

### ***Remembering the life of...***

Dennis Raymond Ellefson, 69, died Saturday, April 30, 2022, at Sanford Medical Center, in Fargo, ND, after fighting his third round of colon cancer.

Denny was born October 11, 1952, in Pipestone County, Pipestone, MN, the youngest and only boy born to Donald and Eldora Ellefson and grew up on a farm by Sherman, SD. He was baptized and confirmed at Highland Lutheran Church, Sherman, SD. Denny attended Highland 45 Country School until 7<sup>th</sup> grade and then attended Jasper High School, Jasper, MN graduating in 1970. His nickname was Maya and had that name throughout high school. He loved playing football in his high school years and often would tell stories relating to their games. After graduation, Denny attended Canby Vocational School where his then known nickname was "Blue." He graduated with a two-year accounting degree. Denny married his wife, Marlene, on September 29, 1973, and were married 48 ½ years.

He started working for Otter Tail Power Company in October 1972 in Milbank, SD as an accounting assistant. Denny also held positions in Oakes, ND; Morris, MN; Fergus Falls, MN; and finally retiring in Jamestown, ND December of 2014, as area manager. After retiring, he and Marlene spent their winters in Arizona where they met and had many wonderful friends. He was very active in the communities where he worked serving on the Church Council, city council, Economic Development and was a member of Kiwanis, Optimist and Jaycees. Denny was very easy going, always had a joke, and tried to find the good in people. Denny loved traveling, especially cruises, playing cards and woodworking. When the boys were old enough, he took them on many memorable fishing and hunting trips.

He is survived by his wife, Marlene; two boys, who he loved and cherished: Jesse of Fargo, ND and Jacob of Bemidji, MN; three sisters: Diane Zellmer, Sioux Falls, SD; Mavis (Jerry) Remund, Pipestone, MN; and Charlotte Olesen, Sioux Falls, SD; many nieces and nephews. After his father died in 1966, his mother, Eldora, married Menferd Monger who had five children of his own: Kris (Steve) Frerk, Lynn (Duane) Yurek, Scott Monger, Tammi (Bill) Allcox, and a step-brother-in-law, Keith Matthiesen. Denny and Menferd spent many hours together discussing farm issues and going on trips.

Denny was preceded in death by his parents, Donald, and Eldora and step-sister: Sondra Matthiesen.



A large graphic with the words "In Loving Memory" in a black, elegant script font. The text is set against a background of a bright blue sky with soft, white, fluffy clouds. The word "Memory" is significantly larger and more prominent than "In Loving".



*God looked around his garden  
And found an empty place.  
He then looked down upon the  
earth and saw your tired face.*

*He put his arms around you  
And lifted you to rest.*

*God's garden must be beautiful  
He always takes the best.*

*He knew you were suffering,  
He knew that you were in pain.*

*He knew that you would never  
Get well on earth again.*

*He saw the road was getting rough  
And the hills were hard to climb.*

*He closed your weary eyelids  
And whispered, "Peace Be Thine."*

*It broke our hearts to lose you,  
But you didn't go alone.*

*Part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.*

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
**DENNIS ELLEFSON**



**FUNERAL SERVICE**  
Atonement Lutheran Church  
Fargo, North Dakota  
Friday, May 6, 2022  
11 a.m.

**Officiant**  
Pastor Becky Lee

**Music**  
Jim Foster, *soloist*  
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"  
"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"  
Jarl Iverson, *pianist*

**Honorary Urn Bearers**  
Glenn Lorenzen      Denny Kindt  
Jim Foster      Bob Toso  
Allan Thoren

*The family wishes to express their appreciation for your  
kindness and support during this difficult time. Please join  
them for fellowship immediately following the service.*

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