



## Stanley Prentice Wendland

December 30, 1948 - March 16, 2025

After a courageous two-year battle with lymphoma, Stanley Prentice Wendland fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday March 16, 2025 surrounded by his family.

Stan was born on December 30, 1948 to John and Louise (née Winholz) Wendland in South Minneapolis, Minnesota, and grew up with his younger sister Nancy. He inherited his life-long love of the outdoors from his parents who would regularly take the family backpacking, hiking, camping, and skiing. God's creation would provide Stan grace, peace, and reconciliation with his maker throughout his life, especially in the most difficult times. A devout Orthodox Christian, Stan loved attending church services, as well as the fellowship of his brothers and sisters in Christ. However, on occasion he would skip Sunday service, wake his family up early, take them to a remote park or preserve to make breakfast over a camp-stove, and let his children play while he sat and enjoyed the Lord's handiwork. To Stan, creation's beauty directed his heart to the artist. This love for all creation stayed with him until the end, as he looked out the windows of his house to watch the songbirds (and squirrels) at the birdfeeders.

At an early age, Stan was also captivated by all things automotive. As a four-year old, standing between his parents in the front seat while they drove through town, he started to call out the make, model, and year of each of the

cars they passed. His amazed father, whose interest in cars was little more than utilitarian, chased down one of these cars to verify Stan's identification, receiving confirmation from its owner.

After Stan graduated from Breck School in 1967, he attended St. Olaf College. There, Stan's love for God's creation and cars was eclipsed when he met the love of his life Kathleen Wendland (née Grundahl) in the spring of 1969. They were married on August 12, 1972 and raised five children Erik, Kjerstin, Nicholas, Linnea, and Heidi. Kathleen knew when she married Stan she would share his heart with cars, but she did not realize she would also have to share (or give up completely) the garage, the shed, most of the driveway, and occasionally the front hall and kitchen counters with cars and car parts. Kathleen's own unconditional devotion (and a good sense of humor) gave her strength to endure parking outside the garage for 50 years of Minnesota winters.

Stan graduated from St. Olaf in the spring of 1971 with a degree in English, and two weeks later the draft forced him to report to National Guard basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Following his military service, Stan attended graduate school at the University of Minnesota eventually earning a Bachelor of Science in Forestry.

Stan started his professional career in 1976 working for the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) where he served the entirety of his 37-year long career. During its course Stan mentored many and made life-long friends in Ramsey, Carver and Scott Counties and the Area office. He was the first person in the State of Minnesota to become a Certified Professional Agronomist.

In 2013, Stan retired and helped care for his beloved mother Louise and, after her passing in 2016, spent his years volunteering at International Orthodox

Christian Charities (IOCC), camping in the boundary waters, playing with his grandchildren, and attempting to pass down his considerable automotive knowledge to his children and grandchildren. His refusal to let go of his inner child, and his penchant for sitting on the floor made him an ideal "Poppop." Stan is remembered for his devotion to Christ, his unceasing generosity, his indefatigable cheerfulness, his willingness to come to someone's aid irrespective of his own schedule or the time of day, and the love he poured out to his family and friends.

He is preceded in death by parents John Wendland (1977) and Louise Wendland (2016). He is survived by his sister Nancy Anderson, and his wife Kathleen, his children, and his fourteen grandchildren Reider, Colette, and Rosemary (Erik and Lacey Wendland); Henrik, Aine, and Saoirse (Kjerstin and Noel Quinn); Oskar, Freya, Alfred, and Ingrid (Nicholas and Heidi Wendland); Gunnar, Haakon, and Anneli (Linnea and Dustin Elbing); and Morgan (Heidi and Jacob Fishstrom).

Services will be held at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota on March 22, 2025 at 10 a.m. The family requests any memorials be made to IOCC US Operations, an organization that Stan loved. Please be sure to select the United States in the drop down menu on the donation page and note in memory of Stan Wendland.

# Cemetery Details

## Dawn Valley Memorial Park (Bloomington)

9940 Bush Lake Road  
Bloomington, MN 55438

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 21. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436

## Prayer Service

MAR 21. 4:30 PM - 4:45 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436

## Visitation

MAR 22. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

## Funeral Service

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MAR **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ I just learned of Stan's passing through the NRCS newsletter. I was a colleague of Stan's for many years and was the DC in Blaine for several years, so we worked in the same Area under Harvey Sundmacker. I retired from NRCS in 2015 but remained active in the field, working for Mn Dept of Ag and now the Board of Water and Soil Resources. I always enjoyed seeing and visiting with Stan at the Mn Association of SWCD annual conventions in December. I am a lymphoma survivor and have been cancer free for 7 years. Stan was a kind man and a kindred spirit, and I will miss him. I will keep the family in my prayers over the coming days and weeks.

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**Dave Copeland** - April 07, 2025 at 09:03 AM

ET

“ Dear Kathy, Erik, Kjerstin, Nick, Linnea, Heidi, and families, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. We are sending you our love and sympathy. May Stan's memory be eternal !

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**Elena Tudor** - March 22, 2025 at 09:12 AM

SQ

“ Sean & Lucia Quinn

*It was with deep sadness that we learned of Stan's passing. He was always kind and considerate whenever we got together, always interested in how we were getting on and ever ready to lend a hand when needed. A real gentleman.*

*To Kathy and the entire Wendland family we extend our heartfelt sympathy at their loss.*

*The pain of losing Stan will remain as the years pass but so too will the lovely memories of the good times you shared together.*

*He will always be in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Sean & Lucia Quinn** - March 21, 2025 at 01:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



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March 21, 2025 at 11:43 AM

LR

“ Love, Sarah, Aaron, & Rachel purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



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**Love, Sarah, Aaron, & Rachel** - March 21, 2025 at 09:51 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Stanley Prentice Wendland.

March 20, 2025 at 09:35 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



March 20, 2025 at 09:35 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



March 20, 2025 at 02:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Stanley Prentice Wendland.

March 20, 2025 at 02:12 PM



“ Stephen, Sandra, Jesse and Justus Watts planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Stanley Prentice Wendland.

**Stephen, Sandra, Jesse and Justus Watts** - March 19, 2025 at 09:15 PM

SW

“ Stephen, Sandra, Jesse and Justus Watts purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



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**Stephen, Sandra, Jesse and Justus Watts** - March 19, 2025 at 09:15 PM

FB

“ Kathy and family: I am so sorry for your family’s loss. These past 8 years of having Stan on the Carver SWCD Board as a Supervisor, was truly a pleasure! I too have a love for classic cars, my dad has been an avid collector his entire life, so naturally my siblings and I are also collectors. Stan and I got to talking about my family’s fleet, and I’d have to show him pictures of any new ones we’d acquire since the last time we talked. I remember telling Stan about the 1948 Chevrolet convertible that my dad purchased when he was 15 years old for \$15. Stan would often jokingly ask me if my dad was ready to sell it to him yet, which always made me smile. I’m really going to miss our little car talks! I pray for God’s peace and comfort to your family, Stan was one of the best!

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**Felicia Brockoff** - March 19, 2025 at 05:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Stanley Prentice Wendland.

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March 19, 2025 at 04:36 PM

SD

“ Erik, Lacey and family, you are in our thoughts and prayers as you grieve Stan, and continue life without him. May his memory be eternal.

Steve and Sue Dzubay



Steve and Sue Dzubay - March 19, 2025 at 04:00 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



March 19, 2025 at 03:52 PM

MD

“ I was so lucky to have Stan as a mentor during my early years at the Scott SWCD. He came out of retirement to help out for a few summers and I have such fond memories of driving around the county and listening to all of his stories. He was a wealth of knowledge and incredible mentor. We all loved when he would stop by the office to chat over the years.  
To his friends and family, we are so sorry for your loss. He will be greatly missed in the conservation community.

Meghan Darley - March 19, 2025 at 03:25 PM

SO

“ Thinking of all the family at this heartbreaking time xx

shauneen okane - March 19, 2025 at 02:32 PM

MB

“ Dear Kathy, our hearts go out to you and your family for the loss of such a wonderful person. Every time we visited Dan, Tania and grandkids I made it a point to spend time visiting you both. Stan and I had similar interests and could easily spend hours in great conversations together. I will truly miss him. Love, Mike and Rosemary.

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**Mike Brechko** - March 19, 2025 at 12:39 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



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March 19, 2025 at 11:00 AM

JC

“ Our condolences to the Wendland Family. As a co-worker with Stan back in the SCS/NRCS days, I was privileged to have observed and looked up to Stan as a mentor, fellow co-worker, and friend. We had some deep conversations about Life, the Lord and then of course the sharing of the “inner child” and Stan’s unique sense of humor and way to connect with just about any person in the world. I wish I would have been able to hang out with Stan in his grade school days as I am sure we would have had a lot of fun exploring God’s creation together, playing in the creek, exploring through the woods. Maybe his love for cars would have rubbed off on me more. I do know for sure he loved his family a whole lot because he proudly spoke of them often . John and Lori Crellin

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**John Crellin** - March 19, 2025 at 10:34 AM

KK

“ Kathy and Family, I am sorry for your loss. I worked with Stan and always appreciated his energy and personality. You never had to guess what Stan was thinking, he let you know and let you know with passion. His passion for conservation was infectious and something he carried with him through his career and in retirement.



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**Keith Kloubec** - March 19, 2025 at 10:30 AM

MJ

“ Paul, Maebh, Zélie and Mary Kate Johnson would like to send their sincere condolences to our sister in law Kjerstin and family. It was always a joy to spend time with Stan who was so generous to us when we visited Minnesota. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sending love. Our lady Queen of the Gael pray for him.

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**Maebh Johnson** - March 19, 2025 at 06:52 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Stanley Prentice Wendland.



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March 18, 2025 at 07:47 PM

PM

“ *Condolences to Kathleen, Kjerstin, Noel, Henrik, Áine, Saoirse and all Stan’s family, extended family and friends. A man with evident pride in the life he shared with his family, Stan was kind enough to welcome me into his farm home in WI and even allowed me to stay over and walk through the fields (carefully :)) in search of deer! You could tell that he loved everything about the land and what it offered and he was proud of what he could offer his family and their friends. He will be sadly missed by all beloved to him. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*

*From Peter McDonnell and Märit Hanson, Wilmington, DE*

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**Peter McDonnell** - March 18, 2025 at 07:37 PM