



Harry T. Matthews

October 27, 1930 - January 5, 2020

Harry T. Matthews passed away peacefully at Agnesian Hospice Home of Hope on January 5th, 2020. Everyone who knew him and loved him believes he decided to join the love of his life, Joan Matthews, who went to heaven before him on December 24, 2019.

Harry was born October 27, 1930 in Dubuque, Iowa. Harry left Dubuque as a young man worked a wide variety and met Joan in Milwaukee 1956. He said he saw her walking down the street and that she was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen and that he just knew she was “the one”. They married on January 18, 1957.

Harry spent a large part of his life operating Harry’s Lakeview and The Harbor Minor Bar in Columbia Park. After leaving the restaurant business he embarked on a successful real estate career. Together, he and Joan operated Matthew V Real Estate for many years. As broker/owners they worked hard and were successful in building an organization that served many buyers and sellers in the community.

Harry was a “big” personality. Harry was not known for filtering his words and was never shy about offering his opinions and perspectives. Those that loved him and knew him could always be sure that with Harry the saying of “What you see is what you get” described him through and through. Definitely no pretenses...he was Harry and he was one of a kind.

Harry’s life changed dramatically when he quit drinking in 1977 and discovered the AA Fellowship. He was proud of his 42 years of sobriety and

always held on to the fact and believed that recovery remained a One Day at a Time process. He also held strong to the tenet that life was about Progress and not Perfection. Jesus also became a vital part of Harry's life when he met Him early in his recovery. Harry read the Bible and held fast to his faith. He always trusted that at the end of this life he would rejoice with the Savior in Heaven.

In his retirement years, Harry enjoyed taking his moped out to Lakeside Park for rides and fishing from the shore, playing golf, drinking coffee and reading the paper at The Blue Goose, chatting and sharing stories with friends (and anyone who would listen) and watching the Packers and the Badgers. He also was happy whenever he could spend time with his family.

Harry is survived by his daughter Paula Thalacker (Brian), 3 sons, Tom (Karen) and Mike (Andrea Wimmer) and Cary (Phyllis) of Dubuque, IA. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and sister-in-law, Judy Braun (Mike Herzer). Faithful friends include Ray, Bill, Dale and Pastor Rob and Rhonda. Shelly Swenson was special to Harry and he was thankful for her dedication to both he and Joan. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joanie, and his 5 sisters (Enola, Mary Ellen, Gloria, Madonna and Colleen) and an infant daughter, Debbie.

Special Thanks and appreciation to the Hospice House of Hope caregivers who have such huge servant hearts and who serve with such grace.

VISITATION: Since Harry and Joanie decided to settle into their new Home within 12 days of each other, a joint visitation will be held on Saturday, January 18th, 2020 from 9:30-11:30 at Kurki-Mach Funeral Chapel, 31 East Division Street, Fond du Lac.

SERVICE: A celebration of life to remember them will be held at 11:30 a.m. at Kurki-Mach Funeral Chapel. They will both be missed by many but all can be comforted in knowing they are now dancing together again with no sickness and no pain.

In lieu of flowers, memorials for Joan and Harry should be directed to Hospice Home of Hope, 400 County Rd. K, Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

Kurki-Mach Funeral Chapel & Crematory is serving the family, www.kurkimachfuneralchapel.com. 920-921-4420

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory
31 E. Division Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
(920) 921-4420
info@kurkifuneralchapel.com
<https://kurkifuneralchapel.com>

Service

JAN 18. 11:30 AM (CT)

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory
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Fond du Lac, WI 54935
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Tribute Wall



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harry T. Matthews.*



January 17, 2020 at 09:38 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Harry T. Matthews.*



January 16, 2020 at 11:24 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Harry T. Matthews.*



January 15, 2020 at 01:30 PM

AR

“ This is a memory for Joan and Harry, two people who helped me when I had no one to turn to. Giving me a place to stay, never judging, and always there to lift my spirits. They were there for my husband when he was losing his battle with cancer, but made him smile before they left.
Special people you were, special people you will always be...

Arlene - January 09, 2020 at 08:53 PM

AR

“ Arlene lit a candle in memory of Harry T. Matthews



Arlene - January 09, 2020 at 08:47 PM

BK

“ Again, our condolences to Harry and Joan's family. It's very, very, sad to lose both of your parents in such a short time. But Harry loved Joan and followed her home.
I have very fond memories of Harry. He liked to laugh, and have others laugh with him. He was straight and honest; and you could always trust that you knew where you stood with him. What more could you ask for in a friend. in his later years, as Paula said,-- after he found Jesus,-- he became the voice of reason in a crazy world. He would have laughed at that when he was young; and he will be missed by us all. God speed, Harry.
Barb and Steve Knickel

Barbara Knickel - January 08, 2020 at 01:55 PM

CB

“ *When my Great Uncle Harry came to visit when I was young, he magically always found quarters behind my brother and my ears.*

Cathy Beaulieu - January 06, 2020 at 10:16 PM

Larry
Kapitanski

“ *Harry and Joan sold us our 1st Fond du Lac home and got us re-located from Milwaukee to this great Fond du Lac area. Also introduced me to his son Thomas who joined me in the flooring business for a few years. They will be sadly missed by my entire family as we shared special times together over the years with their family ,*



Larry Kapitanski - January 06, 2020 at 08:58 PM