



## Mr. Thomas Frederick Madison

February 25, 1936 - April 10, 2019

Madison, Thomas Frederick Prior to his death on April 10, 2019, Thomas Frederick Madison, age 83, of Hopkins, MN, played golf with great friends under a clear blue Arizona sky. Tom was born in Minneapolis, on February 25, 1936, the eldest of two children, brother to his younger sister Barb. His father Earl was a railroad engineer and his mother, Berniece, managed a bakery. As a youth, he had two paper routes and he bagged groceries in order to buy his first car, a 1941 Chevrolet 4-door at age 15. Tom graduated from Minneapolis Roosevelt High School in 1953 where he met the love of his life, Pat (Marilyn Louise Johnson). Interested in studying to become an astronaut, Tom pursued an aeronautical engineering degree at the University of Minnesota. He left school during his freshman year to take a job with Northwestern Bell. He worked underground, beneath manhole covers as a splicer helper, and then above ground, as a lineman installing telephone poles. He believed these jobs were the wake-up call that he required, I didn't want to do this work for the rest of my life. I knew I needed to go back to school and prove I could become an engineer."

In 1957, Tom returned to the University of Minnesota, married Pat, then a year later they had their first child, Mike. He subsequently graduated in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering. At this time, came their second child, Mary. This degree provided Tom with ten job offers in the engineering industry, but he chose to return to NW Bell, because "the people

were good, the benefits were good, and the culture was good. It was the right fit for me." As he began his career at NW Bell, Tom and Pat welcomed their third child, Mark, in 1962. Tom rose from a service foreman, who managed telephone installers, to President and Chief Executive Officer in 1985. He also served as President of US West Communications, the successor to NW Bell, and known today as Century Link. In all, Tom held 16 positions with NW Bell and US West in Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, before "retiring" in 1992.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

The Basilica of Saint Mary  
1600 Hennepin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

The Basilica of Saint Mary  
1600 Hennepin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas Frederick Madison.* ”



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April 25, 2019 at 11:05 PM