



## EDWIN JOHN FERKINGSTAD

May 28, 1932 - January 4, 2020

Edwin John Ferkingstad, 87 years old of Caledonia MN, passed away peacefully on January 4th, 2020 after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born on May 28, 1932 to John and Hilda (Heide) Ferkingstad in Cresco, Iowa. He grew up in Lime Springs Iowa, he was confirmed on June 2nd, 1946 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lime Springs, Iowa, with the verse, 2 Pet 3, v18 "Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ". He attended Cresco School until the 7th grade and graduated from Lime Springs High School in 1950, their motto was, "Not the End but the Beginning". He attended Winona State University, received a B.S. Degree in History and a Physical Education Minor, and went on to complete his Master's Degree in Administration.

On April 14, 1956 he married Shirley Borgwardt in Winona, MN, who preceded him in death on April 29th 1996. On April 10, 1999 he married Barbara Fruechte in Eitzen, MN.

He is survived by his wife Barb (Caledonia); children, Tim(Ann) Ferkingstad (LaCrescent MN), Brenda (Wayne) Anderson (Rollingstone MN), Kris(Dan) Leisen (Rushford MN), Kathy (Jim) Houdek,(Caledonia, MN), Rob Fruechte(Chris Hittner) (Winona, MN); grandchildren, Laura(James) Ethen, Erin Ferkingstad, Heidi (Chad) Meyer, Dawn(Mark)Mueller, Heather (Chris)

Weifenbach, Ben(Amanda) Leisen, Nick Leisen, Leah Leisen, Jennifer(Rob) Burcher, Gina(Zach Schaller), David(Rinli) Fruechte, Julia (Nat)Patzke, Jessica(Chance) Speltz; 22 great grandchildren; sister, Alice Koball; and sister in law, Lois Kaste.

He was preceded in death by his parents, first wife Shirley, and grandson Taylor Leisen.

Ed worked for the Caledonia School District for 34 years, as a History teacher, and then Jr. and Sr. High Principal, retiring in 1993. In 1963-1970 he coached the first Caledonia Warrior Wrestling Team, winning a state championship in 1970. He was inducted into The Mayo Civic Minnesota Region 1 Wrestling Alumni Hall of Fame, The Dave Bartelma Wrestling Hall of Fame and the Caledonia Wrestling Hall of Fame.

He served in the Navy on the USS Midway, was a member of Ye' Royal Order of Blue Nose, crossing the Arctic Circle on September 16, 1952.

He was a lifelong member of the Lion's Club International, receiving many awards including the highest honor, The Melvin Jones Fellow award. He was also a member of The American Legion Post 191, Caledonia Cemetery Board, Able Board, the Hiawatha Valley Education Board and also the Caledonia MaCal Grove Golf Course.

Ed enjoyed working with his scroll saw, sports, spending time at his lake cabin, fishing, and most of all spending time with his family and friends, which were everything to him. He had a strong faith, with his church family at Immanuel Lutheran Church, where he also served on numerous boards and committees.

Visitation will be on Friday, January 10th from 3-8 pm at Immanuel Lutheran

Church, 419 E. Grove Street, Caledonia, and Saturday, 9:30 to 10:15 prior to the 10:30 service at the church. Rev. Steven Meyer will officiate and military honors will be given by the VFW, American Legion and U.S. Navy Honor Guard. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery, Caledonia.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Bernie at McCormick Funeral Home and St. Croix Hospice for their outstanding, compassionate care.

Ship Ahoy Matey!

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 10. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
419 E Grove St  
Caledonia, MN 55921

## Visitation

JAN 11. 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
419 E Grove St  
Caledonia, MN 55921

## Memorial Service

JAN 11. 10:30 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
419 E Grove St  
Caledonia, MN 55921

# Tribute Wall

VA

“ Good day to you, how are you and how is everything? My name is Atalia, i just saw your profile on this site and i decided to say hello to you. Please write to me on my email as below; (ataliaemmett@gmail.com) and i will tell more about me as i have something vital also to discuss with you.  
Thanks

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**vania** - February 03, 2020 at 12:48 PM

AL

“ Thinking of you all during this time of sorrow in the loss of a great man who indpired many. As a student & neighbor, I'm not sure I respected, feared, or admired anyone more. His eyes could set you straight and show you concern at the same time. I am a better person from knowing him as a youngster. RIP Mr. Ferkingstad.

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**Allyson** - January 11, 2020 at 09:46 PM

WS

“ I met Ed 50 years ago at Caledonia High School where he was my supervisor when I did my student teaching. His enthusiasm for teaching inspired me to live up to his model of leadership and dedication to students. He will be missed.

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**Warren Stowell** - January 11, 2020 at 07:47 PM

SL

“ Thank you for all the guidance you have given so many of us as "Mr. Ferkingstad" and for all the things you have done to make Caledonia and the world a better place as "Ed"! Wishing your family and friends peace and comfort in the memories until we meet again!  
Mike and Sue Lee

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**Susan Lee** - January 11, 2020 at 08:08 AM



“ My sincere sympathies to the Ferkingstad family. Ed was a good man and a great leader!  
 I'll never forget the pep talk he gave as Head Coach of the Warriors Wrestling Team before we boarded the bus to the 1970 State Tournament. He showed us how to believe in ourselves and explained that we could and would win that title. I don't think anyone ever doubted him. He was right!  
 Terry Massman

Terry Massman - January 10, 2020 at 03:39 PM



“ RIP ED,A great teacher & even a better friend. Bob Snodgrass

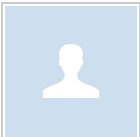
Robert Snodgrass - January 07, 2020 at 02:53 PM



“ Steve, Beth, Jan, Amy, Julie and Diane purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of EDWIN JOHN FERKINGSTAD.



Steve, Beth, Jan, Amy, Julie and Diane - January 07, 2020 at 02:05 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of EDWIN JOHN FERKINGSTAD.



January 07, 2020 at 10:52 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of EDWIN JOHN FERKINGSTAD.*



January 06, 2020 at 06:31 PM



“ *i remember he didnt wanna talk about female issues. all I had to do was walk into the office with a long sleeved shirt, jacket, etc, wrapped around my waist and he would just tell me to go home and change!*



*I think I embaressed him the first time I walked in and told him my girl problem, lol. best super ever..RIPprayers to family. condolences, Dezb Pitts/Burmester*

Deb Duke Burmester - January 05, 2020 at 09:26 PM



“ *Deepest Sympathy to his family. Ed was a wonderful principle he was always there when a student need him 🙏*

shelley Weber - January 05, 2020 at 08:33 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to his family. He was tough, and held us accountable. It was greatly appreciated.*

Valere (Nelson) Kir her - January 05, 2020 at 05:03 PM

DK

“ Deepest sympathy to the Ferkingstad family. Very sorry for your loss.

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**Duane Kinneberg** - January 05, 2020 at 11:04 AM

GM

*What a wonderful man and great teacher, coach and administrator. Cared so much for his students and student athletes. Won the Minnesota State Wrestling Tournament when it was one class! So sorry!*

*Gary Mills Lewiston, Mn*

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**Gary Mills** - January 06, 2020 at 07:40 PM

FD

*Mr Ferkingstad was a social studies teacher when I was in high school. He also assisted the football coaches. I graduated in 1963 so I missed a chance to be on the wrestling team. He was a good teacher. My sympathy to his family and friends. RIP*

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**F. Joseph Deters** - January 08, 2020 at 05:03 PM