

***Richard “Moon” Mellen, age 86, of Frazee, MN,
passed away Friday, January 19, 2018,
at Ecumen-Emmanuel Nursing Home in Detroit Lakes, MN.***



Richard Alden “Moon” Mellen was born on October 29, 1931 in Freeport, Illinois to Alva and Anna (Sherbondy) Mellen. He graduated from Freeport High School. After graduation, he enlisted into the United States Army. While stationed at Dugway Proving Grounds in Utah, he met his beautiful wife, Shelby Formo. The two were married in 1953 and after returning from the Korean War in 1954 focused on raising a family.

He returned to Freeport, Illinois and learned the newspaper trade and was working at the Freeport Journal and after raising 6 children there, they moved to Lake Park, MN to run a weekly newspaper from 1964 to 1974 and raised the remaining 4 children rounding out the "Mellenpatch".

He also got his private pilots license and enjoyed flying single-engine planes when able to. He enjoyed Refereeing for High School Football and Basketball for 17 years and was a member of the Lake Park Volunteer Fire Department.

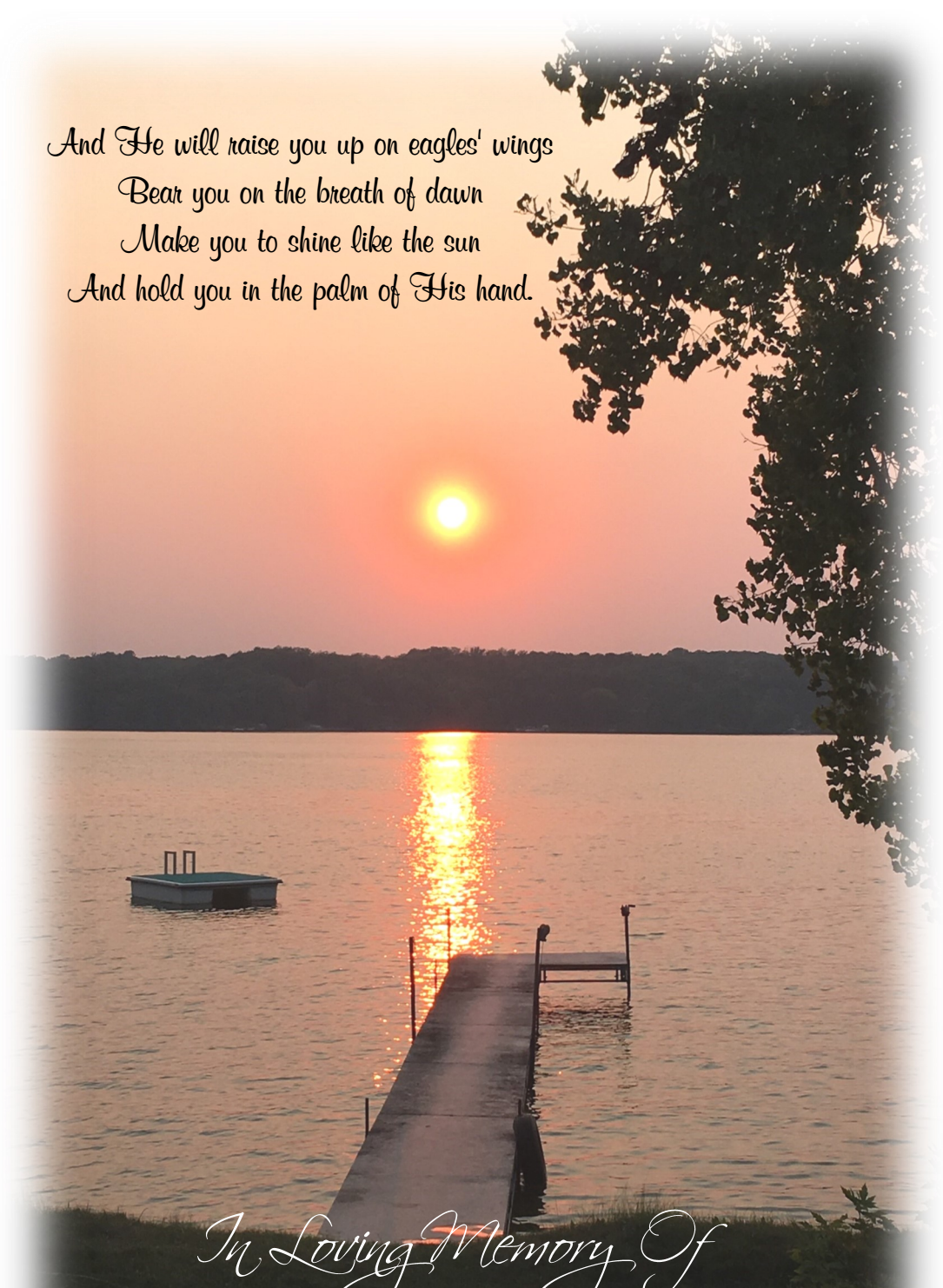
They then moved to Frazee, MN where Moon built and ran the Frazee Freeze and went to school to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. In 1979 the couple then made their home in the Twin Cities where Moon held an array of jobs including, metal finisher and Licensed Practical Nurse at various nursing homes until 1992 when the couple retired to the “quiet north”.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing in his spare time with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Shelby of Frazee; 9 children: Deb (Mark) Pergande, of Frazee, MN, Denise Westlund, of West Fargo, ND, Michael (Lona) Mellen, of Mesa, AZ, Steven Mellen, of Coon Rapids, MN, Matthew (Kathryn) Mellen, of South St. Paul, MN, Timothy (Amy) Mellen, of North Branch, MN, Kate (Tim) Hansey, of Champlin, MN, Sarah Mellen, of Frazee, MN, and Daniel (Tammy) Mellen, of Princeton, MN; 28 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren.

Moon was preceded in death by his parents, Alva and Anna Mellen; brothers: Darrell and Robert Mellen; daughter, Suzanne Mellen; and grandson, William Mellen.

*And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand.*



In Loving Memory Of
Richard “Moon” Mellen

My Way

And now the end is near
And so I face the final curtain
My friend, I'll say it clear
I'll state my case of which I'm certain

I've lived a life that's full
I've travelled each and every highway
and more, much more than this
I did it my way

Regrets I've had a few
But then again too few to mention
I did what I had to do
And saw it through without exemption

I planned each chartered course
Each careful step along the by-way
And more, much more than this
I did it my way

Yes, there were times
I'm sure you knew
When I bit off more than I could chew

But through it all when there was doubt
I ate it up and spit it out
I faced it all

And I stood tall
And did it my way
I've loved, I've laughed, and cried
I've had my fill, my share of losing

And now, as tears subside
I find it all so amusing
To think I did all that
And may I say, not in a shy way

"Oh no, oh no, not me
I did it my way"
For what is a man, what has he got?
If not himself then he has naught

To say the things he truly feels
And not the words of one who kneels
The record shows I took the blows
And did it my way

In Loving Memory Of

Richard Alden Mellen "Moon"

Date of Birth
October 29, 1931
Freeport
Illinois



Date of Death
January 19, 2018
Detroit Lakes
Minnesota

Mass of Christian Burial
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Frazee, Minnesota
Friday, January 26, 2018 at 11 a.m.

Celebrant
Monsignor David Baumgartner

Special Music
Susan Champa, Accompanist
Paradise Singers Choir

Postlude Music
"My Way" recording of Frank Sinatra

Casket Bearers
Knight's of Columbus of Sacred Heart

Honorary Casket Bearers
Moon's Grandchildren

Interment
Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery
Frazee, Minnesota

Military Honors
Lake Region Veteran's Honor Guard
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

