

In Loving Memory



John was born on November 10, 1932 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to John Sr. and Marie (Luebstorff) Curtis. He was raised in Watertown, WI and was active in Boy Scouts, speed skating and football. John served in the U.S. Army attaining the rank of Lieutenant. Following his honorable discharge he returned to Minneapolis and attended the University of Minnesota. He graduated "Cum Laude" in 1958 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and English. John attended graduate school in American Studies at the University of Minnesota and Duke University. He taught high school English in Forysth, Montana from 1963-1964.

John began his teaching career at Minot State College as an instructor in the Division of Literature and Language in 1964. He became an assistant professor in 1965 and was granted tenure in 1970. He taught American Literature and English composition and regularly contributed to the Humanities Seminar Series. John served as president of the North Dakota Education Association in 1977. He retired from Minot State in 1995.

John married Emmeline Heat at the Congregational Church in Williston, N.D. on February 15, 1969. Their daughter Jennifer was born in 1970.

As a member of the Congregational United Church of Christ John sang in the choir, participated in the Men's Club and served on the Church Council. He was a Boy Scout troop leader and served as the director of the state Boy Scout Camp at Lake Metigoshe in the summer of 1974.

John was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and landscape photography in the Rocky Mountain West. His interest in history led to a collaboration with Dr. Paul Morrison of Minot State on a manuscript, "The Law North of the Deadline: The Dodge City Gang 1875-1885." He was twice a guest lecturer at the Buffalo Bill Cody Museum in Cody, Wyoming. He frequently participated in historical reenactments and black powder rendezvous gatherings.

John was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife of 38 years, Emmeline; daughter: Jennifer (Graham) Allan of St. Paul, MN; grandson: Robert Allan; brother: Tom Curtis of Minneapolis, MN; nephew: Charles (Carol) Curtis of NY, NY; niece: Susan (Jeff) Mayer of Canon Falls, MN; nephew: George Curtis of St. Paul, MN; sister: Mary Lynn (Jerry) Blasena of Cape Coral, FL; niece: Sandy (Ed) Adkins of Ft. Myers, FL; nephew: Steven Levin of Minneapolis, MN; Cousin: Jack (Mary Ann) Melloh of Brookfield, WI; and special friend: Dr. Harris (Sharon) Jensen of Fort Collins, CO.



JOHN JOSEPH CURTIS JR.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

November 10, 1932
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH

January 23, 2008
Minot, North Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE

Congregational United Church of Christ
Minot, North Dakota
Monday, January 28, 2008 - 10:30 a.m.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS and MUSIC

Pastor Frank Picard - Officiant
Hardy Lieberg - Vocalist to Offer:
"On Eagle's Wings" & "The Lord's Prayer"
Arlyce Nylander - Instrumentalist
Congregational Hymns:
"How Great Thou Art" #2 & "Let There Be Peace On Earth" #681

CASKETBEARERS

Graham Allan	Dr. Harris Jensen	Dennis Peterson
Ernie Malnaa	David Demaree	Jim Esades

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Richard Jensen, Richard Parrish, RayWestmeyer, Michael Vaughn,
along with his family and many friends.

INTERMENT

Rosehill Memorial Park
Minot, North Dakota

Those individuals attending the graveside service are asked to please drive with their headlights and hazard lights "on". Please stay as close to the vehicle in front of you as safety permits and always drive defensively. When you arrive at the cemetery please double park where space permits and follow the casket to the graveside in an expeditious manner.

Following the graveside service there will be a
time of fellowship and lunch in the church fellowship hall.
All family and friends are cordially invited to attend.

The family would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your many acts of kindness. Your compassion and friendship will always be remembered and is greatly appreciated. May God bless the memory of John.

A THOMAS FAMILY SERVICE

Licensed Directors: Bradley Thomas, Bryan Thomas, Mark Roth, and Doug Rode
Minot, North Dakota - www.thomasfamilyfuneralhome.com