his take on the design up and running.

One weekend we both happened to watch a PBS show about an Exploratorium. The segment featured a free-standing arch made of small blocks. After mentioning it in conversation, Rolf, as he always did, explained that it was designed after a catenary, the same design as the St. Louis arch. We then, mostly Rolf, figured out the best way to design our version of the model. Plenty of math, some recursive code, a six-inch sine bar, and some work in the machine shop and viola we had made our copy. Working side by side with Rolf was a treat, it was always fun, and you always learned along the way.

He was also generous with his time outside of work. He helped us move on several occasions. One time a bee landed on the bottom side of the sandwich he was eating, one bite later he was suffering from a horrible allergic reaction. True to Rolf's nature, he never complained that he was hurt.

I loved the picture Miriam sent me of them together. That is the Rolf I remember and miss dearly.

John Adams

John Adams - March 13, 2024 at 10:54 AM

AK

“ Ali, Sarah, Amber, and Kate purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Rolf Lee Strand.



Ali, Sarah, Amber, and Kate - March 12, 2024 at 11:47 PM

PB

“ May his spirit soar to the highest. Love and light and thanks be to God. 🙏💖. May you all find comfort in knowing that the love never leaves you and we will all be reunited one day.



Pastor Margaret Sletten Behrens - March 12, 2024 at 07:50 PM

PA

“ Rolf was my first friend after moving to WBLk starting ninth grade at Central. His humor, zest for exploring and experimenting was fueled by an endless curiosity. Our shared curiosity for understanding and discovery led us into many fun and exciting experiences during those years. Today's environment might not look fondly on those activities however we were fortunate to have met each other and learned together through those adventures. Rolf's embrace and passion for life will greatly missed! May his wonderful spirit live in each of us forever.

Paul Allison - March 11, 2024 at 02:39 PM

SM

“ I had the pleasure of going through four years of high school math with Rolf. Two people who enjoyed math, were very good at it, and liked doing it together. Our collaboration – not competition – certainly drove me to excel and I imagine that it did the same for Rolf. Occasionally, I think we'd annoy our teachers with some smart-alecky action, but mostly they liked having a couple of students who took a deep interest in their subject and did it well. Through high school and for some years after, our friendship reached beyond the classroom. I got to know his family, and he mine. We witnessed each other's marriage ceremony, but with different paths for our math skills we haven't seen each other in many years. Still, I treasure the friendship we had so long ago and am sad that I'll never see him again in this life. My sincere condolences to Miriam, to Rolf and Marcella, and to all of the other Strands who mourn the passing of Rolf Lee.

Steve Malerich - March 10, 2024 at 04:19 PM

KS

“ Rolf was a dear friend and one of the smartest people I ever knew. We carpoled from White Bear Lake to the U of M together, way back in the late 1970's. One day our car broke down on Highway 36. Rolf looked under the hood, figured out what was wrong and then scrounged materials from the ditch to fix the car. He could fix anything! Gosh, I will miss him so much. Kay Skon

Kay Skon - March 09, 2024 at 12:27 PM

LO

“ Sending strength and prayers for all the family, I have always admired the unity of the Strand family and one of our favorite memories was going to find the treasure with uncle Rolf, Vale kept the bouncy ball that was inside and it was fun to learn something new and to find the treasure box.

Lorna Oliva - March 09, 2024 at 09:58 AM

BH

“ Rolf was such an incredibly person! Kind, generous, caring, considerate, upbeat, intelligent...the list can go on and on. Rolf and I worked many projects together. Some evenings we'd turn up the country music and work well into the late hours of the night or early morning trying to solve problems or meet deadlines. I learned an amazing amount from Rolf, and he was always so willing to help! I used to joke that Rolf could answer any question but be prepared to be "Stranded" if you ask him. Rolf would answer your question with ten times the detail you were looking for and raise two or three more questions you hadn't even thought of. He was so incredibly generous with his time, and I was blessed to spend so much time with him. I will miss him dearly!
Bruce Hill

Bruce Hill - March 08, 2024 at 04:24 PM

MB

“ Deepest Sympathy To The Entire Family Sending Thoughts And Prayers Karl, Marcia, Derek, Spencer Braun

Marcia Braun - March 08, 2024 at 12:11 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Rolf Lee Strand.



March 07, 2024 at 10:22 PM



“ Jason, Jacob, Alivia Winterbauer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rolf Lee Strand.

Jason, Jacob, Alivia Winterbauer - March 07, 2024 at 10:22 PM