



## Herbert Peter Windschitl

May 21, 1930 - October 19, 2012

May 21, 1930 – October 14, 2012 Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m., Friday, October 19, 2012 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Cold Spring, MN for Herbert “Herb” Windschitl, age 82, who died peacefully Sunday at the Assumption Home in Cold Spring due to complications of a stroke. Burial will be in the St. Boniface Parish Cemetery. Relatives and friends may call from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Thursday, October 19th at the Wenner Funeral Home in Cold Spring. Parish Prayers will be at 7:00 p.m. followed by a rosary with the Knights of Columbus. Visitation will continue from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m., Friday morning at the funeral home. Herbert Peter Windschitl was born on a 120 acre farm in Comfrey, MN on May 21, 1930 to Florian and Anna (Moldan) Windschitl. He graduated from St. Mary’s High School in Sleepy Eye, after which he attended St. John’s University. His studies at St. John’s were interrupted when he joined the Army Corps of Engineers in August 1951. He spent 13 months in Pusan, Korea during the Korean War. He was discharged August 1953. He then returned to St. John’s University where he graduated in 1956 with a social science and history degree. Five days later he married the love of his life, Bernetta (Bernie) Meidl, at St. Raphael’s church in Springfield, MN. Herb taught high school in Jordan, MN, Souix Valley, MN, Gibbon, MN, New Ulm, MN, and Cold Spring, MN. He directed 15 class plays, coached various sports, and was a boy scout leader. Herb was active in the local teacher organization, and served as president and secretary-treasurer at various times. Herb’s Catholic faith was very important to him. In 1961 he

joined the Oblates of St. Benedict at St. John's under Abbott Baldwin. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1958. He believed strongly in sharing his faith with young people, and spent 23 years along with his wife Bernie teaching CCD in Gibbon and Cold Spring. He and Bernie started the Faith Formation program in Cold Spring when the public high school (Rocori) opened. He was the very first lay lector at St. Boniface Parish in Cold Spring, a calling that lasted 45 years. Most of all, Herb lived his faith daily. He was a very caring and patient person, who was always praying for other people. His guidance and steadfast presence will be sorely missed by all. After full time teaching for many years, Herb began selling World Book and Childcraft. He felt the real challenge of education began in the home. During his career he sold over 2,000 sets of World Book, won many accolades, and as a District Manager he hired over 200 representatives. In 1974 he started a side business with Success Motivation Institute where he sold goal-setting materials and motivational talks on cassette tapes to individuals, homes, and schools. In keeping with his passion for education, Herb was a substitute teacher up until age 79. In 2003 Herb realized a long time dream of publishing a book when he wrote "1001 Affirmations: Open a Life, Come Alive". He was very proud of this book, and often said "If there's only one thing in there that helps someone, it has done some good". Herb believed in 'recycle, reduce, and reuse' long before it was fashionable. He loved gadgets and loved to tinker with things. He could fix just about anything, a skill that came in handy when raising six children. As he taught each of his children to drive and they subsequently bought their first cars, Herb's mechanical abilities were a lifesaver. Photography was a life-long hobby, and Herb never left the house without his camera. He was a member of the American Legion since 1955, Catholic United Financial since 1995, and the VFW. He enjoyed traveling, fishing, camping (as evidenced by many slide trays of family trips around the country), visiting relatives, and genealogy research. Herb was a devoted husband to Bernie for 56 years, and often credited her for the good things in his life. They were blessed with 8 children. Herb is survived by his wife Bernie;

children: Michael (Rosemary) of Cold Spring, Francis (Julie) of Northfield, MN, Brian (Kim) of Buffalo, NY, Jane (Jonathan) of Anchorage, AK, Patrick (Candy) of Manteca, CA, Gary (Julie), of Afton, MN; 19 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren; brother & in-laws: Peter (Lois) Windschitl, Marlene Windschitl and Mel Cook. Herb was preceded in death by his daughter Mary and son Paul; parents & in-laws: Florian and Anna Windschitl, Albert and Leona Meidl; brothers: Leonard (Delores) Windschitl, Leo Windschitl, Gilbert Windschitl; sister: Marie Cook. Memorials preferred to the St. Boniface Education Endowment Fund, 501 Main Street, Cold Spring, MN 56320.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Herbert Peter Windschitl*

January 29, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *We are very sorry to hear about Herb. Sorry we could not be there, but know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. With Sympathy, Kenny & Gwen*

**Kenny & Gwen Lang** - October 19, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of your loss. You are in my prayers.*

**LeAnn Johnson** - October 18, 2012 at 10:34 PM



“ *Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you.  
Peg & Dean*

**Peg Duhachek** - October 18, 2012 at 12:41 PM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss and regret that we are unable to attend the service. Herb was a good kind man and lived a very full life. He always had a positive outlook on things which he never failed to share with everyone. Our prayers are with you and I am sure Herb is with us yet in spirit. Love from all of us to all of you.*

**Len and Ellen Windschitl** - October 17, 2012 at 10:30 PM

MK

“ Some days bring surprise blessings, such as the day we met Herb and his wife and family when Herb moved into the shared room with Max at Assumption Nursing Home. It didn't take long to realize what a nice family this was. God bless you all.

---

**Marty and Jan Kammermekier** - October 17, 2012 at 04:14 PM

SH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of grief.

---

**Sue Hein** - October 17, 2012 at 09:26 AM

JW

“ So sorry to hear the news. I will try to get up there but not sure if I can get off work. You will be in my prayers and thoughts. I forwarded the email to Tom, Ken and Mary. God bless and keep you in his loving care. -Juli-

---

**Juli Wahlborg** - October 16, 2012 at 10:05 PM

SM

“ Herbert was a nice guy. Always a smile! We always enjoyed getting together for Julie and Gary's kids birthdays. Herb would take many pictures and send the pictures to all of us. His pictures were always so much better than mine. If I forgot my camera, he didn't. And he would send copies to us. Herb and Bernie raised a great bunch of kids. The nicest of families ever! All very nice. I am so happy my daughter married into such a nice family, Gary the greatest sun-in-law ever. So down to earth, careing, thoughtful, all of the family. Herb will be greatly missed. I am so sorry for their loss!

Sincerely

Sherry McPherson Ness and Greg Ness

---

**Sherry McPherson-Ness** - October 16, 2012 at 07:17 PM