



Toivo Sober

April 10, 1935 - December 16, 2024

Söber, Toivo age 89, of Eagan passed away on December 16, 2024.

Preceded in death by his beloved wife Annelie Söber, parents, August & Erika Söber and sister, Helle Silpala.

Survived by daughter, Valerie Volk-Sober of former spouse Nona Charee Volk of Great Falls, Montana, who predeceased him, brother, Taavi Söber (Gale), niece Siiri Doan (Hung) & nephews, Markus Silpala (Tricia); Paul Söber (Krystal) and grand nieces and nephews, Alexander Doan, Aurora & Audrey Silpala, Bradley and Katelynn Söber.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2025 at 2:00pm at Lakewood Cemetery Chapel, 3600 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, MN, with an hour visitation prior to the service. Inurnment will follow at Lakewood Cemetery. A reception will be from 4-6pm at Lexington Pointe Senior Living, 3385 Discovery Road, Eagan.

Toivo was born in Tartu, Estonia in 1935. His family came to America in Nov 1949, settling initially in Lindstrom MN and eventually moving to Mpls, MN. Toivo started college at St. Olaf, then joined the U.S. Marines and then completed his college education at the University of MN. Toivo had a 30-year career with the U.S. Forest service doing forest management in OR, CO and the U.S. Superior National Forest where he managed the BWCA in Ely MN in the early 1970's. Toivo met and married the love of his life, Annelie, in

February of 1973.

They lived in Virginia, Ely and Duluth, MN. In 2021 Toivo and Annelie moved to Lexington Pointe Senior Living in Eagan when his battle with Parkinson's became harder to manage on his own and where brother Taavi (Gale) lives.

Toivo loved to ski both downhill and cross country and was a ski instructor for grade-school children at Spirit Mountain in Duluth. He liked to hunt and fish and had many travel adventures during his lifetime. Toivo always had a great disposition and smile.

To watch the service live please use the following link which will start about 10 minutes prior to the service. <https://youtube.com/live/unTcAbqd6E4?feature=s>
hare

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Lakewood Memorial Chapel
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Memorial Service

APR 12. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Lakewood Memorial Chapel
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Graveside Service

APR 12. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Tribute Wall

DF

“ Doan, Silpala, and Sober families purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Toivo Sober.



Doan, Silpala, and Sober families - April 09, 2025 at 11:16 AM

DF

“ Doan, Silpala, and Sober families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Toivo Sober.

Doan, Silpala, and Sober families - April 09, 2025 at 11:16 AM

CH

“ I was doing a google search to get the Sober's current address so I could send them photos I had from a 1990 cross country ski weekend at their cabin on White Iron Lake. My husband and I knew Toivo from the Federal Building in Duluth. He shared stories of his early years in Estonia. I will add these photos here. Our sincere sympathy to the Sober family.



Charlene - April 08, 2025 at 06:11 PM

BB

“*Toivo was my immediate supervisor when I started my first full time job with the Forest Service in Virginia, MN in 1973. He had a tremendous amount of patience with me as a newbie forester and as a friend. I vividly recall his inviting me to join in the springtime collection of sap from a small stand of maple trees on public land just a short distance north of town. Even more vivid is my recollection of bringing the sap back to town and attempting to boil it down (into maple syrup) in the kitchen of his rented apartment in Virginia. This resulted in some wet and sticky kitchen walls and a very minimal amount of final syrup product. I think it’s also safe to say Toivo’s new bride (Annelie) was less than impressed with our effort.*

Over the years my wife Karen and I joined Toivo and Annelie in a number of canoe trips in and around the Boundary Waters, and we spent an occasional weekend as their guests at their cabin on White Iron Lake. I also spent a few deer hunting seasons with Toivo using his cabin as the base for our hunt. I believe it was during one of those hunts when the national news broke that the Berlin Wall was coming down—I clearly recall what a positive impression this made on Toivo at that time.

Karen and I truly cherish our over four decade friendship with Toivo and Annelie. You’d be hard pressed find more kind, caring and interesting folks. They truly had a life well lived.

Bob Berrisford - April 02, 2025 at 03:04 PM

GS

Wow, thanks for sharing these stories. We'd love to hear more. If you aren't able to join us 4/12, there will be a live link to watch service live which you can sign into 15 min (1:45pm) prior to service. Were you working with him when he retired? There is a canoe paddle with many names carved into it and that was given to Toivo when he retired.

Gale Sober - April 04, 2025 at 01:47 PM

BB

Hello Gale. I honestly don't recall what year Toivo retired from federal service. I'm thinking Toivos last duty station on the Superior NF was the Laurentian Ranger District out of Aurora, MN, and I was working out of the Forest's Duluth office at that time. I'm guessing that names carved into the paddle might be Forest employees who were working out of the Aurora office at the time of Toivo's retirement, but I don't know for sure about that. Bob B.

Bob Berrisford - April 09, 2025 at 06:10 PM

AF

“ All of the Rosenberg families planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Toivo Sober.

All of the Rosenberg families - April 02, 2025 at 01:56 PM

TT

“ Toivo (and Annelie) were neighbors on West Fifth Street in Duluth, MN. They were both such gentle people. Toivo was always willing to help. He freely shared his forestry knowledge which helped me manage my property. Plus, he was an interesting conversationalist. Fondly, he will be remembered.

Terry Teich

Terry Teich - April 02, 2025 at 09:52 AM

GS

Thanks Terry for sharing this with us. If interested, a live link fir his service will be on his page and accessible 15 min prior to his 2:00 service.

Gale Sober - April 04, 2025 at 01:49 PM