



## Allan P. Larson

February 25, 1935 - June 22, 2009

Allan P. Larson, 74, of W4436 Empire Drive, Fond du Lac, died peacefully Monday, June 22, 2009, at home, surrounded by family and friends. He was born on February 25, 1935, in Ashland, WI, a son of Walter and Lillian Petersen Larson. Allan was a graduate of Ashland High School. He received a B.S. in Science and Education in 1957, from Northland College, Ashland. During college, he served as student body president, was a member of the varsity football team and participated in band, chorus, and drama. On March 14, 1959, he married Janice G. Ballwanz at Immanuel-Trinity Lutheran Church, Fond du Lac, where he was a member for 50 years. The couple recently celebrated their Golden Anniversary. During Al's career, he was called on to assume many Leadership roles. He began his career at Roosevelt Junior High School, Fond du Lac. He then went to work at Meiklejohn Import Auto for two years and then resumed teaching at Woodworth Junior High School, where he also coached football and basketball. He served as assistant principal for one year. During his teaching career he joined the National Science Foundation where he participated, directed, and was a speaker at several of their seminars. In 1970, when Theisen Junior High School opened, Al taught seventh grade science and ninth grade conservation. He also served as Science Department Coordinator and was instrumental in establishing the Outdoor Science and Conservation Program for the Fond du Lac School District. Football and coaching were two of his passions. During his coaching career, he coached Girls and Boys Basketball and served as Assistant Coach of the varsity football team for 30 years. He retired after 35 years with the Fond du Lac School District. Al was very proud of his family... his wife, children, and grandchildren. Al allowed his boys to bring home any animals they desired... raccoons, turtles, snakes, ducks, horses, dogs, etc. His sense of humor was one of a kind. He could tell stories that appeared to be a figment of his imagination, only to later learn that most of these stories were true. He had countless part-time jobs which provided ammunition for an endless stream of hilarious anecdotes. Al enjoyed trapping, hunting, flying, skiing, fishing and his beloved cottage on Lake Superior. He was a member of B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge 57. Through the years, he was a member of the Men's Chorus. Al was a former boy scout and was a tribal leader in the Indian Guides with his son's in the Fond du Lac chapter. Al was a member of the Fond du Lac Retired Teachers Association. He recently joined Luther

Memorial Church. For over two years, he battled cancer courageously with the support of his family and friends while serving as an inspiration to many others. He is survived by his wife, Janice; four sons: Craig (Becky) Larson of Fond du Lac, Rick Larson of St. Charles, Illinois, Randy Larson of Girdwood, Alaska, Gary Larson of Fond du Lac; seven grandchildren: Ian, Olivia, and Abby, Cole and Cade, Connor and Chayce. He is further survived by a brother, nieces and nephews, his mother-in-law, Eleanor Ballwanz; three brothers-in-law: Ron (Diane) Ballwanz, Paul Ballwanz, Lester (Karen) Ballwanz, all of Fond du Lac, together with their families. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his beloved pet and friend, "Fritzie". Visitation for Al will be from 3-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2009, at Mach Funeral Chapel & Crematory, 31 East Division Street, Fond du Lac, and from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service on Friday at Luther Memorial Church, 134 21st Street, Fond du Lac. His funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday at church with the Rev. David Naumann officiating. Entombment will follow in Ledgeview Memorial Park. A memorial fund in his name will be established at a later date. Al's family would like to graciously extend their thanks to the staff of both the Wisconsin Central Cancer Center and St. Agnes Hospice Hope, and the Rev. David Naumann.

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ I will always look back fondly at that first year at Theisen and Mr. Larson's Conservation class. Today, as I drive past Theisen I see the fully grown trees that we planted that year. He will be missed.

Jeff Keenlance - June 29, 2009 at 11:20 PM

TN

“ Deepest sympathies to the family of one great teacher and leader. The world lost a great asset.

Tim Noonan - June 27, 2009 at 10:14 AM

IS

“ Janice  
I remember living across the street from your family on South Hickory St. My deepest sympathy goes out to you and the family

Irene Shady - June 25, 2009 at 10:27 PM

BP

“ With deepest sympathy to a great man, and great teacher.

brian promen - June 25, 2009 at 02:57 PM

TK

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Al. He was a great person and a great teacher. He will be greatly missed by all.

Tony Koeck - June 25, 2009 at 12:56 PM

BG

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family and friends of Allan.

Brett & Heather Gesell - June 25, 2009 at 10:26 AM

IW

“ Janice I remember living across the street from your family on South Hickory St. My deepest sympathy goes out to you and the family

Irene Shady of FDL, WI - June 25, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ My deepest sympathies go out to the entire Larson family. He will be missed by many.

Shawn Koeck - June 24, 2009 at 07:49 PM

LF

“ To the Larson Family-We send you our deepest sympathies. Al fought this dreadful disease with such great strength and inspiration. He will be deeply missed by all that knew him. Our thoughts are with you all.

Lemery Family - June 24, 2009 at 06:50 PM

PJ

“ My condolences to the Larson Family. My thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time of sorrow. I miss Al's jokes and seeing the family when everyone came to the cabin. Hope all goes well with all of you. Al is in heaven singing with the angels.

Peggy Johnson - June 24, 2009 at 05:40 PM

DR

“ Aunt Jan & Boys, Our deepest sympathy to all of you. Our thoughts & prayers are with you all during this very difficult time. Keep the memories alive in your hearts. Uncle Al will truly be missed. I am sure he is up in heaven telling his stories! We Love you All

Dave & Dawn Rathman - June 24, 2009 at 03:54 PM

MM

“ To Jan and family, we extend our condolences to Allan Larson. I certainly remember the days of being a student at Woodworth and saying hello to Al. We lost contact, but every now and then, I remember--and when I remember, I'll never forget. May He rest in peace, and let us say, "Amen."

Marc and Harriet Manis - June 24, 2009 at 03:00 PM

GF

“ We were very sorry to hear about Allan's passing. He had a long battle. I'm sure he'll be missed very much. You are all in our thoughts.

Greg and Mary Kay Larson and Family - June 24, 2009 at 01:31 PM

JW

“ sorry to hear about al butnow he at piece. our prayers are with you and your family jan

john & janet weber - June 24, 2009 at 09:20 AM

DG

“ Al Larson was my favorite teacher at Woodworth Jr. High. In 8th grade he taught my science class and coached my basketball team. He had a very positive influence on my life and I will never forget him. Memories include everything from him hamming it up in the locker room with players to him breaking the sad news to our science class that President Kennedy had been shot in Dallas. My condolences to his family.

Dr. Dan Grangaard - June 24, 2009 at 08:54 AM

PW

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Peggy Johnson of Ashland WI - June 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

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Marc and Harriet Manis of Winter Springs, FL - June 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Allan P. Larson

Greg and Mary Kay Larson and Family of Ashland, WI - June 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM

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**Dr. Dan Grangaard of Austin, TX** - June 24, 2009 at 12:00 AM