



ALOYSIUS "AL" BENEDICT LANGEN

October 2, 1919 - October 25, 2020

(Hokah, MN) Aloysius "Al" B. Langen, age 101, of Houston, MN, formerly of Hokah, died October 25, 2020, at Valley View Nursing Home, Houston, MN.

Al was born October 2, 1919, in Hokah Township to William and Catherine (Von Arx) Langen. He married Rita Tschumper Feb. 26, 1946, at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Hokah. Rita passed away April 25, 2015.

Al was a WWII veteran, serving in the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theatre. He worked as an electrician and was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 65 years.

He is survived by 3 children, Michael (Annette) Langen, Rosalie (Rick) Rayburn, and Dennis (Lori) Langen; 8 grandchildren, Erica and Sara Langen, Garrett, Lance, Brandon, and Gavin Rayburn, and Andrea and Kirsten Langen.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by 8 brothers and sisters.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 am, Saturday, October 31, at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Hokah, MN. Father Tom Melvin will officiate and burial will be in St. Joseph Convent Cemetery, Hokah. Visitation will be from

10 to 11 am Saturday morning before the service at the church.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **31**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St Peter's Hokah
34 Main St
Hokah, Minnesota 55941

Mass

OCT **31**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St Peter's Hokah
34 Main St
Hokah, Minnesota 55941

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **31**. 11:00 AM.

St. Peter's Catholic Church

Tribute Wall

LK

“ *Condolences to the family of Al Langen from the Francis & Frannie Von Arx Family. He will be missed at Valleyview-there was never anyone who spread cheer more than Al did there. He always seemed to be happy and was always ready for a game of cards! Love from the F&F Family to Rosalie and family and the rest of the extended Langens.*

Liz (Von Arx) Killion - November 02, 2020 at 12:07 PM

DA

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Diane von Arx Anderson - October 31, 2020 at 11:45 PM

DA

“ Mike, Rosalie and Dennis,

It is with an incredible sense of loss that Greg and I offer our sympathy to your family.

“Uncle Al”, as I called him, was dad’s (Walter von Arx) first cousin but it seemed more affectionate to call him uncle. We cherished everything about him, his humor, his intellect, his quite obvious interest in current events, everything around him and about his visitors. He always wanted to know the ‘latest’, and though it was a bit of a challenge in these last years to understand his speech, I liked to always plan for plenty of time to visit him as I wanted to understand every morsel of what he was about to share with us.

We so admired that at his tender age, in his late 80’s I believe, he managed to learn to navigate his computer so that he could write and receive emails and photos from near and far. I realized that the last email I sent to him was on the day he passed away. We remember that ‘twinkle’ in his eye when he shared letters from his distant relatives in Germany, or photo albums identifying every individual in those old family photos and there was typically a new/old story to connect to each them. I recall the story in the early years when times were very difficult and the Notre Dame sisters who were teaching at St. Peter’s had so little to eat at the convent and he would take food to them.

One of the very special things he shared with me and Greg is the story he was compiling of his accounts in the Pacific Theater in WW2. I do hope that those stories will be made available to those of us who are interested in reading it. Among the memorable anecdotes from those years was his arrival at Mass one Sunday and who should he run in to but George von Arx. Al had no idea that he was even in the area. He had such a marvelous sense of humor, and with all his health challenges, he never seemed to complain. His strong, life-long faith informed him exactly who he was and what his path ahead would be.

I believe that he was the last of the "Moon" players at Valley View, he was always very sharp and ready to play a game. Because of the Covid, since March, sadly there was no visiting him. That was our loss, though I'd send emails and was always grateful when he took the time to respond to them. I treasure those communications and will miss them. A light has gone out for us, as Uncle Al was perhaps the last living connection to our family's past that could still share those stories. Rest well oh good and faithful servant, we wish you a peaceful, musical chair in the heavenly kingdom with the other saints and angels.

Maybe now he can cheer on the Twins, at least we know that he will have a front row seat in that ball park!

*God bless,
Diane (von Arx) and Greg Anderson*

Diane von Arx Anderson - October 31, 2020 at 06:27 PM

RL

“ Tribute to Al Langen

And his 8 brothers and sisters and their parents.

I was once told that you would not build a building without a good foundation, so it is with a family. As I remember the Langen family foundation was built by my grandma and grandpa, WJ and Katherine Langen.

Living across the street from St. Peter's Church I had the opportunity to serve for Mass many times.

I remember where they normally sat for Mass.

As I think, I can almost see them now.

I remember what their occupation was.

I remember where they lived.

I remember the family farm in Pheffer Valley and many family picnics. I remember the good polka music they could play together. I remember stories of how they all helped in building St. Peter's Church. I remember stories of how they all helped build the Log Cabin Museum. You and I have many more memories of this family. In the end they were always concerned about their religion and each other.

To the Langen family

They played at their home and had all sorts of fun,

And always a tune when supper was done.

Times were tough and so were they.

There was a love down in their souls

Where faith and trust they did hold.

Love that will stand forever more,

That's what brothers and sisters were made for.

Together they had been through a lot,

Caring not what others thought,

They stood tall and held their ground.

Foundation from their parents kept them all sound.

*Now that they have all left this earth,
The love we share is still the best.
Our aunts and uncles we do love you true;
Our thoughts often travel back to you.*

*And some might think the reverence gone,
As those we love one by one pass on.
Knowing as each newborn child opens their eyes,
The miracle continues, no one really dies,*

*Recognize the beauty of each living thing on Earth.
Don't be afraid to die, and thank your parents for your birth.*

Bob Langen

Robert Langen - October 30, 2020 at 08:27 AM

RL

“ *I had the pleasure of having great uncle Al go through the ancestry of the LANGEN family with me. He was instrumental in plotting out our trip to Germany in which we met up with my fifth cousin Hermann Huber in Rottweil Germany.*

Great uncle Al was always willing to discuss and teach me about the LANGEN tree. I will miss his wit as well as his many interesting stories.

My condolences to his immediate family, Heaven has just welcomed the last Langen member of William and Catherine (Von Arx) Langen.

Rick Langen - October 29, 2020 at 09:28 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of ALOYSIUS "AL" BENEDICT LANGEN.*



October 28, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ *My wife, Kim, and I had the pleasure of many Thursday afternoon games of “moon” with Al and other former Valley View residents. With Al’s passing, all of those Valley View residents who played with us are now deceased.*

Al was one of the nicest gentlemen that I have ever had the pleasure to know. He always had a smile (especially so if he was bidding a good hand.). Al’s sense of humor and card playing ability remained strong, even as he reached the age of 100!

The last time we were able to enjoy our Thursday card game was on March 12, 2020. It was while we were playing that afternoon that Valley View announced no visitors because of the pandemic. They did let us finish playing that afternoon. Sadly, it was the last time.

Rest In Peace, Al, and enjoy your heavenly dominos games with your beloved, Rita.

Dave Fredrickson

Dave Fredrickson - October 28, 2020 at 03:16 PM

MS

“ Al will be greatly missed. I always enjoyed playing cards and dominoes with him. He was a super-sharp guy and on "top of his game"! But most of all I will miss him being parked right in front of me as I played my accordion to entertain the folks at Valley View. His grin was from ear to ear as I played some of those old favorites and I just knew he was singing along as best he could!! And now I can see all that game-playing and singing going on in Heaven. As I say, 'THERE'S A PARTY GOING IN HEAVEN' and now Al is there joining in with many others.

*My sincere sympathy, prayers and peace to all!!!
Another great life well-lived!!*

*Love you Al.
Mary Kay*

Mary Kay Sheehan - October 27, 2020 at 05:16 PM

EH

I will always remember Al as my faithful teacher's aide when I was on staff at St.Peter's. He loved coming into my classroom and working with the kids in small groups during math class! He had so many gifts, talents and stories to share with the kids! Having him in the classroom with me was a highlight from those teaching days! His smile and beautiful disposition on life will always remain in my heart. In great love, appreciation and gratitude for sharing your life with others, Al, sincerely, Emily Hoskins-Klug

Emily Hoskins-Klug - October 28, 2020 at 12:21 PM