



## LaVerne Leroy Ijames

May 16, 1935 - January 7, 2024

LaVerne Leroy Ijames was born 05/16/1935 on a farm outside of Belleville, Kansas to parents Dora Sass and Ralph Ijames. Verne was the fifth of seven children - Earl, Kenneth, Bonnie, Richard, LaVerne, Caroline and Duane. He moved to Belleville in 2nd grade where he met his wife Beverly Whitman in elementary school. They were married after graduation in 1954. LaVerne attended college in Kansas on a basketball scholarship and studied city and county government. In 1957 and 1960 they had 2 sons, Lane and Chris and then in 1969 a daughter Erin. LaVerne was a City Administrator for 40 years and spent most of that time in Kansas, Colorado and then Nebraska. He was District Governor of the Kansas Lions Club for several years and served on the Board of Directors for the League of Municipalities in Nebraska for 10 years. The Ijames family were members of the First United Methodist Church. LaVerne had an amazing sense of humor, a kind heart and a gentle soul. He passed away peacefully 01/07/2024 after a 20 year battle with Alzheimer's but never lost his love of family or his great laughter. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings and son Lane. He is survived by his lovely wife of 69 years, Beverly. His daughter Erin and grandchildren Allie, Katie, Dylan and Evan. His son Chris and grandchildren Mallory and Hayden. Lane's family - Tina and granddaughter Linsay and 2 great grandchildren Mikayla and Jace. He is also survived by so many nieces and nephews and friends too numerous to count : ) He always had a smile, handshake and a compliment which made everyone feel like family. Special thank you to all of the staff at

Brookstone Village and Angels Care Hospice for their endless kindness in his care. Also a kind thank you to Reichmuth for their respectfulness and dignity in assisting our family this week. LaVerne's life journey was blessed, remarkable and as he would always say "really really good" : ) The family will have a celebration of life for LaVerne this April in Utah.