

In Loving Memory Of
Gordon Smith

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Saturday, June 26, 2021 - 11:00 AM
Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Montevideo, MN

Acclamation	Pg. 280
Opening Hymn <i>"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"</i>	#618
Invocation and Greeting	Pg. 280
Thanksgiving for Baptism	Pg. 280
Prayer	Pg. 281
Eulogy	
Hymn <i>"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"</i>	#803
Psalm 121	

P: I lift up my eyes to the hills— From where will my help come?

C: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

P: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

C: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

P: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

C: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

P: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

C: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time

Scripture Readings	Lamentations 3: 21-26, Revelations 7: 9-17
Gospel Lesson	John 14:1-4
Special Music <i>"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"</i>	Smith Family Singers
Sermon	Pastor Bob Knutson
Apostles' Creed	Pg. 282
Prayers of Intercession	Pg. 282
The Lord's Prayer	Pg. 285
Special Music <i>"My Heart is Longing to Praise My Savior"</i>	Smith Family Singers
Commendation	Pg. 283
Benediction	
Closing Hymn <i>"Abide with Me"</i>	#629

OFFICIANT

Pastor Bob Knutson

ORGANIST

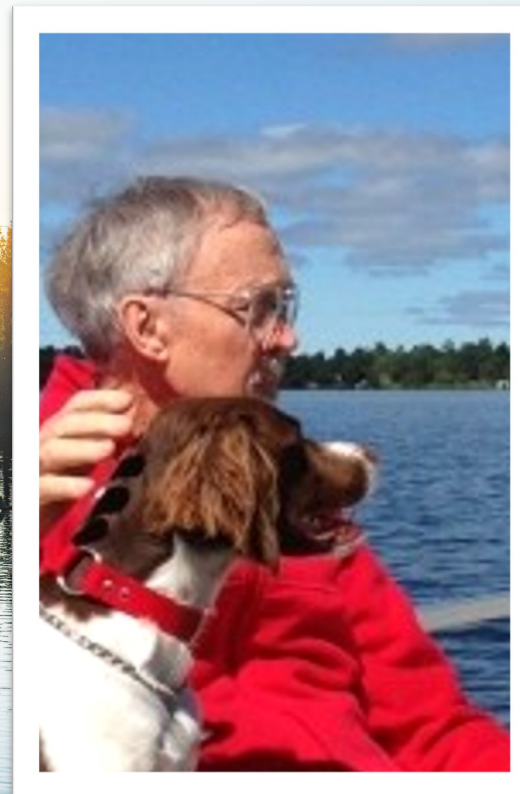
Rita Knutson

URNBEARERS

Gordon's Grandchildren

FINAL RESTING PLACE

Sunset Memorial Cemetery



In Loving Memory

Gordon Smith

June 18, 1925 – February 9, 2021

Gordon was born on June 18, 1925, in Montevideo, MN, to Dr. Leon Grant and Edith Jane (Lumley) Smith. Gordon had many happy memories of growing up in Montevideo with his two brothers, William and Eugene, and his sister, Margaret. He had especially fond memories of an idyllic childhood in their house on Summit Avenue where his siblings and neighborhood friends enjoyed playing marbles, riding their bikes, and ice skating on the Chippewa River.

Gordon first met the love of his life, JoAnn Isabelle Johnson, while they were both in the eighth grade. He had a vivid recollection of his first glimpse of JoAnn when she was visiting a next-door family. He would never forget her stunning black hair and the way she stood with her arms held demurely at her side. It was love at first sight.

Gordon graduated from Montevideo High School in 1943. Upon graduation, he attended the University of Minnesota for several months, then enlisted in the United States Army. He served in WWII in Vienna, Austria during the final months of the war, and was honorably discharged in 1947.

In January of 1945, after graduating from Officer Candidate School in Virginia, Gordon returned to Montevideo on a 30-day leave prior to being deployed overseas. On January 20, he proposed to JoAnn while ice skating on the Chippewa River, presenting her with the engagement ring, saying, "If you can catch me, you can have it!" JoAnn was a speed-skater, and quickly caught him.

In June of 1945, Gordon and JoAnn were married at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Montevideo. They made their first home in Minneapolis, where Gordon resumed his studies at the University of Minnesota, and JoAnn completed her nurses' training at Fairview Hospital. In 1949, they were blessed with twin daughters, which initiated a move back to Montevideo to be near family. Soon after moving back to Montevideo, Gordon and his brother Eugene began farming. Gordon and JoAnn welcomed three more daughters while living on the farm. Gordon continued farming, in addition to selling seed corn for Pioneer Hybrid International. He eventually became a regional sales manager for Pioneer, which necessitated a move to St. Peter, MN in 1968.

In 1976, Gordon and JoAnn built a house on a lot they had purchased on nearby Lake Washington. He was the general contractor for the build, and played a large role in the construction. They loved their lake home, and made many happy memories enjoying all that lake life had to offer, including spending time with wonderful neighbors who became lifelong friends.

After retirement, Gordon and JoAnn discovered the beauty of Arizona where they spent the winter months, and eventually established a full-time residence. Green Valley, AZ was their home for many years where they welcomed visitors and enjoyed traveling, hiking and beautiful sunsets. In 2017, health conditions required a relocation, and they reestablished their Minnesota roots at the Northfield Retirement Community.

Throughout his life, Gordon loved music. He and JoAnn enjoyed contributing their musical talents in many ways, from singing together in high school musicals "The Pirates of Penzance" and "Brigadoon," to singing in several church choirs. He loved barbershop music, and was a member of the

Barbershop Harmony Society. He sang as baritone in both a barbershop quartet and men's chorus, thoroughly enjoying this musical genre throughout his years. Gordon was a talented woodworker for much of his adult life, crafting furniture and beautiful Shaker boxes that will forever serve as reminders of his expertise. He had many interests, including history and genealogical research, devoting hours to researching and writing historical ancestry record books that are treasured by his family.

Gordon was eternally devoted to his family. He adored his wife JoAnn, and remained by her side, hand-in-hand, throughout years of health challenges. Dependable, faithful, and steadfast, he was the epitome of "The Greatest Generation." He will be greatly missed.

Gordon's survivors include 5 daughters and their spouses: Karen Louise Ferrington of Hackensack, Susan Jane Fox of Northfield, Deborah Jean Becker (David) of Northfield, Judith Allison Blaisdell (Joel) of Plano, Texas, Caroline Esther Smith (Craig Petersen) of Northfield; 11 grandchildren: Laura Ferrington Jones (Kenderick), David Ferrington, Thomas Fox (Kathryn Goggin), James Fox (Laura), Joseph Fox (Richelle Stillwagon), Peter Blaisdell (Kacey), Andrew Blaisdell (Katie), Jane Becker Nelson (Peter), Ann Becker Peterson (Adam), Margaret Friedrichs (Joseph), Michael Nielsen (Billie Jo); step-grandchild Ryan Petersen; 16 great-grandchildren: Tatiana, Robert, Malcolm, William, Avery, Cadel, Daniel, Jesse, Westley, Joanna, Rebekah, Leah, Liv, Cora, Ritajane, Jackie; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, two brothers, sister, and wife JoAnn.

L. Gordon Smith, age 95 of Northfield, passed away Tuesday evening, February 9, 2021, in the loving care of his family at Martin Luther Manor in Bloomington, MN.

The Smith Family would like to thank you for your prayers, your support and your love displayed through these many years. Your presence here today is a gift they will cherish.

Special thanks to the Smith Family Singers for the beautiful music provided for this service.

Condolences can be sent online at: www.andersontebeest.com
Arrangements with Anderson - TeBeest Funeral Home, Montevideo, MN