

Donald Ray Larsen was born on April 17, 1938, in Graceville, Minnesota, to Emil and Mildred (Chapin) Larsen. He attended Lee School #3 through the eighth grade and later graduated from high school in Wilmot, South Dakota, with the Class of 1956. During his high school years, Donald was active in football, baseball, basketball, and track.

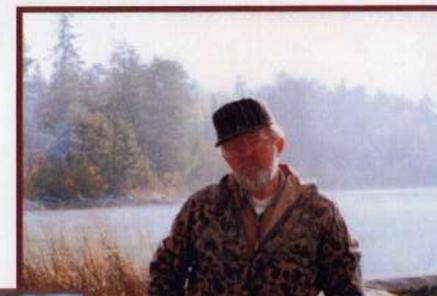
He continued his education at South Dakota State University, graduating in 1961. Following college, Donald was united in marriage to Betty Olson in Brampton, North Dakota. Three children were born to this union.

Throughout his life, Donald wore many hats. He worked for Cenex, signed on as a minor league pitcher with the St. Louis Cardinals, and proudly served five years in the United States National Guard. His true passion, however, was fishing. Donald co-owned and operated a fly-in fishing resort in northern Manitoba, Canada. He later owned and operated a second fishing resort on Lake of the Woods with his second wife, Nancy Larsen. Together, they adopted a daughter, Jeaneth Larsen.

Donald found joy in the simple pleasures of life. Christmas held special meaning for him, and he enjoyed country music, playing the accordion and harmonica, and cheering on the Minnesota Twins. An avid reader, his favorite authors included Zane Grey and Louis L'Amour. He loved gardening, woodworking, and cooking—especially frying fish. Time spent playing cards with family, enjoying bingo at the nursing home, and playing Hand and Foot with his sisters brought him great happiness.

Donald is survived by his children: Todd (Angela) Larsen of Atlanta, GA; Debbie (Larry) Kadoun of Urbandale, IA; Maria Larsen of St. Paul, MN; Jeaneth Larsen of Mitchell, SD; brother: Jerry (Jeanette) Larsen of Sisseton, SD; seven grandchildren: Brandi (Derick) Davison Beaverdale, IA; Jesse (Aurie) Kadoun of West Des Moines, IA; Roxanne Kadoun of Des Moines, IA; Jordan Larsen of Brookhaven, GA; Aidan Mallberg Minneapolis, MN; Carter Mallberg of Boulder, CO; Ayla Mallberg of St. Paul, MN; and two great-grandchildren: Alice and Gage Davidson of Beaverdale, IA.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents Emil and Mildred Larsen; and siblings: Arnold Larsen, Roy Larsen, Irene Ellsworth, Delores Ward, Larry Larsen, and an infant brother.



In Memory Of Donald Ray Larsen April 17, 1938 ~ January 6, 2026



Thomas
Kinkadee

626
MESSENGER
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Thomas
Kinkadee

In Memory Of
Donald Ray Larsen

Date of Birth
April 17, 1938

Entered Into Rest
January 6, 2026

Funeral Services

10:30 AM, Saturday, January 17, 2026

Bainbridge Funeral Home - Wheaton, Minnesota

Officiating

Rev. Pat Schubert

Pianist

Karen Breach

Soloist

Todd Larsen

Urn Bearers

Randy & Claudia Ward - Jerry & Jeanette Larsen

Honorary Urn Bearers

Browns Valley Health Center Employees & Staff

Interment

Wilmot Cemetery - Wilmot, South Dakota



IRENE, MARNIE, WAYNE, ROY,
DONNIE, BILLY, DELORES & LORETTA

