



Alan Edward Lerner

August 8, 1936 - March 21, 2023

** UPDATED SERVICE TIME & DATE - A Memorial Service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 18, 2023 in the John & Nancy Hughes Theater at Gorton Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, Illinois. A reception will immediately follow in the Stuart and Nagel Rooms until 6:00 p.m. **

Alan Edward Lerner, age 86, of Lake Forest, IL passed away peacefully at home on March 21, 2023 from Lewy Body Dementia. He was in the loving company of his devoted wife Anne of 50 years, children Josh (Kelly) Lerner, Drew Lerner and Matt (Samantha) Lerner. His grandsons Elias, Paxton, Max and Hayes lovingly sat by his side for the days preceding his death. They watched the teams they were devoted to over the years, cheering on the mighty Wisconsin Badgers and the reruns of the Bears Super Bowl victory which was a cherished event. Their "Pops" was their friend, their pal and their idol, serving as an ideal role model as a husband, father and citizen.

Alan was born in Chicago, Illinois and then attended West High School in Madison, Wisconsin, went on to graduate from the University of Wisconsin and finished his education at Northwestern University Medical School, subsequently becoming a doctor practicing Psychiatry in the Chicago area. During that time Alan and several colleagues assisted Chuck Kramer in research of behavioral health which led to the establishment of the Family Institute of Chicago, which later became the Family Institute at Northwestern

University. In the late 1970's he decided to make a career change and became a McDonalds franchisee. This pivot would allow him to spend more time with Anne and their three boys. Alan was a great athlete at U of W, leading his fraternity, Pi Lambda Phi, to multiple football, basketball and softball championships. His love of sports continued, playing in multiple baseball exhibition games at US Cellular Field until he was in his 80's. All three boys followed in their dad's footsteps playing multiple sports. Alan and Anne were in the bleachers for almost every game of their son's playing careers.

His grandchildren took over the calendar in ensuing years with Elias' herpetology, Paxton's football, hockey and baseball teams, and watching infinite episodes of Scooby Doo with Max and Hayes. They never stopped laughing when they were with each other, coming up with inside jokes and games that went on for hours. They often wrestled with Pops and usually won.

He also valued the relationships and friendships he created over the years, including his Pi Lambda Phi fraternity, medical school and professional colleagues, Lake Forest Country Day School, Briarwood Country Club, Gorton Community Center, the Chicago White Sox, the Chicago Bears and the larger Lake Forest community.

He served in the US Army in Korea, earned his black belt in Karate and loved playing golf (lowest handicap was a 6). He was a voracious reader and had an interest in computers early on. He wrote a computer program in the early 1980s which influenced inventory management at McDonald's. He and Anne also enjoyed traveling to Europe and Asia with friends and family.

In addition to his wife, children, and grandchildren, Alan also leaves behind his siblings Joyce Edison, Anne Kaplan, and Barbara Spectre; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Alan will be remembered for the twinkle in his eye, his witty sense of humor and the love for his family. We will miss him.

A Memorial Service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 18, 2023 in the John & Nancy Hughes Theater at Gorton Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, Illinois. A reception will immediately follow in the Stuart and Nagel Rooms until 6:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Alan's name may be made to the Gorton Center at <https://gortoncenter.org/donations/> or Lake Forest Open Lands at <http://www.lfola.org/annual-fund>

For more info – Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest at (847) 234-9649 or www.RTfunerals.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 18. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

John and Nancy Hughes Theater at Gorton Center
400 East Illinois Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Reception

JUN 18. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Gorton Center
400 E. Illinois Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Tribute Wall

JM

“ i am so shocked as i just learned about it. We go back to great days at Wisconsin and what a champ he was. We kept up for many years thereafter at reunions and sometime midwest trips. I really loved him for his great sense of humor and his story of going from medicine to macdonalds....losing a lifelong friend is not easy.

James Metz - May 09, 2023 at 07:07 AM

FG

Tear drops are falling down my cheeks - the “hawk” was a winner in every and all ways - FM Gimbel

Franklyn Gimbel - January 12, 2024 at 03:28 PM

AR

“ Alan - such a dear dear friend - I treasure the time we spent together - I will miss you so very much - so grateful to have enjoyed your warm company

Ari - March 28, 2023 at 11:09 AM

PE

“ Mr. Lerner was in some ways like a second father to me. I knew him since before kindergarten when he used to watch Josh and I playing catch and imagining ourselves on football field playing together. Years later that would come true. He encouraged me to become a psychologist and his example in business still inspires me. He did indeed have a twinkle in his eye every time I saw him, the last time was at my father's funeral. I imagine them reunited in some way now, neither missed a game of ours. I'm sure he will be dearly missed by all who knew him. The world has lost a very good man.

Peter - March 25, 2023 at 06:30 PM



“ *Scott Nagle lit a candle in memory of Alan Edward Lerner* ”



Scott Nagle - March 25, 2023 at 02:51 PM