



## DAVID HAROLD SCHMITZ

December 26, 1942 - December 31, 2023

David Harold Schmitz

David H. Schmitz passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on December 31, 2023 at the age of 81 years.

David was born on December 26, 1942, in Caledonia, MN, to Aloysius and Beatrice Schmitz. He was raised in Caledonia and graduated from Loretto High School. After high school, David worked for the Houston County Highway Department. He joined the army on July 15, 1964 and proudly served until July 2, 1966. While in the army David earned the Sharpshooter Award, the Good Conduct Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal. Upon returning home from the army, David returned to work at the highway department.

On June 24th, 1967, David married Rita Thimmesch and they had 5 wonderful children. They later divorced.

In 1990, David met the love of his life, Betty Paus. They were married on July 23, 1993. David & Betty just celebrated 30 years of marriage.

David dedicated 37 years of his career to the Houston County Highway

Department. Following his retirement, he continued working part-time for Kruckow Rock Products, where he maintained township roads for another 20 years.

David was a hardworking husband, father, and grandfather. He found joy in spending time in his woodshop, feeding the birds, and watching football, particularly the Minnesota Vikings. David enjoyed watching classic TV shows like The Three Stooges and old Westerns with his loyal dog, Bear. David spent his free time with his family and grandchildren, playing cards, and taking drives in the countryside.

David is survived by his loving wife, Betty Schmitz and his children Michael (Linda) Schmitz, Laura (Gregory) D'Alexander, Richard (Jana) Schmitz, Andrew Schmitz, and Emily (David) Adams, as well as his stepchildren Tracy (Bill) Dowling and Tom (Lisa) Paus; beloved grandchildren, Zachery Schmitz, Dalton and Alexis D'Alexander, Brooklyn and Asher Schmitz, Kyra, Kylee and Layne Schmitz, Mason Adams, Liam, Ben, Tatiana, Magdalena and Landon Dowling and Skyler and Mason Paus; brothers Roger (Jane) Schmitz and Jim (Sharon) Schmitz and many nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Aloysius and Beatrice Schmitz, and his brother, Paul Schmitz.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, January 13th, from 9:00 am to 10:45 am, at St. Mary's Holy Family Hall, followed by a funeral service at 11:00 am. at St. Mary's Church, Caledonia. A private burial will take place at a later date.

Please join us in celebrating the life of David H. Schmitz, a dedicated family man, military veteran, and skilled woodworker. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 13. 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Holy Family Hall  
513 South Pine St.  
Caledonia, MN 55921

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

St Marys Church  
513 S Pine St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-3804

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of **DAVID HAROLD SCHMITZ**.



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January 11, 2024 at 07:37 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of **DAVID HAROLD SCHMITZ**.



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January 10, 2024 at 01:57 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of **DAVID HAROLD SCHMITZ**.



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January 10, 2024 at 10:25 AM

RH

“ David is my brother in law. He taught me a few handy things when I was just a young 18 year old! I crashed a fender on my car and he helped me get a used one from the junkyard, and then showed me how to strip off the old one and install the new one. I drove that multi colored car for three years and Dave would always ask me "when you gonna paint that fender?!"

Roger Holland - January 08, 2024 at 06:59 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of DAVID HAROLD SCHMITZ.



January 07, 2024 at 03:14 PM

TN

“ The Svendsens: Roger, Robin, Nate, Nick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of DAVID HAROLD SCHMITZ.

The Svendsens: Roger, Robin, Nate, Nick - January 07, 2024 at 03:14 PM

WS

“ Betty & family, so sorry to hear of David's passing. He was such a friendly man with lots of woodworking talent. I have a couple pieces I purchased from him & will treasure them forever! RIP David...

Wilma Schoh - January 05, 2024 at 02:01 PM

TM

“ *Betty and family....I am so sorry for loss. David was a good guy and will be greatly missed. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you all. Teresa MacLeod*



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**Teresa MacLeod** - January 05, 2024 at 10:04 AM

KI

*Betty and family-My sympathy on your loss of David. May your memories provide you with comfort and assurance of God's presence as you walk through this journey.*

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**Kay Inglett** - January 05, 2024 at 10:22 AM