

Ralph Terry Jansen was born on January 5, 1940, in Hallock, Minnesota, the son of Benjamin and Helen (Cameron) Jansen. He grew up in Hallock and graduated from Hallock High School in 1958. In high school Ralph was active in sports, band and choir. He was a member of the 1956-57 Hallock High School hockey team, the first team to compete in the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament in St. Paul. Ralph attended the University of North Dakota and graduated in May of 1962 with a major in Business Education. On September 8, 1962, Ralph was united in marriage to Kathleen Wilson and they were blessed with three children, Julie, Colleen and Scott. Ralph spent two years teaching high school in Plummer, Minnesota and was responsible for the high school newspaper and annual. He then taught four years at Highland High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico and earned his Masters of Art in Teaching Business Subjects in 1968. From 1968-69, he taught at the Albuquerque Vocational Technical Institute. In August of 1969, they moved to Spicer, Minnesota and Ralph began teaching at the Willmar Community College. In the spring of 1995, Ralph was appointed the Dean of Students and in 1996 became the Dean of Student Life with the new Ridgewater College. In 1998, he was named the Dean of Instruction for Transfer Programs at Ridgewater, retiring in 2000. Following retirement, Ralph worked during the summer months as a shift manager for the sugar beet harvest crews in the Willmar area and also continued teaching as a substitute teacher in the New-London Spicer School District for many years until 2020 (his 80th birthday).

Ralph and Kathy enjoyed traveling all over the world to destinations in Mexico, the Caribbean, Panama Canal, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Asia, South America and Churchill, Canada (to see the polar bears). He also enjoyed playing golf, attending and supporting the NL-S athletic activities and programs, volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and serving as a board member of the Presbyterian Family Foundation. He was also an active member of Hope Presbyterian Church, where he sang in the church choir, served as an Elder (for four terms) and was chairman of the building and the PNC committees.

Ralph loved visiting with his friends and making new acquaintances. He touched many lives throughout his teaching career, was an inspiration for his former students and co-workers, and was loved by many.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kathy; his three children, Julie (and Mike) Russell of Rhinelander, Wisconsin, Colleen (and Ted) Redmond of Maplewood and Scott (and Laura) Jansen of St. Paul; five grandchildren, Elisabeth, Jacob, Ben, Kate and Miles; and one sister-in-law, Martine Jansen of Colorado, besides other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Charles (and Jeanice) and Kenneth.



Celebrating the Life of



Ralph T. Jansen

1940 - 2023



Life Well Lived

A life well lived is a precious gift

Of hope and strength and grace,

From someone who

Has made our world

A brighter, better place.

It's filled with moments,

Sweet and sad,

With smiles and sometimes tears,

With friendships formed and good times shared

And laughter through the years.

A life well lived is a legacy

Of joy and pride and pleasure.

A living, lasting memory

Our grateful hearts will treasure.

-Author Unknown

In Loving Memory Of

Ralph T. Jansen

January 5, 1940

Hallock, Minnesota

February 13, 2023

New London, Minnesota

Celebration of Life Service

Saturday, February 18, 2023 - 2:00 p.m.

Hope Presbyterian Church

Spicer, Minnesota

Prelude

Maggie Harp

Welcome/Sentences From Scripture

Prayer

Congregational Hymn *"How Great Thou Art"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalms 27:1, 4-9a, 13-14

Special Music

Choir Anthem

"What a Wonderful World/This Is My Father's World"

Gospel Reading

Luke 7:11-17

Message

Pastor Brian Jones

Congregational Hymn

"Borning Cry"

Prayer/Commendation

Benediction

Postlude