



JOHN SCHROEDER

December 28, 1945 - November 12, 2023

John B. Schroeder, age 77, of Caledonia, MN passed away in the comfort of his home surrounded by his family on Sunday, November 12, 2023. He was born in Caledonia to Irwin and Rosemary Schroeder on December 28th, 1945. He grew up with two wonderful, older sisters, Ramona and Margie, and while he didn't have any brothers, he was lucky enough to have a group of amazing childhood friends who continued to visit him weekly right up until his passing. Thank you Joe, Tony, Pat, and Jim for demonstrating what true friendship looks like. John had many other friends who supported him through the years. He was a lucky man in the friendship department. John graduated from Loretto High School in Caledonia in 1963 and worked at his parent's feed mill for a couple of years before attending Western Technical school for accounting. Before leaving for Vietnam, he married the love of his life, Gloria Bekkum, on March 29th, 1969. Shortly after that, he left to serve our country in Vietnam. After returning home he finished up his education and graduated from The University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie Wisconsin in 1972 with a degree in Business. He worked for the city of Caledonia for a couple of years and then moved on to the Houston County Court House, where he worked in the social services department until he retired.

John was a member of St. Mary's church, the Legion, and the VFW. He volunteered for the Caledonia Charities and helped with several community projects. John loved sports and played for various teams over the years. He

was a fierce competitor in anything he participated in. From baseball, softball, basketball, golf, volleyball and even card games... he gave it his all.

John loved woodworking, decorating and listening to his country music in his beloved basement. He was an avid fan of the Dodgers, the Vikings and the Timberwolves and had alarms set around the house to remind him of when all the games were on. John was not a big talker, but he had a wicked sense of humor that could take you by surprise. After becoming disabled, he was able to stay in his home due to the loving care of his wife, Gloria, his family, friends and some very capable and kind staff who helped out over the last several years. We are also grateful to the VA and the Mayo Hospice program for the support they provided while more intensive care was needed. John had been confined to a wheelchair with very little movement the last 5 years of his life. While this was very difficult for someone who had once been so active, he never complained. He was always so gracious for any help he received.

John is survived by his wife, Gloria; his children: Chris (Brooke) Schroeder, Sarah (Jeff) Hudson; grandchildren: Miles and Stella Hudson; brother and sister-in-laws: Kermit Bekkum, Garnet Bekkum, Audrey Tollefson, Bill Anderson, Daniel (Liz) Bekkum, Peter (Marsha) Bekkum, Lillian (Donald) Primmer, Sherman (Geri) Bekkum, Conrad (Terese) Bekkum, Trish (Aaron Fagen) Helgerson, Anton (Mary) Bekkum, and Emily (Mark) Granlund; and many nieces and nephews.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Irwin and Rosemary Schroeder; his in-laws, Melvin and Amanda Bekkum, his sisters and brother-in-laws: Ramona (Roger) Hoff and Marguerite (Don) Rommes. Three additional brother-in-laws: Marvin, Robert Bekkum and Myron Tollefson, four sister-in-laws, Sandra Anderson, Elvera Bekkum, Lou Ann Bekkum, and Linda Bekkum, one niece: Julie Connor and three great-nephews: Jake Nundahl,

Alex Everhart and Dustin Amundson.

A Celebration of John's Life will be held on Saturday, December 2nd, 2023 from 12 pm to 4 pm at St. Mary's Holy Family Hall, (behind the church) where there will be a prayer service at noon with military honors given. Fellowship and a luncheon will follow at the hall A private burial will take place at a later date.

Previous Events

Prayer Service

DEC 2. 12:00 PM (CT)

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

A Celebration of Life

DEC 2. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of JOHN SCHROEDER.* ”



December 01, 2023 at 12:42 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of JOHN SCHROEDER.* ”



November 30, 2023 at 04:06 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of JOHN SCHROEDER.* ”



November 29, 2023 at 03:14 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of JOHN SCHROEDER.* ”



November 29, 2023 at 09:29 AM

MS

“ I remember the volleyball pick up games at the city auditorium with John. It was always had a lot of fun.... and competitive too! My prayers and sympathy to his family and friends!

Maria Stemper - November 14, 2023 at 09:02 PM



“ I got to know John when I worked in the Court system at the Courthouse for many years. He was a kind, friendly, fun-loving guy. He liked pulling some fun, harmless shenanigans from time to time and was always good for a few laughs. An all-around great guy! Our sympathy to John's entire family.

Joanne Schuldt - November 14, 2023 at 10:24 AM

SS

“ I worked only one year in Social Services with John many decades ago, but I've always remembered him as one of my favorite co-workers through the years. Kind, sweet sense of humor, and liked talking decorating. Susie Skifton

susie skifton - November 13, 2023 at 03:26 PM

CL

“ Christine Lampert lit a candle in memory of
JOHN SCHROEDER



christine lampert - November 13, 2023 at 02:20 PM

WS

“ I enjoyed working with John in Human Services for about 7 yrs. My sympathies to Gloria & the family! RIP John!!

Wilma Schoh - November 13, 2023 at 11:31 AM

BS

“ John I'm going to deeply miss you. You were more than just a father in law to me, you were my friend, showed me love, laughter definitely lots of laughter!! I love you John Schroeder Rest Easy Father and don't let my mom get you in to much trouble! And remember one last thing John GO Pack Go !

Brooke Schroeder - November 12, 2023 at 10:20 PM