

Allen Lloyd Hillstrom was born on November 5, 1937, at home on the family farm near Grove City, Minnesota, to Alva and Grace (Lindel) Hillstrom. He arrived during deer hunting season—a nervous time for his father—and weighed over ten pounds at birth. Upon seeing him, his mother famously said, “I thought I’d have a little baby!” He remained a “big boy” in stature and spirit throughout his life.

Allen attended Grove City Schools and graduated in 1955. He met the love of his life, Janet M. Dokken, on a blind date while performing in the play *Arsenic and Old Lace*, where he played the town “cop.” They were married in 1957 and celebrated 68 years of marriage in September 2025. Together, they were blessed with two children: Todd Allen (1959) and Kristin Ann (1966).

Allen worked many years for Minnesota Electric and later Viking Electric, where he was known as a top-notch salesman. He was an active member of the Willmar Noon Lions Club, Willmar Masons, and the Willmar Area Zurich Shrine Club. He also proudly served in the National Guard, enjoying Monday nights with his unit until a career change required him to step away.

If asked, Allen would say the most important and joyful part of his life was his wife Janet—affectionately known as “Blossom”—along with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He cherished life at Green Lake, traveling to Branson, Montana, Europe, the Caribbean, and many other destinations, and taking memorable motorhome trips to football games with family and friends. He especially loved his big garage for woodworking and visiting with anyone who would walk by, and the life he and Janet built together in retirement.

Allen is survived by his beloved wife of 68 years, Janet Hillstrom; his children, Todd (Shelley) Hillstrom of Dawson, Minnesota, and Kristin (Tim) Hillstrom of Appleton, Minnesota; his grandchildren, Allen (Ashley) Hillstrom of Spicer, Minnesota, Elizabeth (Erik) Borgos of New London, Minnesota, Amanda (Dave) Anderson of Spring Valley, Minnesota, and Alissa Beckman of Appleton, Minnesota; and his great-grandchildren, Olivia Hillstrom, Arabelle Anderson, and Archer Anderson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alva and Grace Hillstrom; sisters and brothers-in-law, Ella and Gerald Reichert, and Lillian and Corky Holly; brothers- and sisters-in-law, Jim and Hilda Dokken, Don and Janet Dokken, Delores and Kotty Kottwitz, and Arline and Herbie Sharstrom; nephews, Doug and Susan Sharstrom and Thomas Dokken; a very special daughter-in-law, Mary (Dawson) Hillstrom; and Janet’s parents, Martin and Clara Dokken.

We give thanks to God for Allen’s life and find comfort in the promise of the resurrection through Jesus Christ.

Love, J.

# *Celebrating the Life of*



## *Allen L. Hillstrom*

*1937 - 2025*

In Loving Memory Of

# *Allen L. Hillstrom*

November 5, 1937  
Grove City, Minnesota

December 22, 2025  
Willmar, Minnesota

*God saw you were getting tired,  
a cure was not to be,  
so He put His arms around you  
and whispered, "Come with me."*

*With tearful eyes we watched you,  
and saw you pass away.  
Although we loved you dearly,  
we could not make you stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,  
hard working hands at rest.  
God broke our hearts to prove to us.  
He only takes the best.*

*Peterson Brothers Funeral Home  
"Celebrating A Life Remembered"*

## **Celebration of Life Service**

Monday, January 5, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Faith Lutheran Church  
Willmar, Minnesota

## **Officiating**

Rev. Katherine Rood

## **Music**

Pianist & Vocalist: Janet Dokken

*"Lift High The Cross" - hymn*

*"How Great Thou Art" - hymn*

*"Amazing Grace" - solo*

*"In This Very Room" - solo*

## **Active Urnbearers**

Allen Hillstrom Jr    Olivia Hillstrom  
Kristin Hillstrom    Alissa Beckman

## **Honorary Urnbearers**

Arabelle Anderson    Archer Anderson  
Amanda Anderson    Elizabeth Borgos

## **Military Honor Guard**

Henderson-Lewis American Legion Post #545  
Spicer, Minnesota

## **Interment**

Faith Lutheran Church Columbarium  
Spicer, Minnesota