



Walter Byron Schmidt

July 5, 1941 - May 17, 2021

Walter Byron Schmidt, 79, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Eden Prairie on Monday May 17, 2021. He was born on July 5, 1941, in St. Cloud, MN to parents Walter Schmidt and Christine (Meier) Schmidt.

Byron graduated in 1959 from the West Central School of Agriculture in Morris, MN. He then served four years as a US Marine (1959 -1963) at MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, Hawaii. Utilizing his skills as a Radio Telegraph Operator in the Marines, Byron went on to study electronics at Brown Institute Technical College. In 1967, Byron took a job working in Avionics at North Central Airlines, which became Republic Airlines, then Northwest Airlines, and later Delta Airlines. He retired from Northwest in 2005 after 38 years of service.

Byron had many interests. He was an avid gardener and loved his membership to the MN Landscape Arboretum, where he enjoyed taking classes and observing the ever-changing flowering plants while walking the grounds. He was a dedicated yearly visitor to the Great MN Get-Together - especially the horticulture building and machinery hill. He had a passion for birds, especially hummingbirds and bluebirds. As a longtime member of the Bluebird Recovery Program of MN, perching sites and nesting boxes were a staple of his backyard. Byron held his pilot's license and was part of a flying club at Flying Cloud Airport, where they owned an American Champion 7ECA single engine two seater airplane. In more recent years, Byron could be found

at the annual Air Expo at Flying Cloud to fill his passion for flying.

Some of Byron's other joys included health and wellness, woodworking, cooking, and the love of old farm tractors, especially Allis Chalmers'. His favorite was the model WD45, the tractor he used on the Schmidt farm as a child.

Most of all, Byron was a father, grandfather, brother, and friend to many. He is survived by his children, Daniel (Tina) Schmidt, Steven Schmidt (Mari Salveson), Stacy (Greg) Sletten; his 12 grandchildren, Mandi (Jason) Lueth, Courtney, Alex, Katie, Hannah, Holden, Grette, Astri, Benjamin, Andrew, Abbey, Isabella; great granddaughter, Lorelei; sister Ellen Konsor, brother Terry (Susan) Schmidt, brother Owen Schmidt (Sharon Blair), sister Lynn (Bill) Koenig, brother Bill Schmidt, brother Mike (Judy) Schmidt; ex-wife Sandra Schmidt; many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and close friends.

He is preceded in death by infant daughters, Paula and Christine; mother Christine Schmidt; father, Walter Schmidt; brother-in-law, Jerald Konsor.

The family has entrusted Washburn McReavy with celebration of life arrangements. Memorial service will be 10:30 AM am, Thursday, July 8th 2021 at Pax Christi Catholic Church in Eden Prairie. Please join us for a luncheon reception following the Celebration of Life at the MN Landscape Arboretum's Snyder Auditorium in Chaska. Mention the "Schmidt celebration" at the gate for admission. A burial is planned for his cremains at Fort Snelling Cemetery at a time and date to be determined.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL 8. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Pax Christi Catholic Church
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Tribute Wall

AM

“ As one of many of Byron's cousins, I did not know him well. But I remember frequently meeting him at various family functions, and remember him as a very nice and good-looking man - a pleasure to talk with. He will be missed. My deepest sympathies to the family.
Angie Moonen



Angie Moonen - July 06, 2021 at 10:16 AM

M(

“ My heart breaks for Byron's family. Such a big loss. Hold on to those memories and they will help get you through. Lots of memories from years ago on Schmidt family farm and grandpa's (Cyril's). Enjoy your new home and seeing all those people from long ago. Rest in peace cuz.

Marge Lind (Schweitzer) - July 03, 2021 at 09:59 AM

ML

He was a kind man who I am honored to have loved and been loved by. I miss him ☐

Melinda Liska - July 04, 2021 at 02:44 PM

RD

Have been recalling good times when we were all just barefoot kids visiting and playing at the Schmidt farm; and sometimes playing up in the hay loft at our Meier grandparents farm when nobody was looking. All fun memories of a long time ago!

My prayers and sincere condolences to all of the Schmidt family.

Rochelle Moonen Dopkins

Rochelle Dopkins - July 07, 2021 at 11:13 AM