



Ernest "Ernie" Seelen

August 3, 1948 - June 20, 2021

Ernest "Ernie" Seelen, 72 year old resident of Little Falls, MN, passed away Sunday, June 20, 2021, at the St. Cloud Hospital. A "Celebration of Life" open house is planned for Saturday, August 21, 2021 at the Historic Cass-Gilbert Train Depot at 200 First Street NW in Little Falls, from 2 - 8 pm. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred. Caring for Ernie and his family is the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Little Falls.

Ernie was born August 3, 1948 in Little Falls, Minnesota, the son of Anthony "Tony" and Catherine (Barnes) Seelen. Ernie was a graduate of the Little Falls High School (Class of 1966). He began his lifelong career of service by enlisting in the Minnesota Army National Guard. In the 1970's, Ernie and his brother Jim jointly owned and operated two full-service gas stations in Little Falls. In the 1980's, Ernie owned and operated the Dairy Treat on the west side of Little Falls, and also coached the Dairy Treat women's softball team during that time. Subsequently, Ernie worked/volunteered at Our Lady of Lourdes church and school for many years, doing maintenance and janitorial work. Even after his retirement, he continued to serve his community by plowing snow for his neighbors in the winter.

Ernie enjoyed a wide variety of interests and activities throughout his life. Ernie loved to travel. In particular, he liked to take trips to state and national parks, historical points of interest like Route 66, and the Great Lakes to view

the freighters and ships. Ernie also looked forward to annual summer trips to a vacation rental up north, where he would relish time with his family and friends while boating, fishing, playing cards, and just sitting on the deck soaking up the view. Ernie was also an avid fan of the Minnesota sports teams, including the Twins, Vikings, Timberwolves, and Gophers, even though he was convinced they were jinxed from winning championships. He also loved listening to music, but was especially fond of classic country and 50's Doo-Wop. Ernie had a passion for trains - from the hobby train set he worked on with his son Craig, to the antique steam trains of days gone by, and even the Amtrak and freight trains that rumbled through Little Falls on a daily basis. Ernie was a man of faith, and prior to him isolating as a result of his cancer diagnosis, he regularly attended weekly church services and liked to go downstairs for coffee and donuts for fellowship. Most importantly, Ernie loved being outdoors - whether he was biking, walking, mowing his lawn on his John Deere tractor, or just sitting in his backyard relaxing and enjoying the birds. He was a familiar face to many who saw him on his daily walks on Lindbergh Drive South.

Surviving Ernie in his immediate family, daughter, Christi Seelen of Prior Lake, MN; son, Craig Seelen (Kim Acker) of Little Falls, MN and granddaughter, Emma Holloway of Brainerd, MN; daughter, Amanda Seelen (Stacy Bauer) of St. Joseph, MN; siblings, Jim Seelen (Paula), Sue Doucette, and Theresa Hanson (Tim), all of Little Falls, MN. In addition, Ernie is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Ernie was preceded in death by his father, Anthony and mother, Catherine; brother-in-law, Mike Doucette; sister, Deb Borash; brother-in-law, Jerome Borash, and sister, Patricia Seelen.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG **21**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Historic Cass-Gilbert Train Depot
200 1st Street Northwest
Little Falls, MN 56345

Tribute Wall



“ Ernest "Ernie" Seelen

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ Jill Mackissock lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



jill mackissock - August 17, 2021 at 07:21 AM



“ When I was younger, I was always met with a friendly "hi" from Ernie. He was one of those neighbors always willing to lend a helping hand and even plowed my parents driveway. He will be missed dearly and remembered by those who's lives were touched by his kindness.



David Miller - July 29, 2021 at 01:42 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen.



July 29, 2021 at 01:31 AM

BK

“ Bruce Krych lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Bruce Krych - June 25, 2021 at 08:39 AM

DJ

“ Debbie Jelinski-Harakel lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Debbie Jelinski-Harakel - June 24, 2021 at 12:42 AM

FT

“ Fred And Judy Tabatt lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Fred and Judy Tabatt - June 23, 2021 at 09:23 PM

RW

“ REBECCA F WOTZKA lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



REBECCA F WOTZKA - June 23, 2021 at 05:51 PM

FD

“ I didn't know Ernie very well but, he walked by our house several times a day. We always enjoyed chatting with him as he was going by. He was missed the day we noticed he wasn't out walking anymore and he will be missed always. Our deepest sympathies go out to the family.

Fawnya Day & Tim Dawson

Fawnya Day - June 23, 2021 at 01:15 PM

JS

“ My sympathies go out to Ernie's family. Ernie was always so kind and giving and has been a huge supporter of Mary of Lourdes School & it's staff & students over many years. I have really enjoyed getting to know Ernie over the last 11 years and he will be missed by many. Prayers for Ernie & his family. 💜



Jamie Sunder - June 23, 2021 at 11:22 AM

CK

“ Cathy & Louie Kowalczyk lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Cathy & Louie Kowalczyk - June 23, 2021 at 08:49 AM

TL

“ Tom Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Tom Ledbetter - June 22, 2021 at 08:12 PM

CS

“ Connie & Dan Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Connie & Dan Sullivan - June 22, 2021 at 06:07 PM

JW

“ Jim And Carol Wielinski sent a virtual gift in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Jim and Carol Wielinski - June 22, 2021 at 04:57 PM

KK

“ Kyle & Annika Klosowski lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Kyle & Annika Klosowski - June 22, 2021 at 02:46 PM

MN

“ Mike And Renee Nieman lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Mike And Renee Nieman - June 22, 2021 at 02:30 PM

GZ

“ Greg And Wendy Zylka lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Greg and Wendy Zylka - June 22, 2021 at 11:56 AM

EL

“ Rest in Peace Dear Friend. God has truly gained another Angel. You will be missed by many including me. Till we meet again God bless.



Elaine LeDoux - June 22, 2021 at 11:29 AM

DK

“ There is no way to measure the imprint Ernie left on so many, many students lives in all the years he served Mary of Lourdes school. He loved those students like they were his kids and they loved him back. Rest in peace in the arms of our Lord.

Dcn Craig and Diane Korver

Diane Korver - June 22, 2021 at 11:09 AM

CH

“ *My deepest sympathies go to Ernie’s family! Ernie was one of a kind - always so caring and helpful. He was always there to lend a hand. Ernie loved to visit and had many friends along the way. He was a true servant of God!*



Cindy (Stoltman) Haagenson - June 22, 2021 at 11:04 AM

KS

“ *When we moved into the neighborhood in the fall of 2018, I was pregnant with twins with a toddler at home while my husband was working a lot. Every single time it snowed, Ernie would be out in his John Deere plowing out the driveways in the neighborhood. This man didn’t even know us, but took care of his neighbors regardless. He saved us a lot of trouble and kept my husband from being late to work numerous times. Ernie, you have no idea the imprint you’ve left on our hearts. You will be missed, friend.*



Kacey Siegel - June 22, 2021 at 09:23 AM

KK

“ *Ken And Kathy Garrison Kloss lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen*



Ken and Kathy Garrison Kloss - June 22, 2021 at 09:06 AM

JW

“ Jerry & Faye Waltman lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Jerry & Faye Waltman - June 22, 2021 at 08:50 AM

AD

“ Ann Doble lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Ann Doble - June 22, 2021 at 08:16 AM

RS

“ Deepest sympathy to Ernie's family. Such a sweet guy! May he Rest In Peace 🙏



Rena Schneider - June 22, 2021 at 07:05 AM

CL

“ Charlie And Dianne Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Charlie and Dianne Ledbetter - June 21, 2021 at 11:08 PM

KS

“ Keith Katie Schumann lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



keith katie schumann - June 21, 2021 at 09:18 PM



“ Linda Burggraff lit a candle in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Linda Burggraff - June 21, 2021 at 08:51 PM

SW

“ Sandy {Bzdok} Wright-Olson sent a virtual gift in memory of Ernest "Ernie" Seelen



Sandy {Bzdok} Wright-Olson - June 21, 2021 at 07:56 PM

AA

“ We send our condolences to Ernie's family. He was the most caring neighbor we could have asked for while living in Little Falls. Fly High Ernie, rest in peace and God Bless!

Angie & Justin Athman - June 21, 2021 at 04:57 PM

JA

*We've lost a good neighbor, So energetic & just a nice guy!!
Condolences to the family, Rest in Peace Ernie.*

JANET ALBRECHT - June 22, 2021 at 09:06 AM