



## Merle Larry Gordon

February 2, 1939 - July 19, 2025

Merle L. Gordon, age 86, of Golden Valley, Minnesota, passed away peacefully on July 19, 2025.

Merle Larry Gordon, son of Luman and Pauline (Sopowiak) Gordon, was born on February 2, 1939, and raised in Dassel, MN.

He proudly served in the United States Air Force, where he began his work in telecommunications—a field that became the foundation of his lifelong career, continuing well into his civilian life.

He and his former wife, Sharon (Jorges), had one son together (Mitchel). During this time, Merle also operated Gordon's Resort on Lake Washington, welcoming families from near and far for many summers of fun and relaxation.

Merle later married Marilyn (Hovey), and together they settled in Golden Valley, where he welcomed her daughters, Laura and Linda, as his stepdaughters. Merle enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, cooking, gardening, traveling and cherished time spent with his family and friends.

After more than 45 years in the telecommunications industry, a proud accomplishment Merle embraced retirement. In 2016, he moved into a retirement community, where he enjoyed peaceful days, meaningful

friendships, and a slower pace of life.

Merle was preceded in death by his wife Marilyn; his parents, Luman and Pauline; his sister Eleanor; and his brothers Lowell, Ray and Dale.

He is survived by his son, Mitchel (Ronda); grandchildren Nicole and Colten; stepdaughters, Laura (Bruce) Neubert and Linda (Ray) Peterson; and step grandchildren, Jonathon (Brown), Jessica (Godderz), and Marilyn (Neubert); and step great-grandchild, Darwin (Godderz). He also leaves behind his brother, Lee, along with many nieces, nephews, extended family, and cherished friends.

Merle will be remembered for his dry wit, quiet strength, kind heart and deep love for his family. His legacy of service, hard work, and perseverance will continue to inspire all who knew him.

A Funeral services will be held at 2:pm on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at Johnson Funeral Home in Dassel, MN. A private family burial with military honors will take place at a later date at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Snelling National Veterans Cemetery

7601 34th Ave S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55450

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JUL **26.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Johnson Funeral Home  
PO Box 1 611 N 2nd Street  
Dassel, MN 55325  
(320) 275-3381  
jfhdassel@spectrum.net

# Tribute Wall

RF

“ To Mitch and extended family, I remember Merle as a loving husband to my Aunt Marilyn. He was always kind to me and would come with her to visit our family in Nebraska and at a lake resort in Montana. After Aunt Marilyn passed, I continued to send Christmas cards every year. He always sent one back. I'm so sorry for your loss. Peace be with you.

Rachel Feigley - July 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Merle Larry Gordon.

July 25, 2025 at 10:39 AM

ME

“ Mavis Gordon, Michelle & Marty Eggersgluss, Jason Gordon, Ray & Elissa purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Merle Larry Gordon.



Mavis Gordon, Michelle & Marty Eggersgluss, Jason Gordon, Ray & Elissa - July 22, 2025 at 03:49 PM

JD

“ The best times of my life was getting in the car and knowing we were going to uncle Merle's resort and knowing all my uncles and aunts and cousins would be there and the feeling of being with my family knowing I was with the best people ever. Thank you Merle for the best times of my life. Please say hi to everyone.

JDG - July 22, 2025 at 09:22 AM

LP

“ It’s hard to pick a favorite memory because all my memories of Merle are good ones. Two memories stand out, though, and they both include fishing.

*Smelting in Duluth with Merle, Mitch, my mom and my daughter Jessica. Cold and wet but so much fun. I don’t think we caught a single smelt.*

*The other was catching crappies on a very small lake by the Wisconsin border near Hinckley. They were really biting and it was a lot of fun.*

*Merle was always quick to laugh and he will be missed.*

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**Linda Peterson** - July 21, 2025 at 04:46 PM

SB

*My family and I lived at Gordon's Resort from 1967- 1970  
Merle was a big influence on me, as a young person with hunting,  
fishing. Living at the Resort is the fondest memories of my youth.  
Including smelting on the north shore.*

*Scott Bunney*

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**scott bunney** - August 14, 2025 at 06:22 PM