

Celebrating the Life of

George William Davies Jr. was born November 1, 1931, at home in St Peter, Minnesota, to George, Sr and Ruby (Strand) Davies. He was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church, earning 7 yearly Perfect Attendance awards in Sunday School.

He graduated from St Peter High School in 1949, participating in track and singing lead tenor in the boys' quartet.

He served for 2 years in the Army during the Korean war, designated Information/Education leader for his unit.

On August 22, 1953, he married Dorothy "Dody" Novotny in Montgomery. And to this union, they were blessed with a daughter, Cathy, and a son, Allen.

George graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1955, with a bachelor's degree in English and Speech. He was a member of the Concert Choir. While attending school he was employed in the recreation department of the St Peter State Hospital.

He taught for 2 years in Montgomery High School, before moving to Willmar in 1958 where he taught high school English and Speech for 33 years, directed plays and taught evening Adult Education at the vocational school. He initiated the CADRE program in which high school students assisted other students at varying grade levels.

He was a member of both the Teachers Federation and the Education Association, serving twice as president of the federation.

In 1964, he earned a Master's degree in English & Speech from Mankato State University.

George was a member of St Mary's Church where he sang in the adult choir for many years & "Him Sing." He was active in the Willmar Sportsmen's Club & founded the Jr Sportsmen's Club. He was a member of Senior Citizen's Club, 2 snowmobile clubs, Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Emergency Sno Patrol, People On Watch, and Willmar Community Emergency Response Team. He was a support member of Women on Wheels motorcycle organization. He sang in the Willmar Community Chorus. He and Dody enjoyed singing (often in duet) for many family and community special occasions.

He taught snowmobile safety classes and gun safety training and was a Cub Scout leader.

Following retirement in 1991, George and Dody enjoyed national and international travel to 7 continents, including motorcycle tours of New Zealand, Spain & South Africa. He treasured spending summers at their cottage near Grand Rapids where he enjoyed working in the woods, gardening, fishing and inventing/improving creations such as an award-winning mobile deer stand and a combination sitting area and fireplace named "Tin Man." Winter provided many hours & miles of snowmobiling.

George took delight in his children and granddaughter, Kaitlyn.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Dody; daughter, Catherine Davies of Atlanta GA and Grand Rapids MN; son, Allen (Kari) Davies of Spring Lake Park MN; & granddaughter Kaitlyn Davies (fiancé Josh Warner). Also surviving are his sister-in-law Luann Novotny; 6 nieces & 2 nephews; special "family," Diane & Ken Warner of Big Lake, Sue & Tyke Yoakum & Bill Ruf of Willmar & many other relatives & friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Earl; sisters, Lorraine Edward & Dolores Holteen; brothers-in-law, Ben Holteen, George Edward, Don Novotny & Bob Beaulieu; sisters-in-law, Anyta Davies & Evelyn Novotny; son-in-law Larry Johnson.



George W. Davies Jr.

1931 - 2025

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.



Peterson Brothers Funeral Home
"Celebrating A Life Remembered"

In Loving Memory Of

George W. Davies Jr.

November 1, 1931
St. Peter, Minnesota

May 25, 2025
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Mass of Christian Burial

Friday, July 18, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Church of St. Mary
Willmar, Minnesota

Celebrant

Fr. Ron Huberty

Music

Pianist: Mary Pieh

Vocalist: Kaitlyn Davies

St. Mary's Resurrection Choir

Opening Song: *"Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee"*

Responsorial Psalm: *"To You O Lord I Lift My Soul"*

Preparation of Gifts: *"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"*

Communion: *"Panis Angelicus"* & *"I Am The Bread Of Life"*

Post Communion: *"Beautiful Savior"*

Song of Farewell: *"The Hand Of God Shall Hold You"*

Closing Song: *"We Are Called"*

Military Honor Guard

Austin F. Hanscom American Legion Post #167
Willmar, Minnesota

Interment

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery
Willmar, Minnesota