



Stan Thomsen

July 10, 1933 - November 28, 2014

A FUNERAL SERVICE FOR 81 YEAR OLD STAN THOMSEN OF ARNOLDS PARK, FORMERLY OF ESTHERVILLE, WILL BE HELD AT 11:00A.M. TUESDAY, AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN SPIRIT LAKE. VISITATION WILL BE HELD MONDAY FROM 5:00P.M. UNTIL 7:00P.M. AT THE SCHUCHERT-LENTZ FUNERAL HOME. BURIAL WILL BE AT EAST SIDE CEMETERY IN ESTHERVILLE.

Stanley Kay Thomsen was born in his grandparent's farmhouse near Lake Park, Iowa, on July 10, 1933, to Henry (Joe) and Edna Ehret Thomsen. As he grew up, he and the neighbor boys rode their ponies everywhere together; catching frogs and roasting frog legs over open fires. They loved watching cowboy movies and acting them out. Eventually, he helped his father with farm work, which taught him a lasting work ethic.

Stan attended Lake Park schools until 8th grade when the family moved to Estherville, Iowa. During these school years in Estherville, until he graduated in 1950, Stan excelled in music, competitive speech and school plays. He even formed his own dance band, playing the clarinet, and continued it through his studies at Estherville Junior College. After school jobs included delivering the Des Moines Register, clerking at Leuthold and Tibbets Clothing and Estherville Drug Store. Donovan Motor Company and Gamble Robinson Companies also taught him work ethic. When his parents moved to Grand

Marais, MN, Stan spent time there as a fishing guide on Lake Superior.

He enlisted in the United States Army in 1954. He served as an ordnance instructor at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland until his honorable discharge in 1956.

On November 22, 1956, Stan married Charlene Smith in the Estherville Methodist Church. The couple made their home in Estherville, where Stan was employed by the Gamble Robinson Company as a territory salesman. He joined Virginia Carolina Chemical Corp. as a territory salesman out of Estherville in 1958. During this time two children, Joel and Jill, were born. In 1960, the family moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana, when Stan was named assistant sales manager with the company. While there, he served as President of Toastmasters.

In 1963, the family moved to Remington, Indiana, due to Stan's promotion to sales manager of the Remington operation. In Remington, the family added a new member when daughter, Jean Ann, was born. Transfers with the company moved the family to Estherville in 1966 and to Dubuque in 1968. He was on the board of directors for the Dubuque Arts Council. January 1, 1970, Stan joined Golden Sun Feeds, Inc. and the family moved back to Estherville. In December of 1971, Stan was named plant and sales manager of Grinnell's Golden Sun Feeds Operation. In 1983, he was named Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager of Golden Sun Feeds, and the family moved back to Estherville. In 1987, Stan was named Senior Vice President of Administration and was a member of the management team involved in purchasing Golden Sun Feeds, Inc. He held that position until retiring June 30, 1995.

During his business years, Stan served on the National Marketing Committee of the American Feeds Industry Association and was National Committee

Chairman. He served on the Iowa Grain and Feed Association board and was its President. Also during these years, Stan served the Methodist Church on various boards and committees. Stan and Charlene were the Grinnell Methodist Youth Fellowship leaders. He was a member of the Grinnell Country Club Board, serving as its President, and was on the board of the Grinnell Chamber of Commerce. Stan was a member of the Masonic Lodge and also a Rotarian for many years and proud to be a Paul Harris Fellow. He sat as chairman while on the Marketing Committee of the American Feed Industry Association. He was involved with the Estherville Industrial Development Corporation as a member of the board of Directors. The Republican party was very important to him.

In 1989, Stan and Charlene moved to The Harbor on Lake Okoboji where they enjoyed almost twenty years of boating and lake living. While living on the Harbor, Stan served on the Harbor Board, as it was so important to him to help keep the Harbor free of problems. In 1999, the Thomsens found The Villages in Florida to be a wonderful winter home for many years. The summer of 2008, the Thomsens said goodbye to the lake and moved to Emerald Hills Golf Course.

Stan especially loved time with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He enjoyed attending their activities and was proud of all of their achievements. After retirement, he enjoyed not only taking them to Disney World in Florida, but showing them all of Florida's history and attractions. Family and friends were very important to Stan, and he looked forward to spending time with them.

Stan always enjoyed music and dancing with Charlene, the love of his life. Monday Night Big Band at The Inn was a favorite weekly summer event, as was The Okoboji Summer Theatre. He loved golf, and in earlier years,

bowling. Stan's favorite teams were the Hawkeyes and the Vikings. After retirement, the Thomsens owned an antique business, Serendipity. Stan enjoyed searching for antiques, especially Golden Sun memorabilia. Other activities that were high on his list of enjoyment were class reunions, spending time with his golf buddies, and Wednesday morning coffee with the Methodist "Mafia."

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Edna.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, son Joel (Geraldine Shumaker and son Blake) of Sioux Falls, daughters Jill (Tim) Mitchell of Rapid City, SD and Jean Ann (John) Myhre of the Lakes Area. He adored his 8 grand children: Amy Thomsen (Sean Skrondahl), Abby (Adam) Viereck, and Alissa Thomsen (fiancé Luke Sendelbach), Chelsea (Jason) Larkin, Jordin (Brad) Edwards, all of Sioux Falls, Courtney Mueller of Minneapolis, Emma and Olin Myhre of the Lakes Area. Also surviving him are his 4 great grand children: Ali Jo and Aden Viereck, Bentley Larkin, and Ariana Thomsen-Skrondahl, all of Sioux Falls.

Tribute Wall

BN

“ I am honored to have served with Stan on Methodist Church committees the years I was there. Stan always added great insight to discussions during our meetings. I was also allowed to sneak into the Mafia on Wednesdays even as a youngster. I know Stan will be missed as he always added a welcoming smile and kind word to everyone he surrounded himself with!

Bill Neiderheiser - December 03, 2014 at 05:27 AM

DP

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you as you celebrate the life of a great man....the entire Mitchell family shares special memories over the years, and we look forward to eternal time together again. Our hearts are with you now though.

Dorea Mitchell Potter - December 02, 2014 at 06:44 AM

CE

“ Jean Ann & family you have my deepest sympathy.

Charlene Erickson-Smythe - December 01, 2014 at 11:05 PM

CE

“ Jean Ann so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. He was such a pleasant man, always smiling. He always made a point to speak to me. We worked together at Village East Resort for Brenda Berry. Your folks came in a lot and I would visit with them. Please give my deepest sympathy to your mother also. They were such a beautiful couple. You are in my thoughts and prayers. I am now living in Mesa, AZ

Charlene Erickson-Smythe - December 01, 2014 at 11:02 PM

JC

“ Stan and Charlene were special people. Jim knew Stan in high school and he always made everyone feel so special at Estherville High School reunions. The min-reunion that we had was also a special time as it was the last time we saw them. Our condolences to Charlene and the rest of the family.

Jim & Marianne Chalstrom - December 01, 2014 at 10:41 PM

MO

“ Jean Ann, So sorry for your loss, know that you will be in my thoughts.

Mike O. - December 01, 2014 at 10:32 PM

LH

“ We enjoyed so much visiting with Stan and Charlene. He always greeted you with a smile and the times spent with him were full of fun and laughter. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you!!

Lola Brown and Kevin Haskins - December 01, 2014 at 09:18 PM

JM

“ Stan Thomsen

Jane Mahannah - December 01, 2014 at 08:50 PM

PG

“ Charlene & Family, So sad to hear about Stan. You were such good friends and neighbors when we lived at the Harbor, especially when my Wayne died. I would like to think the two of them are having a re-acquaintance "up there!" |Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you.

Peggy Glover-Baldock - December 01, 2014 at 04:08 PM

DR

“ Dear Charlene and Family, we're so sorry to hear about Stan. He was such a wonderful man and great guy to be around. I appreciated every time he stopped in our offices and seeing him over the years at our Rotary meetings. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Dave & Kris Rowley - December 01, 2014 at 04:01 PM

GJ

“ Im very sorry to hear about Stan. I have lots of good memories of Stan especially when it came to selling him a car. If he was your freind he was a true freind. Stan always had time to stop and visit. He will be missed.

Gregg Johnson - December 01, 2014 at 02:10 PM

RB

“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss. Many a wonderful memory at Monday Night Big Band! Charlene, please know that our thoughts are with you and your family.
Ruth Ann Burke, Okoboji Summer Theatre

Ruth Ann Burke - December 01, 2014 at 02:06 PM

BS

“ Charlene and family, We, as cousins spent many good times together at the farm with Grandpa and Grandma Ehert and continued to keep in touch as we grew older. He will truly be missed by all that knew him.

Becky (McFarland) Sommerss - December 01, 2014 at 01:16 PM

MT

“ *Charlene and family, you have our sympathy, we both thought a lot of Stan, and had great respect for him. we were remembering all of the days we worked with him in Grinnell, and the good times we had there.*

Mike & Carol Thomas - December 01, 2014 at 12:08 PM

BS

“ *Charlene and family, Was saddened to hear of Stan's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We have many good memories of you and Stan at various Golden Sun functions. May God give you comfort during this difficult time. Bob and Marilyn Van Soelen*

Bob and Marilyn Van Soelen - December 01, 2014 at 10:40 AM

LH

“ *Monday Night Big Band will not be the same! I will play "Brazil" for you so you can hear it in heaven. Peace to you and your family. Laura Hanna*

Laura Hanna - December 01, 2014 at 09:31 AM

BA

“ *Bonnie and I would like to offer our condolences to the Thomsen family. Stan was a good friend, boss and a wonderful family man. We had many good times together and some wonderful conversations. I am so sorry I won't be able to make the funeral as I'm in Winnipeg until Tuesday. Our thoughts and Prayers are with you and your family Charlene. Bill and Bonnie*

Bill and Bonnie Ambrose - November 30, 2014 at 09:42 PM

DA

“ *What a great man Mr. Thomsen, you and Charlene raised a wonderful family!
our deepest sympathy! Doug&Helen Alexander.*

Doug&Helen Alexander - November 30, 2014 at 08:02 PM

TL

“ *I'll always remember Stan as "one of the great ones". So many from Golden Sun are the building blocks of my career. So long Stan!*

Tim Lippert - November 30, 2014 at 06:42 PM

CS

“ *Stan Thomsen*

Chad Schuchert - November 30, 2014 at 04:03 PM

SF

“ *I would like to offer my deepest sympathies to you. I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that you are never alone. Turn to the Holy Scriptures for guidance and to help soothe your heart. Psalms 34:18 assures us that God is near to those broken at heart and crushed in spirit. Please accept my deepest sympathies.*

S Ford - November 30, 2014 at 01:06 PM

KS

“ *Stan Thomsen*

Karmen Schoelerman - November 29, 2014 at 04:24 PM

JR

“ *Charlene and family so sorry to hear of Stan's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.*

James Roberts - November 29, 2014 at 04:10 PM

JC

“ I want to express my sincere sorrow for your loss Charlene, I never met Stan but you spent many happy years together, he will be missed greatly. Janice & Lloyd Carter

Janice & Lloyd Carter - November 29, 2014 at 02:31 PM

SN

“ Charlene & Family, we send our love & prayers. We enjoyed our mini-class reunions here in Florida. Remember that Stan is healed and home. Chuck & Sandra Nelson

Sandra & Chuck Nelson - November 29, 2014 at 01:06 PM

AA

“ So sorry to hear this news. We've been in PA for Thanksgiving and are on our way home now.

Alice Anderson - November 29, 2014 at 11:06 AM

AA

“ Stan Thomsen

Alice Anderson - November 29, 2014 at 11:02 AM