



## Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr.

May 23, 1953 - May 16, 2025

Sam Wilbur Larson Jr passed away peacefully on May 16th, with Judy holding his hand, joining his Lord and Savior in eternal life.

He was born on May 23, 1953, in Fort Benning, Georgia to Sam and Lorraine. Sam was proud that he grew up in a military family traveling the world and loved to share his experiences living in many different places. In Alaska, he loved to camp and bring his fishing pole to remote streams to fish. In Italy, he was a cross country phenom competing against the best in Europe.

He graduated from Vicenza High School and decided to attend the University of MN. He spent his free time at the U learning to play bridge and pick up basketball. From sunup to sun down, he would play with anyone, including Flip Saunders and Dave Winfield.

Sam was footloose and fancy free, finding odd jobs that allowed him to play basketball as much as possible. Some of them included cleaning phone booths, making coleslaw, unloading trucks, making hats and eventually landed as a quality control engineer for Thermotech and Minnesota Rubber for over 30 years.

Sam met the love of his life Judy walking around Lake of the Isles. They were married a year later and had two children- Adam (Cindy) and Paul (Kelly).

Sam was blessed with 4 grandchildren- Nora (15), Ethan (12), Xavier (3), and Eva (1).

Sam loved being around his family and looked forward to Family Reunions, his 4th of July pool parties, Thanksgiving at the farm, and Christmas with both sides of the family. Sam made time to visit relatives as well as welcoming them into his home.

Sam had many hobbies including becoming a grandmaster bridge player, card shark (any game), completing puzzles, fishing, camping, listening to music, table tennis, gardening, playing Santa, DIY projects, genealogy, penny pinching, buffets, watching everything on youtube, the Golden State Warriors, Minnesot Vikings, and traveling.

Sam was the best big brother to Susan (Walker), Steven (Karen) and Julia (Lyle), and brother-in-law to Karen, and Mike (Carolyn). And Uncle Sam to Jennifer, Liz, Cody (Chrissy), Shayla, Samantha (Cameron), Cyrena (Cameron), Emma, Chester, Elsie, Cambria, Clark, Ezra, and Soren. Also Josh (Alexandra), Chris (Kelly), Andy, Jennifer, Emmett, Brooks, Fiona, and Leo.

Sam touched the lives of many people. We will miss him and know we will be with him again in Heaven.

Funeral Service: Thursday, May 29, 2025, at 11 a.m. with visitation one hour prior at Cross View Lutheran Church, 6645 McCauley Trail, Edina. Interment will take place at the Eden Prairie Cemetery, Eden Prairie, MN.

# Cemetery Details

## Eden Prairie Cemetery

8810 Eden Prairie Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Cross View Lutheran Church  
6645 McCauley Trail W  
Edina, MN 55439

## Funeral Service

MAY 29. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Cross View Lutheran Church  
6645 McCauley Trail W  
Edina, MN 55439

# Tribute Wall



“ Ann R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..

Ann R. - May 29, 2025 at 11:18 AM



“ Ruth Ann Ische purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



Ruth Ann Ische - May 28, 2025 at 06:11 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



May 27, 2025 at 08:28 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..

May 27, 2025 at 08:28 PM

KC

“ Karen, Mike & Carolyn purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



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**Karen, Mike & Carolyn** - May 27, 2025 at 07:31 PM

JJ

“ Josh & Alex, Chris & Kelly, Andy, Jenny. purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



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**Josh & Alex, Chris & Kelly, Andy, Jenny.** - May 27, 2025 at 07:24 PM

CA

“ CassStillman purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



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**CassStillman** - May 27, 2025 at 12:45 PM

CA

“ CassStillman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..

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**CassStillman** - May 27, 2025 at 12:45 PM

TF

“ *The omega and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..*



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**The omega and family** - May 27, 2025 at 11:03 AM

RO

“ *Sam, you and your family first came into our lives in 1990 when I was 12 and we had just moved to Eden prairie. Your family brought pie over and welcomed us to the neighborhood. As you and my folks visited. Adam, Paul, and I quickly bonded over super Mario 2 and baseball cards. The kindness your family showed that evening spread into a friendship that has lasted all of my life and will continue beyond your days. You were the best neighbor, a kid could ask for (never once called the cops on one of my parties ;) I held you in such high regard and respect that you and your family are just that. Our family. I appreciate so much that you and Judy took the time to come out to the Northwoods to see our bar and visit. It truly ment alot to us. Your impact on the world was tremendous and we are all better for being fortunate enough to know you. God bless you and may you rest in eternal peace.*  
*Bob Olsen.*

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**ROBERT A OLSEN** - May 22, 2025 at 01:12 PM



“ Sam was my first long-term bridge partner when I moved to Minnesota in the early 90's. We did very well as a partnership and I wrote up stories about our bridge escapades on the internet. I titled them "The Adventures of Sam and Richard". This actually garnered us some fame, as people would recognize our names when we played in the Nationals.

Sam was a great bridge partner and I will miss the trips we took together playing the game we both loved.

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Richard Lawson - May 21, 2025 at 08:23 AM



“ Sam had a great spirit! He was so easy to talk with. When we spoke, we would get into conversations about consciousness expansion, ancient civilizations, history, and the mysteries of the universe. The conversations felt like a portal to something greater that we both understood. I'm grateful to have known him. Though his form has shifted, his energy will live on in all who knew him.

Tony Camp

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Tony Camp - May 20, 2025 at 07:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



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May 20, 2025 at 03:05 PM

FF

“ From Barbara and the Gondek family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sam Wilbur Larson, Jr..



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**From Barbara and the Gondek family** - May 19, 2025 at 05:40 PM



“ I always remember swimming in Sam and Judy’s pool on the 4th of July!  
Sam and his wife Judy would always take us to the movie “Polar Express” over Christmas time. My sisters and I share some really great memories with Sam. He will be dearly missed.

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**Rebecca Messner** - May 18, 2025 at 01:12 PM

JS

What a great guy Sam was. I remember when Cindy & Janet were little, Sam would put them on top of the fridge so they could “jump” into his arms. I’m not sure who enjoyed it more, Sam or the girls! We will miss you. Jeanne & Roger

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**Jeanne Stevens** - May 20, 2025 at 05:00 PM