



Jeff Eugene Kruse

March 26, 1947 - October 22, 2013

MARSHALL - Funeral services for Jeff Kruse, 66, of Marshall, will be held at 2 pm on Saturday at Wesley United Methodist Church in Marshall.

Visitation will be Friday from 4-8pm, also at Wesley, with a prayer service at 8pm.

There will be a family-only internment at the Marshall Cemetery.

Military honors will be furnished by American Legion Post #113 of Marshall.

Jeff died on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, at his home, after a nearly four-year battle with Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of the plasma cells.

Jeffrey Eugene Kruse was born March 26, 1947 in Tyler, MN to Almer and Betty (Tripp) Kruse. His family moved to Pipestone in 1952, and he spent the rest of his childhood there, graduating from Pipestone High School in 1965. He attended one semester of college at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, CA, but then chose to enlist in the military in the spring of 1966, believing it was the right thing to do. He served a tour of duty as a corporal with the Marines in Vietnam, providing engineering support close to the demilitarized zone until his honorable discharge in November 1968.

Jeff returned to Marshall, where he went on to marry Catherine Jean Hammond on July 11, 1970, at Wesley United Methodist Church, and later graduated from Southwest Minnesota State University in May of 1975.

Jeff worked in sales and human resources at Schwan's of Marshall for 18 years, and later co-founded Customized Consulting with Linda Nelson, and spent several years working with Nitro Ice Cream concessions. He also served on the school board for Marshall Public Schools for 13 years, the Minnesota School Board Association for 5 years, and the Southwest/West Central Service Co-Op Board for 9 years. He was also a board member for Community Services and Prairie Home Hospice, as well as a Referendum Co-Chair for Marshall Public Schools, a committee member for the Regional Sports Center project, and a volunteer driver for Western Community Action.

Jeff was a dedicated member and leader for Wesley United Methodist Church, and was a certified lay speaker for 24 years, and the statewide conference lay leader for the Minnesota Conference for the United Methodist Church.

Jeff's interests included the Twins, golf, and cars, and he truly loved to spend time with his ever-growing family.

He is survived by his wife, Cathy, of Marshall; sons Brandon (and Christi) of Minnetonka, Brad (and Gaelle) of Marshall, and Matt (and Gretl) of Rochester; five grandchildren, Grace, Nathan, Liam, Claire, and Sage; his sister, Marge (and Jerry) of Pipestone, and brother, Les (and Gloria) of Sioux Falls; eight nieces and nephews, several grandnieces and grandnephews, and many cousins and loving friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Almer and Betty, and his father-in-law, Luther "Bozy" Hammond.

Blessed be the memory of Jeff Kruse.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to one of the following charitable organizations: Wesley United Methodist Church, Mayo Clinic Cancer Center, Avera Cancer Institute of Marshall, Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, or Pride in the Tiger Foundation.

Comments



“ Truly a servant leader for Christ and the UMC. Especially glad I got to know him while serving the UMC Human Resource Team. God's blessings, Jeff was an inspiration to all.

Don Malinsky - October 27, 2013 at 12:37 AM



“ You have our deepest sympathy! Jeff's pain is over and God has gotten an angel! He was the most likable guy in everything he did! His smile will be greatly missed. He was a great support to my son - Chris - when he was in high school with Brad. A great husband, dad, grandpa, co-worker and a very respected man!!!! Love will live on- Joyce (Helvig) Meyer

Joyce (Helvig) Meyer - October 25, 2013 at 10:12 AM



“ Thanks to Jeff for always having a very positive outlook on life. He was a Great leader and a person you would always be proud to call a friend. May god be with your family during the challenging times. Joe and Jackie

Benson - October 25, 2013 at 08:53 AM



“ Cathy and family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Jeff was always a fun and positive person to be around. He will be missed by many and remembered fondly by those who called him friend.
Phil & Linda Rybacki

Phil Rybacki - October 24, 2013 at 07:34 PM



“ Cathy and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you all in the loss of your Husband, Dad, and Grandpa. May God wrap his loving arms around you and give you the peace that only he can give.
All of our love, Jerry and Nancy

Jerry and Nancy Firchau - October 24, 2013 at 06:05 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to the Kruse family. May the Lord comfort you through this journey of grief. May your memories of his love for you and family be many. Prayers for you and this time.

Marcia Drown Johnson - October 24, 2013 at 01:05 PM



“ I am a former Schwan's employee and wish to extend my condolences to Jeff's family. I am sorry for your loss & may God be with you.

Joy M. - October 24, 2013 at 12:20 PM



“ Kruse Family,
We are so sorry to learn about your loss. May you find comfort in all of the wonderful memories you created together. Sending prayers ?
Grant & Katie Will

Katie Will - October 24, 2013 at 09:03 AM



“ Kruse Family, I'm very sorry to hear of your family's loss. Jeff was an exceptional man that will be missed by many. What an example he set for how to be a great father. He served our country, his family, his school district, and so much more. I feel lucky to have grown up around him, and wish the Kruse family peace at this time.

Ben Volker - October 23, 2013 at 10:51 PM



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Cathy and Family:

Are thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We are so sorry to hear about Jeff. He will be missed

Byron, Barb, Carla, John and Caitlin

Maranell/ Linafelter Family - October 23, 2013 at 05:25 PM



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What can be said of this wonderful man? One word would encompass it all. Love...he loves Christ, he loves his amazing wife, Cathy; he loves his boys and their wives, he loves his grandchildren, he loves being one of God's servants, he loves his friends. Everything Jeff did, he did with a loving grace-filled heart. I am so honored to call him my friend.

Loretta - October 23, 2013 at 02:15 PM