



## Gary Palmer Mortenson

December 16, 1937 - October 25, 2022

Gary Palmer Mortenson, age 84 of Dassel, died, Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at his residence. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 11:00 am at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Dassel with Rev. Janine Olson officiating. The interment of the urn will be held at the Dassel Community Cemetery after the service.

There will be a time to gather one hour prior to the service at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Dassel on Saturday, October 29, 2022.

The Johnson Funeral Home in Dassel is in charge of the memorial arrangements.

Gary Palmer Mortenson, the son of George and Olga (Anderson) Mortenson, was born on December 16, 1937, in Litchfield, Minnesota. He grew up in the Dassel area where he was baptized and confirmed at the Church of Christ in Dassel and was presently a member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Dassel. Gary was a 1955 graduate of the Dassel High School.

On May 8, 1959, Gary was united in marriage to Marlys LaVonne Irvin at Stockholm Lutheran Church. Together they made their home in Dassel before they purchased the Boo farm southeast of Dassel where they resided until 1987 when they sold the farm and moved to a house on the shore of Lake

Washington. In 1998, Gary and LaVonne moved back to Dassel and in 2004 they built a new home in Dassel where they have since resided. Gary farmed for many years along with driving truck for Midwest and Minnesota Hatcheries.

Gary loved to spend time with family and friends. He enjoyed helping his family and spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was an avid sports fan, he enjoyed watching football, basketball, and baseball. He loved spending time helping his godson, Layne Anderson with farm work. He could often be found playing cards and nibbling on popcorn with the neighbors. He stayed connected with family, friends, and classmates. Gary had a heart of gold; he always had a place at the table for those who needed help. Gary and LaVonne were foster parents for twenty-three children and had nine foreign exchange students.

He is survived by his wife, LaVonne Mortenson of Dassel, son, Kurt (Mary) Mortenson of Dassel, two grandchildren, Kristina (Kellen) Ryan and Daniel Mortenson, two great grandchildren, Adalynn and Piper Ryan, godchildren, Layne Anderson, Jeff McCalla, Mary Voreck, and Randy Humola, siblings, Richard Piehl of Illinois, Roger (June) Coultier of Elk River and Ruth (Dan) Franzon of Mallard, Iowa, cousins, Frank Piehl of Litchfield, Sandra Anderson of Litchfield, and Melanie Gibson of Litchfield.

He was preceded in death by his son, Keith Mortenson, grandson, Jon Kurtis Mortenson, his parents, and a sister, Georgia Ann Mortenson.

# Cemetery Details

## Dassel Community Cemetery

23526-23574 County Rd 4,  
Dassel, MN 55325

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

OCT **29**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
221 Atlantic Ave E  
Dassel, MN 55325  
[office@glcdassel.com](mailto:office@glcdassel.com)  
<http://www.glcdassel.com>

# Tribute Wall

SL

“ *My Sympathy for your loss. I did not know Gary, but my Dad (Donald Hanson) spoke very highly of George and Olga. They cared for him when he was a little boy, even bought him a tricycle. He had been hospitalized and his parents (Lewis and Mary Ellen Hanson) Did not have the resources necessary to care for him, so George and Olga took him in. Listening to Dad's stories, I can see where Gary got his kindness that he shared with many in need. Thank you for being a great family!*

---

**SUSAN LAABS** - November 03, 2022 at 02:52 PM

JL

“ *Sorry to hear, we will be thinking of your family - Jerome & Dawn Lindquist*

---

**Jerome S Lindquist** - October 31, 2022 at 03:25 PM

LS

“ *Dear Lavonne and Kurt you are in my prayers.. May God-bless you during this time and Know that we are thinking of you.  
Lynn*

---

**Lynn L Sowders** - October 28, 2022 at 07:59 PM

FS

“ *I'd like to share my condolence with Gary's Family . But specially with Lavonne. Gary and Lavonne my family as well.*

*With much Love.*

*Paco.*

---

**Francisco Jose Simarro Simarro** - October 28, 2022 at 06:46 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary Palmer Mortenson.



October 28, 2022 at 10:59 AM



“ My Deepest Sympathy to all of you. He always wore a Smile . Keep his Memory Alive Always.



**Gail Nelson** - October 28, 2022 at 09:36 AM



“ LaVonne....Sending you our deepest sympathy with a "Hug!"....So many fun memories with Gary, Always had a smile on his face with a warm laugh...may your many memories be a source of strength for your tomorrows....Thinking of you!! Don and Jadyne Berg

**Donald Berg** - October 28, 2022 at 09:33 AM



“ Our deepest sympathies to Gary's family. He was a good man. Doug and Julie Fett

**Julie Fett** - October 27, 2022 at 12:22 PM



*Rest in peace Gary*

**Michael MOREHOUSE** - October 27, 2022 at 01:30 PM

GL

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Mortenson Family. I have fond memories of Gary back in our Marching Band days. Keep the good memories close to your hearts.*

---

**Greg Lindwall** - October 28, 2022 at 04:41 AM