



SUCCESS

To laugh often and love much;
To Win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;

To earn the approval of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;

To appreciate beauty;

To find the best in others;

To give of one's self;

To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child,
a garden patch or a redeemed social condition

To have played and laughed with enthusiasm
and sung with exultation;

To know even one life has breathed easier because you
have have lived.....

This is to have succeeded.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



"Once a Brave, Always a Brave"



In Loving Memory



Daniel "Dan" Furaus

May 21, 1948 ~ November 8, 2025



Daniel “Dan” Furaus passed away peacefully at home on November 8, 2025, surrounded by family, after a courageous battle with Parkinson’s disease.

Dan was born on May 21, 1948, in Harvey, North Dakota, to Phillip and Florence (Torgerson) Furaus. His early years shaped the man he would become, kind, hardworking, and endlessly curious about the world around him.

While attending Harvey High School, Dan met Brenda Mack, the girl who would change his life. He once told her that he was going to marry her someday, long before he even convinced her to go on a first date—and, true to his word, he did. They were married on July 23, 1971, beginning a marriage that would span 54 years.

Dan earned his degree in education from the University of North Dakota and began his teaching career in Cavalier, ND before moving to Mandan in 1976. There, he became a lifelong “Mandan Brave” and devoted nearly three decades to serving the Mandan community while teaching and leading at Mandan High School.

Teaching wasn’t just Dan’s job, it was his calling. He had a gift for inspiring confidence in his students. He taught History, Sociology, and Psychology with passion and humor and proudly coached Mandan High’s first girls’ basketball team.

After earning his master’s in administration, Dan served as assistant principal and later principal of Mandan High School. Colleagues and students alike remember him as a steady, compassionate leader who believed every young person had the potential to succeed if given encouragement and guidance. Even years after retirement, former students would stop him to say “thank you” for the difference he made.

Dan’s greatest joy, however, was his family. He and Brenda raised three daughters—Beth, Jill, and Lori, who were the center of his world. He built snow forts in winter, played basketball in the driveway, helped with homework, and never missed a chance to cheer from the sidelines, his voice often carrying above the crowd.

His role as “Papa” and “Grandpa” to seven grandchildren - Ethan, Hailey, Judah, Amelia, Isla, Elyse, and Alice—brought him endless joy. Whether telling stories, offering advice, or simply playing a game, he continued to teach by example.

Dan loved to spark curiosity, whether in the classroom or in his everyday life. His legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched, as a teacher, a mentor, a husband, a father, and a friend. His life was a lesson in love, patience, and the power of believing in and advocating for others.

Dan is survived by his wife, Brenda; his daughters Beth Blumhardt, Jill Beilke (Dustin), and Lori Furaus (Gino Jose), all of Mandan; his brothers Gerald Furaus (St. Louis, MO) and Duane Furaus (Knob Noster, MO); sisters Carol (Dale) Lesmann (Minot, ND), and Vicki Furaus (Colorado Springs, CO); as well as his extended family and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Phillip and Florence; sister, Marva Ness; and sister-in-law, Julie Buxa.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations to the Mandan Foundation for Education or the Bismarck Parkinson’s Support Group, PO Box 4174, Bismarck, ND 58502.

Prayer Service

Thursday, November 13th, 2025
Weigel Funeral Home, Mandan, ND
Presider: Deacon Steve Quintus

Mass of Christian Burial

Friday, November 14th, 2025; 10:30 AM
Spirit of Life Catholic Church, Mandan, ND
Celebrant: Fr. Keith Streifel
Musicians: Jeremy & Carrie Davis
Paulette Deutsch

Pallbearers

Steve Frey, Duane Furaus, Dan Feist
Rich Dunka, Dustin Beilke, Gino Jose

Honorary Pallbearers

Ethan Furaus, Judah Jose

Lector

Dan Mack

Order of Service

Processional Song

“Here I Am, Lord”

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

Response

Psalm 23

“The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.”

New Testament Reading

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:25-30

Homily

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts Song

“Drawn To You”

Presentation of Gifts

Barb Furaus, Allison Keller

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Songs

“To Live with Him Forever” & “Go In Peace”

Communion Meditation

Final Commendation

“Song of Farewell”

Closing Song

“Amazing Grace”

Committal Service

1:30 PM at Mandan Union Cemetery
Mandan, North Dakota

**The family invites you to the Spirit of Life Activity Center
following the funeral service for food and fellowship.**

