



## William Otto Brau

September 6, 1944 - November 18, 2018

Brau, William "Bill" O. It is with much sadness that we share the passing of Bill in his home surrounded by his wife and daughters, on November 18, 2018, at the age of 74. Bill grew up in western Minnesota and graduated from Paynesville High School. Moving to the Twin Cities, he worked for Northwestern Bell, setting poles in Rochester, after the 1965 tornado. In 1968, Bill started his career as a flooring installer, working for Gabberts, Hagen Carpets and Hart Brothers, before retiring in 2002. He was a 50 year member of Local #596, training apprentices and being involved on the Negotiations and Trustee Committees. While Bill was a sports enthusiast for all Minnesota teams, he was the ultimate Vikings Fan and took pride in being a season ticket holder starting in 1981, never missing a game. He was excited to get his stadium seats from the Metrodome, which he proudly placed in the family room. He was an avid hunter of deer, ducks, small game, moose and turkeys, primarily in MN. He shared many stories of his time with the 'hunting buddies'. Bill enjoyed golf and comradery being part of the 'Portner Golf League', which he was an original member. In 1981, Bill and his brother discovered that their family home on Barrett Lake was available for sale and together, they purchased it. He enjoyed many trips to the cabin, fishing off the dock, getting reacquainted with friends from his elementary and junior high school, while making new friends, who were seasonal residents at the Barrett Campground. He is survived by his loving wife, Claudia, two daughters, Erica Rae and Natalie Marie. Erica and her husband Todd Lynch have two children, Casey

and Madeline. Natalie and her husband Wes Soderberg have two children, Liam and Whitley. He is also survived by his brother Maynard Brau, along with cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ben and Marie, and two sisters, Pat Peters and Lucy Steele. Services will be held on Saturday, November 24 at Dawn Valley Chapel, 9940 Bush Lake Road, Bloomington, MN, with 11:00 a.m. visitation, and 12:30 p.m. Celebration of Life. Private interment at a later date. We encourage everyone to wear a jersey or apparel or colors of a favorite sports team. Memorials preferred to MN Vikings Children's Fund. Washburn-McReavy.com Dawn Valley Chapel 952-941-7686 9940 Bush Lake Road

# Cemetery Details

## Zion Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery

County Highway 8  
Barrett, MN 56311

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **24**. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Dawn Valley Chapel  
9940 Bush Lake Rd  
Bloomington, MN 55438  
(952) 941-7686  
[info@washburn-mcreavy.com](mailto:info@washburn-mcreavy.com)

## Chapel Service

NOV **24**. 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM (CT)

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9940 Bush Lake Rd  
Bloomington, MN 55438  
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