



Mark D. Nelson

December 28, 1947 - June 25, 2015

Mark D. Nelson, 67 of Grand Island entered his Heavenly home on Thursday, June 25, 2015.

Celebration of Life Services will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at All Faiths Funeral Home. Daniel Naranjo will officiate. Full Military Honors will be rendered by the U.S. Marine Corp following the service.

Burial of ashes will be in the Fort Snelling National Cemetery at Minneapolis, MN on Friday July 3rd.

Family will be greeting friends an hour before service time.

Mr. Nelson was born December 28, 1947 at Minneapolis the son of Dudley and Priscilla (Sargent) Nelson.

Survivors include his wife of 41 years, Susan; their children, Rebekah (Darren) Shunkwiler of Palmer, Jennifer Nelson of Grand Island and Joel Nelson of Omaha; brothers, William (Pat) Nelson of Long Prairie, MN, Richard Nelson of Illinois and Jon (Sharon) Nelson of Grant, MN and sisters, Carol Szulin and Lana Rodriguez both of St. Paul, MN and many nieces nephews and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and grandma, Marie Nelson.

Mark was raised and received his education at St. Paul, MN. Later, he received his Master in Counseling from Northern State College in Aberdeen, SD.

Mark proudly served in the US Marine Corp from 1967-69, serving two tours during the Vietnam War. He received the Combat Action Ribbon, Purple Heart Medal, Rifle Marksman Badge, Good Conduct Medal and other honors.

On December 21, 1973 he was united in marriage to Susan Eye. They lived in South Dakota and Minnesota, moving to Grand Island in 1990. Prior to becoming a counselor, Mark served as Pastor for churches in Redfield, SD and Wadena, MN. He served as a counselor at Mid-Plains Center for Behavioral Healthcare Services for over 22 years, retiring in 2013.

Mark helped pioneer the groundbreaking dual diagnosis program for the State of Nebraska. He served on numerous professional organizations. His dedication to helping people come to know the Lord and his love for God was a hallmark of his amazing life. Mark was a proud husband, father and veteran of our country.

Memorials are suggested to the Vietnam War Hero Flight.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mark D. Nelson*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM

DB

“ *I know I did not know Mark as well as so many of his friends and clients did but from what i remember he was always there for us and held our heart in his hand through so many things--mom and dad's death are especially note worthy. I know he is in heaven and waiting for us there and keeping all our families happy with his great smile and quick jokes. We will all see him again although that is not always easy to think of at a time like this. Sue- you and your dear children are in my thoughts and prayers. It was so good to be able to be with you all in Grand Island and Fort Snelling. Love you all--Dorie*

Dorie Bay - July 15, 2015 at 10:45 PM

VS

“ *Pastor Mark made a big impact on our lives while serving in Wadena Minnesota. He invested in our lives with the Word and his fellowship. He made a difference in our lives!*

Ken and Val Schmitz

Val Schmitz - July 06, 2015 at 09:52 AM

SN

“ *It was my deep honor to be your wife for forty one years. You lead our family through your example, care, love and a rock solid faith. I am so happy I will see you in heaven some day, because we know Jesus died, so we can have eternal life. Miss you Mark*

Sue Nelson - July 04, 2015 at 09:50 PM

CD

“ *Our love and sympathy to you Sue and your family. We so appreciate the time Mark served as our pastor at Wadena. Praying you will know God's love and peace in the days ahead. Love you, Bob and Char Dabill*

Charlene Dabill - July 02, 2015 at 12:10 PM

ST

“ From our family to yours; kindness, radiance, special, funny, love of family, so many things I could say to describe that wonderful neighbor. There will never be another man who can make cookies and pies like him. I will always smile when I look across the drive way and know we were blessed to also know him. The Stimple Family.

Stimple - July 01, 2015 at 08:00 AM

JH

“ Dear Sue and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Mark was a very special person. He had a terrific sense of humor and compassion. He, always, had a kind word for others. You have my sympathy and empathy. Take care as you move through this difficult time.
Jayne Halsey

Jayne Halsey - June 30, 2015 at 10:48 AM

GK

“ Mark was a mentor to me as a counselor. Mark was my teacher and friend as I began my counseling career. I believe that he really cared about how I was doing, and always available right after a session to help me process. I will never forget how we would always end up just outside his office while he had a smoke as we talked - I was so nervous, and he gently guided me. I am so sorry for you the family. Mark was a good man. May God help guide you all through this.
Gary Keck

Gary Keck - June 28, 2015 at 12:26 PM

JE

“ Dad I know you are in God's hands and that is my greatest comfort. I miss you much. There are no words to express my admiration and love for you. Thank you for the amazing person you have always been and for walking in faith and teaching me to do the same. I love you.

Jennifer - June 28, 2015 at 08:30 AM

GH

Susan and Family we are so sorry to hear of your loss, thinking of you and sending love and prayers, Gay Hallberg

Gay Hallberg - June 28, 2015 at 05:29 PM

JT

Sue and family, I remember all of you when you were in Wadena and have thought of you through the years. I remember Pastor Mark as a jolly, kind and caring man. He loved the Lord and his family with all his heart. I can still hear his contagious laugh. I am sure he and my dear mother are doing a lot of catching up in the past few days. My heart does break for you all in your great loss but I know our comfort is in the Lord. Sue I will call you soon. Love you all!! Years may pass but time is a treasure in friends like you all.

Jim and Vickie thompson - June 28, 2015 at 10:31 PM

DG

Joel: I am so sorry for the loss of your dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family. - Dana Grisham

Dana Grisham - June 29, 2015 at 10:35 AM

JH

Dear Sue and family, Bill and I are so sorry for your loss, and are sending our love and prayers to you at this sad time. (I am deeply saddened as well, having so enjoyed visiting with both of you just a little over a week ago). Mark was one of my favorite and most admired co-workers. His compassion, intelligence, humor and humility made him a very effective clinician. He will be deeply missed. God Bless You!!! Joyce Heger

Joyce Heger - June 29, 2015 at 02:30 PM

DW

*Want to express the sympathies of the friends and colleagues of Joel at Community Alliance in Omaha. Though felt most painfully by those close to Mark Nelson, this is a loss for the entire community.
Mr. Nelson clearly brought a great deal of light into a world badly in need of it. It may serve as some consolation That Mr. Nelson leaves a legacy that insures that his good works will continue.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Dennie Whitmore - June 30, 2015 at 10:55 AM