

Morris "Morrie" Carlson

May 15, 1936 ~ April 29, 2024

Morris “Morrie” Carlson, 87, of Sandy, Utah, passed away on April 29th, 2024 due to post-operative complications, surrounded by his wife, daughters, granddaughter, and step-granddaughter.

He was home-birthed on May 15th, 1936, to Bernice and Fritz Carlson, originally from Sweden. Morrie called the then-small town of Elk River, Minnesota, his home until graduating high school in 1954. As soon as his adult voice manifested, the 13-year- old Morrie knew with absolute clarity that said voice would be his living, entertaining and informing on the radio. So, at the University of Minnesota, he studied radio and television speech, minoring in journalism. Before graduating however, Morrie met the intelligent and capable Betsy Hansen, and made her his wife at the start of his senior year.

While at his first job at WDAY in Fargo / Moorehead, Morrie did a stint in the National Guard. Also, while in Moorhead, Morrie and Betsy had their two daughters, Linda, in 1961, and Amy, in 1965. Next came a brief stint at WLW in Cincinnati, followed by twelve years at WWJ in Detroit, where he became “Morrie in the morning”. Then the West beckoned, with a decade at KSL in Salt Lake City.

Throughout his career, he did a bit of voiceover work on the side. Ever jocular, Morrie was most at home behind the microphone: doing interviews, spinning tunes, and entertaining. When not working, Morrie faithfully sang bass in his Lutheran church choir. When granddaughter Rachel arrived, he doted on her, forging a special grampa-granddaughter bond. He put many an hour into maintaining a lovely yard, and in his later years, into keeping tabs on world affairs.

Morrie is survived by the aforementioned Betsy Hansen Carlson of Sandy, UT, after sixty-six years of marriage. He is also survived by eldest daughter Linda Carlson, of Sandy, UT, and her daughter, Rachel Carlson, of Washington, D.C. He is additionally survived by youngest daughter Amy Carlson Miesel (Richard), of Wheeling, WV, and their sons, Theodore "Ted" Carlson Miesel and Anthony "Tony" Carlson Miesel, both of Morgantown, WV. He is also survived by his brother John (Alem) Carlson of New Hope, MN.

Formal funeral services will be held at 10:30 am on Monday, May 20, 2024 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, Minnesota. Interment at Orono Cemetery in Elk River, MN.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Utah on June 6, 2024, at Le Jardin, 1910 E. Dimple Dell Road (10600 S.), Sandy, UT. The celebration will be held from 11:00am to 1:00pm with a short, 30-minute program beginning at 11:30am.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to:
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital at https://www.stjude.org/give/memorials-and-dedications.html?sc_icid=wtg-mm-memorial-giving

or

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary at https://bestfriends.org/donate.

The family is immensely grateful for all the condolences and support during this time.