



Harold Kenneth Hettinger

February 18, 1925 - April 7, 2011

Harold K. "Bud" Hettinger was born on February 18, 1925 in Blainstown, Iowa to parents Roscoe and Elsie Hettinger. Bud went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on April 7, 2011 in Omaha, Nebraska. Preceded in death by parents, brothers Al, Jack, Carl, and Arthur, and dear twin sister, Harriet. Bud is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 59 years, Dorothy Elenor (Tesar) Hettinger, and sons and spouses Paul and Barb, Roch and Brenda, Doug and Stacy, and Joe and Anne Marie. Bud is also survived by his pride and joy grandchildren Nicole and spouse, Shawn Evans, Ryan, Jeff, Kristen, Jill, Julie, Jake, Kara, and Erin, and three great-grandchildren Tyler "TJ" Evans, Bryce Evans, and Jaiden Hettinger.

Bud graduated from El Dorado Springs High School in Missouri in the Class of '42. Shortly thereafter, at the age of 17, Bud enlisted in the United States Navy and proudly served his country in WWII aboard the great battleship, USS Iowa. Honorably discharged in 1946 and recognizing early in his life the many benefits of an education, Bud enrolled in college at the University of New Mexico. Unfortunately, with no money to continue his pursuit of higher education, Bud left New Mexico after one year to work as a union ironworker in Nebraska. After a brief stint as an ironworker including surviving a bridge collapse, Bud began his long career as a field technician for Northwestern Bell Telephone and later AT&T and Qwest.

Bud and Dorothy were married in style on February 16, 1952 at St. John's Cathedral on the campus of Creighton University. A family of boys (and all that comes with it) followed with first son, Paul in 1953, Roch in 1958, Doug in 1962, and Joe in 1965. Bud and Dorothy bought their first house in 1957 for \$11,000 in North Omaha and in 1972 moved the family west to Elkhorn (the first drive west to Elkhorn had the kids thinking they had moved to Colorado!)

Bud was born into a Lutheran family and converted to Catholicism shortly before his marriage to Dorothy. An unlikely friendship with Fr. Roch Hettinger and his love for Dorothy's enthusiastic faith led Bud to his conversion. For the rest of his years, Bud was a passionate supporter of his parish churches and Catholic institutions including Blessed Sacrament (North Omaha), St. Patrick's (Elkhorn), Rummel (Roncalli) High School, Mount Michael Benedictine High School, and St. Mary's College (MN).

Bud enjoyed walking, a cold beer and a shot, ballroom dancing, a good nap, trivia, several good TV sit-coms (MASH, Everyone Loves Raymond, Taxi, and America's Funniest Home Videos), a sharp-looking suit, reading, and geography. Never a world traveler, but Bud could recall every city, country, culture, river, mountain range, and ocean ever in National Geographic magazine. Bud was also known for years to prepare for a good night's rest by reading Encyclopedia Britannica! In recent years (after the kids "flew the nest"), Bud found an additional and dear family in the Knights of Columbus at St. Patrick's parish. Many special memories were made with his many K of C friends.

Bud will be forever remembered for his unwavering faith, keen sense of humor, friendliness (he never met a stranger), gift of gab, but mostly for his love and dedication to his family. Though Bud worked two or more jobs for many years for the care of his family, Bud would always find a way to make it to every baseball, football, and basketball game, every soccer game, track

meet, wedding, funeral and sacrament. Bud has given all of us a wonderful and valuable example of unselfishness, love, hard-work, dedication, humanity, and faith.

Rest in Peace, our dear husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, neighbor, and friend. You have earned your eternal reward and shown us the way. We know that the saints and many friends are there to greet you, with Jesus in front with arms wide open saying, "A job well done, Bud. Welcome!". Goodbye, Bud. We miss you, love you, and will never forget you!

Tribute Wall



“ *Harold Kenneth Hettinger*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM



“ *My deepest sympathies go out to the entire Hettinger clan for the loss of Bud. As I related to Joe earlier in the week, his dad Bud was the best fan Mount Michael ever had. Mr. Hettinger always made me feel important and at ease as a high school kid, and he remains one of my favorite people from Mount Michael days. Mr. Hettinger could pretty much talk to you about anything and make it interesting. And boy could he talk, especially about the sports teams at the Mount! He was very proud of his boys, and a great father and husband. I'm sure he will be sorely missed by many. My family's prayers are for the peaceful repose of Bud's soul in the hands of God, and for the consolation of all his family and friends.*

David Tamisiea - April 10, 2011 at 02:37 PM



“ *To our extended family, The Hettingers,*

Your husband, father, grandfather will always be remembered as one of those people you meet as a stranger and are immediately adopted into the family. Mr H. had a way of letting you know that you were the most important person in the room, no matter how long it had been since the last visit. His smile and the snicker in his voice could charm you and put you at ease even when you were in trouble and should be getting a stern lecture (Sorry Paul! It was always my fault.). He is and will always be a picture of the type of person we all aspire to be. We have all been blessed in knowing Mr. H and the Hettinger family. God bless you. John and Devin Kraemer

John and Devin Kraemer - April 10, 2011 at 11:56 AM

BL

“*Doug Joe and families, I am sorry to hear of the loss of your dad. I always enjoyed your dad at our games out at the Mount. I have always held a special place for your dad because of our name "Bud". My thoughts and prayers are with you always. Bud Larsen Class of '80. Go Knights!*

Bud Larsen - April 09, 2011 at 10:05 PM

RC

“*Dorothy & boys. So sad to hear about Bud's passing. I know I will miss him a great deal. Bob & Joyce Chadwell Gilbert Az.*

robert chadwell - April 09, 2011 at 09:24 AM

FA

“*Dot and family, What a shock to get the call from you today about Bud'a passing. Our hearts go out to you all....we wish we were able to make the trip for the funeral, but we are afraid it is just too long a drive for the folks to undertake - hope you understand....our sincere condolences to all. Frank and Vivienne, Marge and Gerry, Barb and Jerry*

frank and vivienne benedik, Marge and Gerry Bergert, Barb and Jerry Anderson - April 08, 2011 at 09:38 PM

BF

“*Sorry to read of Bud's Passing. Worked with him At N.W. Bell Tele.Co. for many years.*

Bill Fead - April 08, 2011 at 08:11 PM

T

“ Joe and Doug:

*So sorry to hear of the loss of your Dad. Bud was and is the
Number 1 Mount Michael Fan.*

God Bless,

Tim Andrews, '84

Tim Andrews, '84 - April 08, 2011 at 05:10 PM