

Ken was born May 27, 1945 and grew up in NE Minneapolis, the youngest of three brothers. He married his high school sweetheart Jan of 59 years (they met on a blind date in 1963), raised a daughter Lisa and son Brian and were blessed with three grandchildren – Nathan (Meg) Lindsay and Caitlin.

Ken was very committed to his family, attending school programs, baseball games, (ouch to some of the early band concerts which eventually improved), watching soccer and track events, attending dance performances, graduations and birthdays. He loved playing card games and for years played penny ante poker and 500.

Ken had four notable interests – fixing things, golf, working with wood and traveling. He was the family's "Mr. Fixit". His talents extended to helping townhouse neighbors as well. He loved working with wood making doll beds, an entertainment center, bookcases, flower planter boxes as well as four versions of a complex bird feeder. Ken could fix almost anything, and Jan was so lucky to have a resident handyman. Golf was an opportunity to enjoy a good course and good company, lunch and a beer and to spend time in the woods looking for lost golf balls which ultimately became lost once again! He really enjoyed working set up at the 3M Open Golf Tournament in Blaine. Ken was an avid MN sports fan.

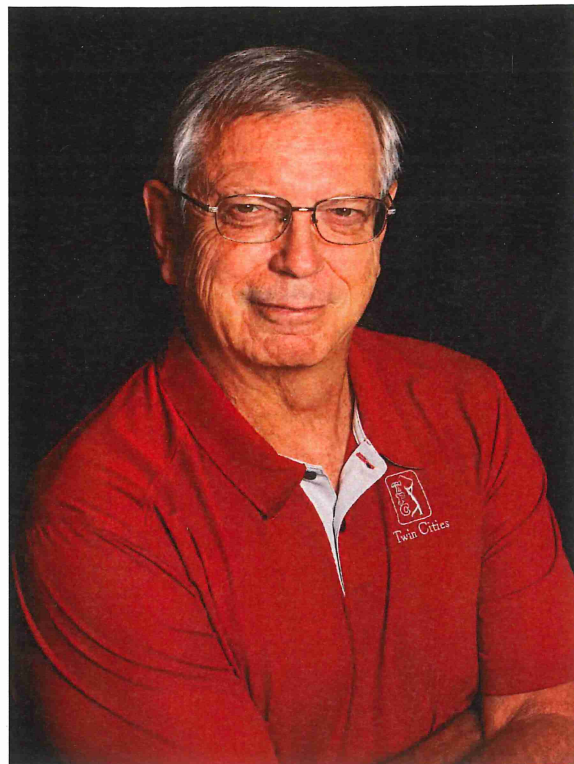
He and Jan travelled to Australia, Mexico, England, Ireland, Scotland, Switzerland, Iceland, Portugal, Costa Rica, Holland, Belgium and France. He especially enjoyed river cruising. The food and wine were great.

Volunteering at St. Joe's found him working in the kitchen doing food prep, cutting buckthorn at the little church, helping Jan with landscaping and holiday church decorating and whatever other projects Dean (Parish Administrator) had earmarked. Ken had several titles: Buckthorn King, a handy angel and along with Jan - Trouble 1 and Trouble 2!

It was a blessing to have spent so many years together figuring out life, grounded by faith, family and good friends.



Celebration of Life



Kenneth Edward Mrugala

May 27, 1945 ~ August 6, 2026

The Ship

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side
spreads his white sails to the morning breeze and
starts for the blue ocean. He is an object of
beauty and strength.

I stand and watch him until at length he hangs like
a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come
to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says: "There, he is gone!"
"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all. He is just as large in
mast and hull and spar as he was when he left my side
and he is just as able to bear his load of living
freight to his destined port.

His diminished size is in me, not in him. And just at
the moment when someone at my side says: "There,
he is gone!" there are other eyes watching him coming,
and other voices ready to take up the
glad shout: "Here he comes!"

And that is dying.

In Loving Memory of

Kenneth Edward Mrugala

Born

May 27, 1945 Minneapolis, Minnesota

Passed Away

August 6, 2026 Plymouth, Minnesota

At the Age of ~ 81 Years

Mass of Christian Burial

Parish Community of Saint Joseph

New Hope, Minnesota

Saturday, August 22, 2026 ~ 11:00 AM

Presider

Reverend Terry Rassmussen

Concelebrant

Fr. Timothy Wratkowski

Survived by

loving wife Janice, daughter Lisa (Brad) Schultz,
son Brian, brothers Ron (Jean) and Roger (Sue),
grandchildren Nathan (Meg), Lindsay, Caitlin
and many nieces, nephews and close friends.

Preceded in Death by

parents, Josephine & Stan Mrugala
and daughter-in-law Janet Mrugala.

Interment

Gethsemane Cemetery

New Hope, Minnesota