

OBITUARIES

Leo Elyea  
Susan Bye-Elyea



Leo Elyea and Susan Bye-Elyea both passed away earlier in April 2022, as a result of a car crash in Backus, MN. Prior to their marriage they both had full lives. Leo's career in the Airforce took him around the world. When he retired, he returned to Backus where he had grown up. Susan had taught 33 years at Cooper High School. She was vice president of Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers, and voted "Favorite Teacher" by students for 21 years. After being widowed she spent much of her time in Hackensack and Backus at the lake where she met Leo.

Leo and Sue were together over 30 years and active in the Backus and Hackensack Legion Posts doing parades and poppies among other things, WeFest, fundraising for Cass County 4-H, participating in the county fair, reading, fishing, gardening, golfing, coffee club, entertaining and traveling south for the winter and many great trips to Canada. They had Gopher Football tickets for over 30 yrs. They cared for veterans in area nursing homes, and delivered cookies at Christmas throughout the community for over two decades, one year making 36 different kinds of cookies for the trays.

Celebration of Life on May 22, 2022 at 1:00pm at Church of the Nazarene in Backus. Interment at the Backus Cemetery with military honors, lunch at the Backus Legion. Memorials can be sent to the Backus or Hackensack Legion and will be used to support their passions within the communities.

Ronald Jones



Ronald Ray Jones was born November 2, 1940, in St. Louis, MO. Shortly after high school, he served in the U.S. Army, with some of his time spent in Korea.

Ron loved golfing as much as working at golf courses. He liked nothing better than enjoying nature at The Preserve Golf Course where he finished his last season last fall.

Ron was a man who loved many things. He loved seeing new and ancient places. He loved being active and got antsy if he had to sit in one place too long. Ron was the type of man who read for pleasure and never met a stranger. He loved his family and, without a doubt, he deeply loved his wife, Gail.

Ron is survived by his wife of 27 years, Gail; children: Ron "Termite" Jones (Rosa) of Andover, MN, Wahlia Jones Woolley (Don) of Cedar Park, TX, Christine Francis (Tim) of Coram, NY; stepchildren: Brenda Knowles, Brad Knowles, Brandon Knowles (Kara), Lexy Chase; 9 grandchildren; and 1 great grandson.

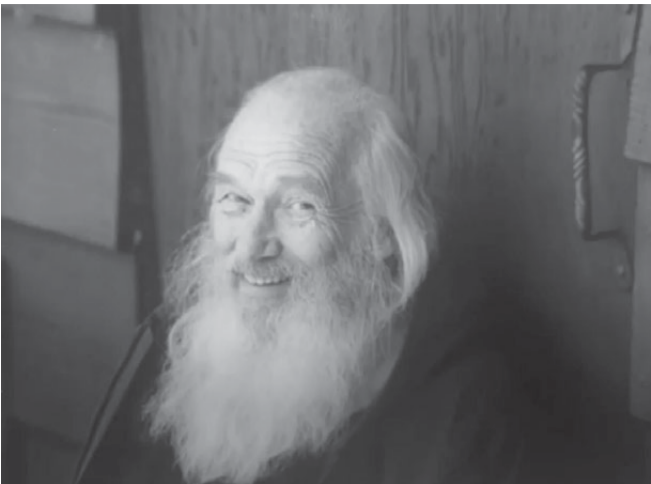
Ron entered his forever Heavenly home on December 8, 2021, after battling COPD, cancer and Covid. A celebration of Ron's life will be held from 1 to 3 PM on Saturday, May 28, at Kline Funeral Home, Pine River. Private burial will be held at a later date. Please bring your memories of Ron to share with his family.

Delores "Lorie" McKeever



Delores "Lorie" Elaine McKeever, 77, Fergus Falls, MN, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 6, 2022 surrounded by her loving family in Watertown, SD. Visitation: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 15, 2022, with prayer service at 3:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church in Fergus Falls. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the funeral service. Funeral Service: 11:00 a.m. Monday, May 16, 2022 at Grace United Methodist Church in Fergus Falls. Interment: 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at Norwood Cemetery, rural Pine River, MN Online condolences may be sent to [www.olsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.olsonfuneralhome.com)

Frederick Gridley



Frederick Arthur Gridley had an adventurous life. His journeys led him around the world and finally to Manhattan Beach, MN. He was never one to spare the truth for a good story... And his stories were legendary. To those who knew him, Frederick was a character, such a grand personality, and something bigger than life.

Born in St Paul, MN in 1943 to Dr. John Willis Gridley and Dorothy Root Gridley. The family moved to Arlington, MN where Dr. Gridley had his medical practice.

After graduating Hamline University in 1964 with a degree in Theatre, he joined the Peace Corps and traveled to Venezuela for four years. He stayed on for an extra year as the photographer for the embassy in Caracas, Venezuela. Selling his photographs to multiple magazines including one to National Geographic.

He spent a year as a sailor on the Barefoot Windjammer Cruises throughout the Caribbean. His artistic areas were wide, he was a glass blower and ceramic artist with multiple wonderful artists during the 70s. He was also a Leadership Trainer for Dayton Corporation in the Twin Cities, a Polygraph Examiner for a several years before moving to Northern Minnesota to raise a family and become a Northwoods self proclaimed artistic Hermit.

He was a craftsman, artist, performer and "supervisor" of the public landing on Big Trout Lake. He was very proud of serving more than 30-years with the City of Manhattan Beach, including terms as mayor and planning and zoning administrator. He was also a volunteer firefighter for the community.

You may have seen Fred as the M.C. on stage at the Nisswa Stamman Scandinavian Folk Festival and marching in the Crosslake St. Patrick's Day parade for decades. He was 'Frederik the Bearclawed', the iron-helmeted, chainmail-wearing Viking Ace in the deck of cards promoting the Paul Bunyan By-way.

He was a proud member of the Boy Scouts of America in Pine River, Minnesota and enjoyed BoxCar races and helping his son, Jesse Reed Gridley, to become part of the Boy Scout Pack. Frederick was also a long term member and two-time Lodge Master of the Pine River Masonic Lodge #339 and member of Aurora Lodge #100 as well.

Fred created a unique way of working color into porcelain and named his business Spun Porcelain Ceramics. He started working at the Renaissance Festival in Shakopee Minnesota in the mid-80's selling his new ceramics.

Frederick married his current wife, Camille, in 1989 and continued the Renaissance tradition selling both his porcelain jewelry and thimbles and also her Capes and Hats.

While his daughter, C.C. O'Bryan, relocated to the Oregon coast in 2004, he was still able to enjoy summers with his granddaughters, Rowan Morganna O'Bryan and Moira Siobhan O'Bryan. They were the light of his life.

During a lengthy battle with Multiple Myeloma, Fred maintained a fierce determination that the outcome was in his control. In the spring of 2022, he was overtaken with a new cancer, Leukemia. While Fred was a steadfast and valiant warrior, the cancers had different ideas. He lost the battle on April 3, 2022 at home with his wife, Camille.

He survived by his wife of 33 years, Camille Kilmer Gridley. His three children from his previous marriages: his son, Dr. Jesse Reed Gridley, and his daughters, Carrie Christine Gridley O'Bryan and Gillian Joy Gridley. His two granddaughters, Rowan Morganna O'Bryan and Moira Siobhan O'Bryan. His sister, Janet Gridley Sawyer. And his Nieces and many wonderful cousins.

There will be a Memorial Celebration for Fred on July 23rd, 2022 from 11am-2pm at the Manhattan Beach Lodge.

Memorial Donations may be made in his name to the Boy Scouts of America or the Shriners Hospital Foundation.

► More obituaries on Page 8

SENIOR MEALS

Senior Meals

PINE RIVER — The Senior Nutrition Program offers a nutritionally balanced meal for all people and is open again for in-person dining. Masks are no longer mandatory.

Meals are served at 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday at the Heartland Apartments, 445 Snell Ave., in Pine River.

The suggested voluntary donation is \$5 per meal for those over 60 and \$8.50 for those under 60.

To make a reservation, call 218-587-2921.

Menus are subject to change. Meals are served with low-fat milk.

May 16-20

► **Monday:** Chicken fried steak with gravy, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, bread with margarine, dessert.

► **Tuesday:** Baked chicken, baked potato with sour cream, Italian blend, bread with margarine, dessert.

► **Wednesday:** Lasagna, California Normandy, peaches, breadstick, dessert.

► **Thursday:** Chicken salad, croissant, coleslaw, tropical fruit, dessert.

► **Friday:** Beef chili with beans, romaine salad with dressing, corn bread with margarine, pears, dessert.

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CARD GAMES

500 SCORES 1 p.m. Tuesdays Pine River American Legion Tuesday, May 3

► Les Dupont 3530, Deb Olson 3260, Ken Schrupp 3220, Jack Anderson 3100, Delores Flategraff 2900. Curt Wohl won the door prize.

BRIDGE SCORES 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 1 p.m. Thursdays Ideal Town Hall Tuesday, May 3

► Duplicate: Gail Kane and Claude Kane 49, Mary Kay Kendall and Enga Wodziak 44, Bruce Peck and Deanna Dubel 43, Tim Tulloch and Theresa Tulloch 41. Thursday, May 5 Duplicate: ► North/South: Shir-

ley Rhinehart and Clare Fulton 55.50, Barb Bretz and Ruth Ann Gottwaldt 52, Chris Brown and Bruce Peck 51.50.

► East/West: Larry Fleer and Donna Fleer 59, Mickey Smith and Clarice Renschler 53.50, Tim Tulloch and Therese Tulloch 48.50.

To join bridge games, call 218-232-5499.

[INSERT MEMORIES HERE]

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