



Gustav Albert Swanson

August 8, 2019

Gustav Albert Swanson died peacefully with family at his side in Hartford, CT, on August 8, 2019. Gus was born May 10, 1936, in Flint, Michigan to the late Albert and Martha (Borg) Swanson. The family moved to St. Peter, Minnesota in 1947. While at St. Peter High School, Gus was on the track and debate teams, he was an Eagle Scout, and was student council president. He earned degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and served as a lieutenant in the Army.

After graduating from MIT, Gus married Rosemary in West Roxbury, MA. They relocated to Connecticut where Gus worked at Pratt & Whitney for 35 years. His work included designing jet engines and helping design the fuel cell used for the first manned mission to land on the moon. Gus and Rosemary raised their family in Glastonbury, CT until 1997. They then relocated to Cape Cod and enjoyed many happy years of retirement. They later moved to Farmington to be closer to family while Gus courageously battled Parkinson's disease. Throughout his life, Gus enjoyed traveling, woodworking, painting, sailing, and canoeing. He was a church lay leader and sang in church choirs.

Gus' greatest joy was spending time with family.

Gus is survived by his wife of 61 years, Rosemary, sister Linda Fjerstad of Utah, brother Herman of Minnesota; children Marie Rath and husband William of Pennsylvania, Albert and wife Ann of Tolland, CT, Charles and partner Nicole of Pennsylvania, Helen Weigel and husband William of Maine, Richard and wife Manana of Virginia, Daniel and wife Jolie of Hartford, CT, Paul and

wife Tara of Pennsylvania, and Eric and wife Sharon of Milford, CT; grandchildren Christina, Kenneth, Frederick, Lindsay, Joanne, Matthew, Brett, Sarah, Chloe, Erica, Kelsey, Jordin, Danielle, Caitlin, John, Nicholas, Benjamin, Michael, William, Peter, and Timothy; and great-granddaughter Sadie. He is survived by brothers-in-law James, Thomas, and John, sister-in-law Nel, and many nieces and nephews as well as dear friends and neighbors. Gus was pre-deceased by three special sisters-in-law Patty Swanson, Juanita Barry, and May Pon.

Gus will be remembered by family and friends for his warmth, kindness, and humor.

The family thanks the staff of Avon Health Care and St. Francis ICU and his private health care aids for the care and support they gave to Gus throughout his battle with Parkinson's disease.

Calling hours will be Thursday, August 15 from 4 to 7 pm at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Funeral service will be held on Friday, August 16 at 10 am at St. Dunstan, 1345 Manchester Rd., Glastonbury, CT. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Gus' memory can be sent to the Southern Poverty Law Center or the Parkinson's Foundation. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Holy Cross Cemetery

17 Wickham Road
Glastonbury, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hours

AUG 15. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 232-1322

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 16. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Dunstan
1345 Manchester Rd
Glastonbury, CT

Tribute Wall

BG

“Gustav's name and photo jumped out at me from today's issue of the St. Peter Herald. I remember him and his parents well from our high school days, and before that as members of First Lutheran Church. At SPHS Gus and I were debate partners.

Reading now about the remarkable accomplishments of his long career, he certainly merits a Celebration of Life.

My condolences to Rosemary and all the rest of the family. As a coincidence of fate, I joined you in widowhood with the passing this past April of my husband Donald, who in adulthood also preferred to be known as "Gus".

*With sincere sympathy and empathy,
Beverly (Matson) Gustafson*

Beverly Gustafson - August 22, 2019 at 05:41 PM

BJ

“Very sorry for your loss. I have many fond memories with The Swanson's through school, soccer and beyond. Condolences from all of the Jenkins family and friends from Minnechaug Mountain.
Sincerely, Brad Jenkins

Brad Jenkins - August 15, 2019 at 12:47 PM



“Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Gustav Albert Swanson.



August 15, 2019 at 12:02 PM

CC

“ *Cathy & Matt, Christine and Christian purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Gustav Albert Swanson.*



Cathy & Matt, Christine and Christian - August 15, 2019 at 12:01 PM

CA

“ *Collins Aerospace purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gustav Albert Swanson.*



Collins Aerospace - August 14, 2019 at 04:04 PM

BK

“ *Mrs. Swanson holding you and all your family in prayer as you prepare for your final farewell to your husband. May your memories bring you comfort, strength and peace.*
Sr. Barbara-Jean, SNDdeN

Barbara-Jean Kubik - August 13, 2019 at 01:50 PM

HS

“ *I am so sorry for the loss of a wonderful person. I remember visiting the Swanson's at their home with my parents in Connecticut and playing with their kids/grandkids and then later as an adult visiting them in cape cod. Mr. Swanson was always a very kind man and he will be missed. Heather Stone*

Heather Stone - August 10, 2019 at 05:39 PM

MA

Dear Rosemary & family. Our prayers and many memories of all of you on the mountain in Glastonbury and at ST Dunstan Church. The many events of liturgy, CCD, picnics and a bonding of parish family are ties into eternity. God love you and peace to all. Sincerely, Matt & Mary Acunto

Matt Acunto - August 15, 2019 at 04:56 PM