



Walter Brock Stevens

July 21, 1932 - September 14, 2024

A few days after celebrating his 70th wedding anniversary to his cherished wife, Patricia, Walter Brock Stevens, of Hopkins and formerly of Austin, Minn. died Sept. 14, 2024 at the age of 92.

He was the eldest of five boys born to Walter and Stella Stevens in Chicago. Walter, or Brock as his family called him, graduated from Blue Island High School in 1950 and Grinnell (Iowa) College in 1954. He met Patricia at Grinnell after a Pioneers' football practice, and the couple wed two years later in Brentwood, Mo. They made their first home in Oklahoma City, where Walter was an officer in the Air Force.

An MBA from the University of Chicago offered Walter new opportunities. He worked at The Harris Bank, Universal Oil Products, and the George A. Hormel Co. in Austin, Minn., from which he retired in 1994 as a senior executive.

Patricia and Walter loved to learn and travel. They visited all 50 states, saw Europe, Australia/New Zealand, China, Russia, and went on special heritage visits to Lithuania and Great Britain. They relished collecting Tea Leaf pottery in the "wild" or through Tea Leaf International, in which Walter was extensively involved. While living in Austin, Walter enjoyed playing tennis and golf and participated in many community organizations including Friends of the Austin Public Library, Summerset Theater and SMIG. He loved to share his knowledge and expertise whether that was coaching YMCA Flag Football, or serving as treasurer of the First Congregational Church of Austin.

Walter also loved to share his appreciation for Stephen Soundheim, William

Shakespeare, the Minnesota Orchestra, Cole Porter, martinis, W.C. Fields, fine dining, and great books. He was a generous host, skilled card player, adept storyteller, and trivia master. Walter would forever remember at least one particular about the people he met, whether that was their hometown, alma mater, favorite movie, children's activities, or drink order.

Walter is survived by his wife of 70 years and two weeks, Patricia; children Christy Stevens, San Jose, Calif.; Laurie Pryor and son-in-law Jon, Minnetonka; Brock Stevens, Minnetonka, Margaret Stevens, Minneapolis; and three grandchildren, Emily Pryor Winton (R. Cameron); Genevieve, Jack, Silas; Thomas Pryor (Catherine), Clementine, Ned; Samuel Pryor (Lauren), Henry, Watson; brothers, David, James, John, and Gregory; sister-in-law Barbara; and their spouses, children and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law Leon Hirsh.

Remembrances in Walter's name may be made to Grinnell College's Liberal Arts in Prison Program % Grinnell College 733 Broad St. Grinnell IA 50112; the Austin Public Library or the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **13**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Memorial Service

OCT **13**. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Memorial Service for Walter Brock Stevens in memory of Walter Brock Stevens



Washburn-McReavy - October 10, 2024 at 10:02 AM

KG

“ Kathleen and Kent Grave purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Walter Brock Stevens.



Kathleen and Kent Grave - October 11, 2024 at 01:54 PM

KA

“ I'm sorry to hear about Mr. Stevens passing. I extend my sincerest condolences. My memory, being a young tennis player watching Margaret play at the Athletic field courts and talking a bit of tennis with him. He always seemed so distinguished, reading his obituary in the Austin Daily Herald. I now see why I thought that. Prayers to Mrs. Stevens, Margaret, and the entire family.

Kevin Arnold

kevin Arnold - October 05, 2024 at 06:00 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Walter Brock Stevens.*



October 04, 2024 at 05:02 PM



“ *John, Ann, Tim, Michelle and families. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Walter Brock Stevens.*

John, Ann, Tim, Michelle and families. - October 04, 2024 at 05:02 PM