



Timothy Nelson

August 24, 2011

Nelson, Timothy R. age 58, of Champlin, died unexpectedly while hiking in Colorado with his wife. Graduate of Aurora-Hoyt Lakes High School, Bethel College (B.A.), University of St. Thomas (M.A.). Since 1998 Nelson has served as CEO of Hammer Residences, Inc., Wayzata, MN, a private, non-profit agency providing services to people with developmental disabilities. He had been with Hammer 34 years. Current board president of the Arc of Minnesota. Former vice president and board member of ARRM. Member of ANCHOR, on the CQL board and served on DHS task force. Preceded in death by parents, Otto & Selma Nelson; brother, Doug. Survived by loving wife of 35 years, Jean; daughters, Lisa and Lydia; granddaughter, Jazlynn; brother, Gary (Linda); sisters, Sher (Roger) Leksen, Lynette (Rick) VanSoest; and many other family members and friends. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to Hammer Residences. Interment Champlin Cemetery. Funeral services Friday 1 PM at Edinbrook Church, 4300 Edinbrook Pkwy., Brooklyn Park. Visitation one hour prior to service and Thursday 4-8 PM at: Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel 763-767-1000 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.

Tribute Wall

RL

“ I am saddened to just now hear of Tim's passing. Even though we had been out of contact for many years, It is my unending fondness for Hammer and the wonderful friends I made while there that prompted me to visit the web site. Tim and I started at Hammer in 1977 as direct care staff on the "boys unit". We both became unit supervisors a short time later, and both decided to pursue our graduate degrees at UST. He was a wonderful colleague and friend. And never was there a person with more personal and professional integrity. Jean, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. With fond memories, Renee (Niederhofer) Lammers

~

Renee Lammers,

Centerville, Ohio

Renee Lammers - February 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Tim enjoyed reading. He knew I like history. To each individual, who mourns the loss of TIMOTHY R. NELSON, a quote from Abraham Lincoln: "In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all...it comes with bitterest agony...Perfect relief is not possible, except with time. You cannot now realize that you will ever feel better...And yet this is a mistake. You are sure to be happy again. To know this, which is certainly true, will make you some less miserable now. I have had experience enough to know what I say. My condolence, Rose Rizzi-Hammer Residences Staff*

~

Rose Rizzi,

Wayzata, Minnesota

Rose Rizzi - August 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *Tim was a man of integrity. As his employee, I always had the utmost respect for him. Tim lived a decent life. With highest regard,*
Susie (Simon) Holovnia

~

Susie Holovnia,

Chanhassen, Minnesota

Susie Holovnia - August 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ I worked with Tim for many years in my capacity as a Developmental Disabilities Services planner with Hennepin County. He was a wonderful partner with the County, with the foresight to do what was needed to make our clients' lives better, acting as a true gentleman in the process of achieving that goal. His memory and legacy will live on. Rob Kent

~

Rob Kent,

Edina, Minnesota

Rob Kent - August 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Peace to the family and friends of Timothy R. Nelson.

~

Glen Hausfeld,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Glen Hausfeld - August 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *A Gracious Host* On the weekend of June 10th, when the Board of Directors of The Arc of the United States was meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, there was an annual fundraising event along with a golf tournament. Two other board members and I were driven to the event by Tim Nelson. We were also escorted, and hosted by him during the program. His tending and care for us as “guest” far exceeded his professional role and displayed a personal generosity and graciousness which added to a very memorable evening. Of course, the news of his passing makes us revisit the time shared and causes us to join our thoughts and prayers to those who have known and shared his life story. Tim was the real deal: a professional whose advocacy was not a job description, but an indication of his personal passion. His career of service stands and speaks for itself; we are privileged to have been part of his extended network through The Arc, and for an evening, to have been directly touched by his life. Susan Bassett Sam Givhan Joyce Lipman 8/25/11

~

Sam Givhan,

Columbus, Mississippi

Contact Me

Sam Givhan - August 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *I first met Tim Nelson in 1979 when my son, Mark Newman-Berman entered Hammer Residence. Tim was always there and listened with a patient and kind heart. He really cared for the mentally challenged. My son has since passed. I am confident that when Tim entered heaven, Mark was there to shake his hand. Minnesota has lost a super advocate. My condolences to your family.*

~

Rita Berman,

Louisville, Kentucky

Rita Berman - August 25, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *What an incredible blessing Tim has been in all of the lives he touched. I am a former employee of his at Hammer and am so grateful to have had the opportunity. Tim taught me so much in the eight years I worked with him. He was always so personable and got to know you and your interests that weren't always work related. I remember him sending me a postcard from Sturgis as he passed through that town while on a vacation. He remembered my passion for motorcycling. I will never forget his post-its that he left on my chair in my office that just said "See Me. T". Those always got my nerves jumping. I used to collect them and ended up with a good size pile. Tim also gave us the gift of his poetry at Christmas. What a delight! I also remember that he would call the operator on New Year's Eve to wish him/her a Happy New Year! So in honor of Tim I will carry on that tradition. Thank you Tim for all your guidance! You will never be forgotten.*

~

Jo Ann Olson,

Monticello, Minnesota

Contact Me

Jo Ann Olson - August 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ *Tim you will be truely missed. My heart goes out to your family. Pray you find comfort in Gods loving arms*

~

Tomeko Champion,

Golden Valley, Minnesota

Tomeko Champion - August 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tim's kindness and spirit will always be with us. We are all so fortunate to have had Tim as a part of our lives. Marty Schneider-Wayzata Rotary*

August 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tim: Tim, it was a pleasure to know you. Your family is in my prayers. You gave so much of your self to the people you served which should be an example for all. God Bless: Daryll Stenberg*

August 24, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tim was a very respected leader in the community. He left the world a better place and touched many lives during his lifetime. As President of The Arc Minnesota, Tim provided strong leadership to the organization and to the disability community. We will miss his leadership and friendship greatly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jean and the rest of Tim's family. Pat Mellenthin, CEO The Arc Minnesota*

August 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Tim was a wonderful, kind and compassionate man who made the world a better place for all who knew him. In the words of Hannah Senesh: "There are stars whose radiance is visible on Earth though they have long been extinct. There are people whose brilliance continues to light the world even though they are no longer among the living. These lights are particularly bright when the night is dark. They light the way for humankind." Go with God, Tim, with the love and prayers of all who knew you.

~

Denise Eng,

St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Denise Eng - August 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tim, I remember you coming to the front desk to check our listing to make sure you didn't miss any babies being born so that you could send the new parents a card. I was so touched. I am thankful that I was blessed with an opportunity for my husband and I to get to know you in a more personal manner. I was always observing and always inspired at the way Hammer was led through your actions. You said the words, but it was always backed up by your actions. I feel blessed to be a part of the Hammer family that respects and honors abilities not only in the clients but in it's employees. You inspired us to be better and to fulfill our purpose everyday. Thank you Tim, may we proceed to carry on the mission of Hammer. I am comforted that you are enjoying a special crown in Heaven and may we continue your legacy with passion. You are my hero.. Kathy Leighton*

[Contact Me](#)

August 23, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Nelson family I am so sorry for your loss. Our family's were friends and I have very fond memories of growing up with Tim. One thing I remember is sitting and watching thunderstorms together I still think of him whenever there is a storm. With sincere sympathy, Terry (Gripp) Nor.*

August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *Tim, I am thinking of you and your family at this time. I believe you are at peace. With Sympathy,*

~

Patty Hastings,

St. Michael, Minnesota

Patty Hastings - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ To Tim's loved ones - I believe the legacy left by Tim and his passion in his quest for a better world for the mentally-disabled will shine like a beacon across our sky. Tim's gentleness and genuine warmth will forever be kindled in my heart. I wish your family solace through this time.

~

Mary Gray,

Golden Valley, Minnesota

Contact Me

Mary Gray - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ *Tim was a great friend and a great leader in our community. We are very saddened by this sudden loss of a Great man. I will always cherish Tim's quiet leadership and guidance and how he strived to make our community a better one, for all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Nelson family.*

~

Amy Schuett,

Wayzata, Minnesota

Amy Schuett - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ To the entire Nelson family: We will miss his smiling face. I know he has important work to do. He will be in our hearts forever. Thank you for all you shared with us, dear friend. God speed Tim. My thoughts and prayers with the Nelson's.

~

Lynne Dablow,

Avon, Minnesota

Lynne Dablow - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EK

“ *Tim Nelson was a great person I would call him tiny Tim and he would call me little Liz I knew Tim Nelson for over 32 years it was a shocker after I heard the news Nelson Family I am so sorry to hear about Tim's death god bless you always*

~

Elizabeth Koltes,

Plymouth, Minnesota

Contact Me

Elizabeth Koltes - August 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM