

Leonard Astrup – BS 1949 Pharmacy

Astrup, Leonard B. age 86 of Austin, Minn. died at the Cedars Tuesday evening, July 22, 2014 from complications of a fall, ending a difficult journey with dementia. He was born August 3, 1927 to Christian Berg and Thelma (Knutson) Astrup in Grenora, North Dakota ("God's Country"). After graduating from Grenora High School in 1945, he enrolled in ROTC and attended the School of Pharmacy at NDSU, graduating in 1949 as a registered pharmacist. Leonard met Corrine Spoonheim at graduation and started dating her when he went to work at a Walgreen store in Breckenridge, Minnesota. In the fall of 1952, Len moved to Austin where he founded Sterling Drug in the Sterling Shopping Center, which was only the second strip mall to originate in the state of Minnesota. Len had a great business sense, and today Sterling Drug Stores can be found in Minnesota and Iowa.

Len married Corrine on June 11, 1955 in Breckenridge. His wife of 59 years was his greatest joy! He was a member of the Minnesota Pharmacy Association, served on the University of Minnesota Century Mortar Club Board, and he was a lifetime licensee of the North Dakota Board of Pharmacy. Len was a member of the Lions Club, Sons of Norway, Masons, Austin Country Club and Sterling Shopping Center Business Association. A charter member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in 1953, Len was actively involved there over the years and was the longest living member of the original building committee. He enjoyed tinkering and could repair most anything. Len enjoyed spending time with his family at home and at the cabin on Ottertail Lake, going out to eat, traveling and family vacations. Len was always very proud of his Danish heritage and enjoyed visiting Denmark.

Survivors include his wife, Corrine of Austin; children, Ann Astrup of Shoreview, Christopher (Lynn) Astrup of Austin, Daniel (Becky) Astrup of Austin, Susan (Erik) Lundquist of Rochester; nine grandchildren, Hayley (Tony) Post, Jessica Astrup (Nick Ehret), Robert Astrup, Andrea (Jeremiah) Becker, Michael Astrup, Laura Astrup, Anna Lundquist, John Lundquist and Peter Lundquist; a sister, Una Mae Penne of Bismarck, North Dakota. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Donovan Astrup and Odell Astrup. Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Austin with The Reverend Glenn Monson officiating. Friends may call from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. prior to the service at church. Worlein Funeral Home of Austin is in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Alzheimer's Association of Minnesota/North Dakota or to a charity of choice. Condolences: www.worlein.com <<http://www.worlein.com>> The family would like to thank the caregivers at the Cedars (especially Maryanna, Angie and Jean) for their loving care and kindness as well as the St. Croix Hospice staff.