



Vernon Heath

April 16, 2017

Heath, Vernon Vernon Heath died peacefully on Sunday, April 16 at Friendship Village, Bloomington. He was 88. Vern was a devoted family man, inspiring leader, good friend, and man of deep faith. He was born February 1, 1929 in McGregor, MN. Preceded in death by parents, Harold and Inez Heath; sisters, Faye Deuel and Kaye Heath Dahle, and brother, Merlin Heath. He is survived by Iona, his loving wife of 58 years; children, Brad (Sharon) Heath, Robin Gray, Randall (Christine) Heath; grandchildren, Ben, Sam, and Jon Heath, and Andrew, Kristy, Tony Gray; siblings Clarice Nitti, Elton Heath, Pinky (Ron) Pendergrass, Carol (Ken) Carling and Jim Spillet; brothers-in-law Floyd Duel and Art (Karen) Dahle; along with many loving nieces and nephews. Vern graduated from Princeton High School in 1947 and the University of Minnesota in 1950 with a degree in accounting from what is now the Carlson School of Management. After graduation, he worked as a business manager at the University's Aeronautical Research Center in Rosemount. In 1956, Heath and two colleagues founded Rosemount Engineering, Inc. and began to manufacture high-tech sensors and process-control instruments. Their prescience led to Rosemount becoming a vanguard in the manufacture of devices for space travel. When Neil Armstrong walked on the moon in 1969, he carried Rosemount devices. Vern was a well-respected entrepreneur whose vision and leadership took his company from start up to international leader. He was an innovative, tenacious individual who met personal and business challenges with great energy and optimism. He was a generous

philanthropist whose advice and support have benefited many organizations and individuals. Vern will be forever remembered by all the lives he touched during his long and abundant life. Memorial Service 10:00 AM Saturday, April 22, 2017 at ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH (13600 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie). Visitation 4:30-7:30 PM Friday at Washburn-McReavy (5000 W 50th St, Edina, MN 55436) (952) 920-3996, and also one hour prior to service at the church on Saturday. Private Interment at Oak Knoll Cemetery, Princeton, MN.

Tribute Wall

SB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Vern's passing and for your loss. Like many Rosemount employees, my first encounters with Vern were in the hallways where he would smile and say "good morning" or "hello, how are you", ... to everyone. I had several opportunities to talk to Vern and my experiences are much like those of many other employees. He was friendly, approachable and he genuinely cared about the employees who worked for Rosemount. We all felt it. The holiday parties, company picinics, employee clubs, all these along with Vern's leadership developed a sense of community. While things have changed since I first started in 1981, those of us who still work here will continue to share our stories and memories of Vern with those who did not have the pleasure of meeting him. His legacy will live on in the memories of all whose lives he's touched. My deepest sympathies go out to his family and friends.

Sharon Burger - April 25, 2017 at 07:47 AM

MB

“ I started at Rosemount in 1991. At that time, Vern was still here but was starting to move on to his next opportunities in life. My only time talking to Vern face-to-face was at Rosemount's 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2006. Vern came back for that and gave a talk in a large building size tent that the company had erected for the event. I remember looking around that huge tent and seeing all the faces of the many people who had retired from Rosemount. Many of those people had not set foot on Rosemount property in many years. They came back that day for no other reason than to honor Vern and hear him speak. When Vern was done with his talk, people lined up to shake his hand and give thanks to a man that cared about them, their lives, and their retirement. They came that day to show him that they cared about him as well. No one could have ever imagined how many generations of families have been and will be touched, all over the world, by what Vern, Frank Werner, and Robert Keppel started in a chicken coop in Rosemount, MN many years before. So, thanks Vern for what you have done for all of us. Your legacy will live on for many generations to come. Condolences to Vern's family over the loss of a great man.

Mark Baron - April 21, 2017 at 02:27 PM

JM

“ I started working at Rosemount in 1980 and I would meet Vern in the hallway and he would always have a smile and ask how I was doing. He was one of the nicest people I've ever met in my life. Rest in peace Vern!!!

John (J.R.) Mortenson - April 19, 2017 at 07:55 PM

DY

“ I remembered when I started my job at Rosemount Singapore in 1985, Vern was introduced as the founder of Rosemount. I have always remembered his name although I have not met him in person. My deepest condolences to the family.

Dorothy Yuen - April 19, 2017 at 06:34 PM



“ My sincere condolences to Vern's family. I volunteered with the Rosemount sponsored Junior Achievement program. He would ask about how things were going, what the company was making - always caring & interested. Such a positive, upbeat man. Honored to know him.

Lizanne McClellan

Lizanne Anderson McClellan - April 19, 2017 at 02:41 PM

MB

“ I remember when I started working at Rosemount Inc in 1985 and would see Vern in the hall and always with a smile on his face. He always made his employees feel important and special. He knew most everyone by name. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Martha Brown

Martha Brown - April 19, 2017 at 01:49 PM

NP

I started working at Rosemount in 1981. If you happened to meet Vern in the hallway he would smile and say hello. You could sense he really cared about his employees. He was a good man and helped create a lot of jobs for a lot of people. My condolences to the the Heath family and may Vern rest in peace.

Nick Pierce - May 02, 2017 at 05:15 PM