

COMMUNITY

OBITUARIES

The Journal publishes paid obituaries in Wednesday and Saturday editions and on its Web site at www.ifallsjournal.com.
For more information, call Tammie Calder at 285-7411

Byron Herbert Westcott Jr., 65

Byron Herbert Westcott Jr., 65, of International Falls, Minn., died Monday, March 3, 2014, at St. Mary's-Essentia Medical Center, Duluth, Minn.

Services will be conducted at a later date.

Cease Funeral Home, Blackduck, Minn., assisted the family with arrangements.

Byron was born April 11, 1948, in Terre Haute, Ind., to Helen (Marlatt) and Byron Herbert Westcott Sr.

He lived in many towns during his childhood, graduating from Lowell Senior High School in Lowell, Ind.

He entered the United States Army during Vietnam and worked in classified printing in Panama. He was honorably discharged from the service with the rank of sergeant.

Once he left the service, he lived in Greenville, Ind., Mooresville, Ind., Lebanon, Ind., Warroad, Minn., and in International Falls.

Byron married Diane Lindgren in Gatlinburg, Tenn., on May 20, 1999, at the Smokey Mountains Wedding Chapel.

He was a graphics arts designer in Indiana and also worked at Shepard and Poorman, Rand McNally and GAC. He worked at Marvin Windows in Warroad from 2002 to 2010 when he retired at the age of 62.

He has worked part time at Kmart in International Falls for the last 1 ½ years.

Byron enjoyed cooking, baking, woodworking, mak-



ing homemade beer and wines, gardening, graphic designer online, fishing, spending time with animals, listening to music, sitting outside enjoying nature and bonfires.

Byron is survived by his wife, Diane Westcott, of International Falls; two daughters, Misty (Chris) Robinson and Jennifer (Joe) Williams, both of Jefferson, Ga.; two sons, Byron Joseph Westcott of Tulsa, Okla., and Tim (Megan) Westcott of Chattanooga, Tenn.; a stepson, Michael H. Bahr of Pine City, Minn.; a stepdaughter, Valerie (Ryan) Holter of Warroad; 12 grandchildren; six sisters and three brothers, who reside in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Oregon.

Byron was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials are preferred to Diane Westcott, 1306 Main Ave., International Falls, MN 56649.

Messages of condolence may be sent to ceasefuneralhome.com.

Einar R. Sundin, 93

Einar R. Sundin, 93, passed away quietly at his home Friday, March 7, 2014.

Einar was born April 23, 1920, to Swedish immigrants Erik and Maria (Edin) Sundin, Ray. If you asked him what the R. stood for, he wouldn't tell you.

He was the only son and second of four children.

Except for his stint in the Army, Einar was a lifelong resident of Fairy Hill Farm in Beaver Township, Ray.

He graduated from Falls High School in 1939 and kept in close contact with his classmates until his death.

Einar worked his dairy operation and was, perhaps, best known as a postmaster.

He enlisted in the Army on the 6th of November, 1942, and served in the Army Air Corps at Hobbs, New Mexico. He was promoted to sergeant in 1943. His comrades in testing and flying B-17 aircraft were his "brothers," he would say. Up until recent years, Einar traveled to visit his "brothers" across the U.S.

In 1949, Einar married Margaret Jean Dorothy of Grand Rapids who had come to Ray to teach elementary school.

Together they had eight children and maintained the dairy farming operation until the late '60s.

After child number seven, Einar slowed his farming operations and took on the role of postmaster at 56669, Ray, for 25 years. His routine at the office and nearby general store made him well known to locals and summer residents.

He kept his farm active, allowing neighbors to hay the fields, keeping his pine rows straight and was granted 100-year farm status by the state in 2004.

Einar was a community volunteer. He was in the Ray Happy Workers 4-H Club for years. He served on the Northern Koochiching District Fair Board and the Littlefork Fire Department. He served on the Ray Cemetery Board, was a member and longtime chair of the Koochiching County Planning Board, and served the Koochiching County Historical Society, NARFE, Falls Citizens Scholarship Committee and more.

He was ceaseless in his efforts to get Koochiching County marked with 911 signage.

In Ray he spent countless years keeping operations going at the Ray Community Building after it ceased being a school and he minded the Ray Community Church until its sale.

Einar tinkered. If it needed fixing, he'd find a way, including making a double-boiler wood stove to heat his wife's swim pool. With his britches hitched up with suspenders he and the late Art Pearson would weld and screw together just about anything to make their farms tick.

He enjoyed restoring an old Chrysler and his Farmall tractors.

He loved to dance and enjoy music ranging from Beaver Hall dances to shows at the Backes Auditorium. He enjoyed singing and

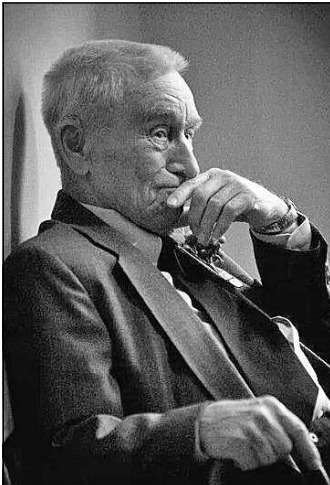
pecking out a song on his organ or sweetly playing a lullabye on his harmonica.

He slept best with a house full of family and, until recent years, with a dog or cat nearby.

If there was coffee (with a little cream) and a cookie, you'd find Einar and his friends around it. If you were a kid with a loose tooth, he'd offer to pull it. If there was a squirrel in the yard, he'd get it with the one shell he brought to the task.

Einar was preceded in death by his wife, Margaret Jean; son, Kurt Erik; daughter, Kathryn Ann (Sundin) Griffin; son-in-law, Greg Johnson; sisters, Ida Barstad Lofgren and her husbands, Paul Barstad and Hjalmer Lofgren, and Edna Barstad and her husband, Jack Barstad; and brother-in-law, Donald Schmeling.

He is survived by sons, Dale (Patricia) of Duluth, Mikael (Terry), Esko and Brent (Sandy), International Falls; daughters, Dianne Smalley (Robert), International Falls, Marilyn Linneknamp (Michael), Eagan and Beth George (Timothy), Grand Rapids; son-in-law, Dan Griffin; grandchildren: Mack (Nikki) Sundin, Douglas (Amanda) Sundin, Kim (Chad) Oppelt, Bjorn Johnson, Joseph Griffin, Megan (Jeremy), Barrett, Matthew Griffin, Amanda (Andrew) Dahlberg, Sara (Nathan) Johnson, Benjamin Sundin, Erik and Addison George; great-grandchildren, Carrson and Camerron Sundin, Maria and Thomas Oppelt,



Miles and Amelia Sundin, Avery and Nolan Dahlberg and Levi Johnson; sister, Margaret Schmeling; literally dozens of beloved nieces and nephews; six step-grandchildren and 11 step-great-grandchildren.

At a recent family gathering, Einar looked around at the crowd and commented, "Look at all these people." To which a grandson said, "It's all your fault, Einar." He looked again smiled and said: "Yes, I guess so."

Visitation was from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, March 10, at Green-Larsen Mortuary.

Funeral services with military rites were conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, at Evangelical Covenant Church, with visitation one hour prior at the church.

Interment will be at Ray Cemetery.

The family would prefer memorials in his memory.

Condolences may be left at www.greenlarsen.com.

Arrangements were with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Pearl Marie Hooker

Our beloved wife, mother and grandmother, Pearl Marie Hooker, passed away peacefully Friday, March 7, 2014.

Pearl was born Aug. 25, 1941, to Bruce and Opal Brown in Blackduck, Minn.

Pearl was an accomplished musician, seamstress and a talented home-maker.

She loved her family and had strong faith in Jehovah.

She is deeply loved and will be sorely missed.

Pearl was preceded in death by her parents, Bruce and Opal Brown; her brother, Harvey Brown; sister, Sylvia Krueger; and her granddaughter, Natasha Burnell.

She is survived by her husband, Gary Hooker; her children, Danny (Kim) Kopkie, Wendy Kopkie, Brenda Horne, Raquel Korpi and Ronda Boron; step daughters, Channing Stark and



Stephanie Thellin; 20 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1500 Third Ave., International Falls, with luncheon to follow at the Bob Walls Memorial Union Hall, 509 Third St., International Falls.

Dale Ernest Arnold, 77

Dale Ernest Arnold, 77, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014, at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth, Minn.

He was born June 14, 1936, in International Falls, Minn., to Ernest Arnold and Venus (Bartholomew) Arnold.

Dale grew up in the Falls. He graduated from Falls High School in 1954.

He joined the United States Army in 1959 and served for two years active/four years reserve. He was discharged in 1965, achieving the rank of E5 Sergeant First Class.

He began work for M&O paper company (later Boise Cascade) as a paper maker where he worked for 44 years (minus the two years active service). He retired in 1998.

Dale married Kathleen Allen in 1957. They were married for 28 years.

Dale was later remarried to his current spouse, Kay (Houglum) Arnold in 1987.

Dale was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and passing that knowledge on to others.

His greatest joys came from being with friends and family in any situation.

Dale was preceded in death by both parents; brother Floyd; sister Mavis; and first wife, Kathleen.

Dale is survived by his spouse, Kay Arnold of the Falls; brothers, Phillip Arnold and Gary Arnold and their families, both of In-

ternational Falls; his son, Mark Arnold and family of Pacific Junction, Iowa; son, Kevin Arnold and family of Sauk Rapids, Minn.; stepchildren — Janet Coulombe and family of Rijswijk, The Netherlands, Todd Coulombe and family of Ranier, Minn., Susan Coulombe of Astoria, N.Y., and Jeannine Coulombe and family of St. Paul, Minn.; 18 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; numerous nieces and nephews; and other relatives.

Mass of the Resurrection was conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 1, at St. Thomas Catholic Church, with visitation one hour prior.

Celebratory luncheon immediately followed the service at the VFW.

Memorial donations may



be made to Backus Community Center, Hospice, St. Thomas School, or the charity of your choice.

Condolences may be left at www.greenlarsen.com.

Arrangements were with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Michael Oscar Larson, 61

Michael Oscar Larson, 61, of International Falls, Minn., passed away Friday, March 7, 2014, at his home.

A complete obituary will be announced when arrangements have been completed.

A memorial gathering for family and friends will be planned for a later date.

Condolences may be left at www.greenlarsen.com.

Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls, is in charge of arrangements.

Charles Ernest Nelson, 71

Charles Ernest Nelson, 71, of Big Falls, Minn., died Sunday, March 9, 2014, at his home.

Charles was born July 3, 1942, in Bemidji, Minn.

He married Barbara Gail Cook on Feb. 14, 1965.

Charles served in the United States Army.

He worked as a field representative for Texas Refinery Corp., he ran CN Service Auto Repair for many years, was an equip-

ment operator, logger, and a police officer at Irving and Dallas, Texas.

He enjoyed woodworking, gardening, fishing, and hunting.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Nelson; parents, Ernest Nelson and Edna Virginia Warner; stepfather, Roy Warner; and sister, Betty Macomber.

Charles is survived by his daughter, Teckla Brown (Brent Arnold); grand-





“Top the Tater”

Friday, March 14
5:00-6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by:

Streiff's Floral & Gifts
283-4095

Backus is fully accessible to persons with disabilities - Please call our office for specific accommodations.



BACKUS Community Center
(218) 285-7225 | 900 5th Street | Int'l Falls MN
www.backusab.org | Facebook: Backus AB

\$6.00 per person
Includes Baked Potato, Toppings, Salad, Dessert & Beverage

*Dinner Ticket Value Packs Available at the Door
For those busy nights... Dinners are available “TO GO”*

Dinner Precedes
Border Concert Association
Concert Charlie Albright
7:30 p.m. in
Backus Auditorium



Welcome to the end of the day:

breathe relax let go
Give your stress wings and let it fly away

Massage by Marilyn Napper CMT
to schedule your appointment
218-242-2589


Entrance 3 up to the Massage Room
Second Floor • 1500 Highway 71
International Falls, MN 56649

Gift Certificates Available

Credit Cards Accepted

MESOTHELIOMA LUNG CANCER

If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with Mesothelioma, Lung Cancer or any other asbestos related disease contact us for a confidential review of your rights. There are strict time limits in which to bring these claims. Shermoen & Jaksa, PLLP has been representing Minnesota asbestos victims for over 20 years. We are one of only two Minnesota law firms that regularly litigate asbestos cases.



Shermoen & Jaksa, PLLP Law Office
345 6th Avenue
Int'l Falls, MN 56649
(218) 283-4494
1-866-283-4494 Toll Free