



## Byron J. Prais

July 6, 1936 - January 23, 2020

Byron J. Prais, a life long resident of Lake Bluff and Lake Forest, peacefully passed away on January 23, 2020 at the age of 83, surrounded by his family. Byron was born on July 6, 1936 in Libertyville to Lolita and Bernard Prais and was raised in Lake Forest, attended The Gorton School and graduated from Lake Forest High School Class of 1955. Byron went on to earn an associate's degree in construction management. He was a talented carpenter and worked in construction during his early years. Byron devoted 28 years of his professional career serving The City of Lake Forest as a Building Inspector until he was named the Director of Building and Zoning in 1977. He had a passion for his hometown of Lake Forest and supervised many of the city's building construction projects including Lake Forest Beach, train stations and other local landmarks.

Byron was very active in the community where he was a board member for the Gorton Community Center and A Safe Place. Byron also served as a volunteer fireman for the Lake Forest Fire Department, a volunteer police officer for the Village of Lake Bluff and an active member of Grace Church. In his free time, you would find Byron working in his yard, playing golf and cheering on the Cubs and Bears. Byron may be best known for his "home improvement advice" that he loved to share with friends and family.

Beloved husband of Ruth C. Prais for 60 years; cherished father of Robin (Jack) Lange and Kathy (Sean) Olssen; fond grandfather of Jeni (Tommy) Filippo, Elizabeth (Drew) Russell, Katie (Dan) Drake, Drew and Emma

Olssen; great-grandfather of Gracie, Tyler and Carter; brother of the late Bernard “Bub” (the late Pat) and Sheldon “Shelly” (Marylee) Prais; and uncle to many nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Gathering will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at Grace United Methodist Church, 244 E. Center Avenue, Lake Bluff.

Interment will be private at Lake Forest Cemetery. For information – Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest, 847-234-9649 or [www.RTfunerals.com](http://www.RTfunerals.com).

Memorial contributions in Byron’s name may be made to Grace United Methodist, Lake Bluff or A Safe Place, 2710 17th Street, #100, Zion, IL 60099.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

FEB 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Memorial Service

FEB 12. 2:00 PM (CT)

Grace United Methodist Church  
244 E. Center Avenue  
Lake Bluff, IL 60044  
<http://www.graceumclakebluff.org>

# Tribute Wall

KL

“ *Kari and Darcy Lange purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Byron J. Prais.*



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**Kari and Darcy Lange** - February 11, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Byron J. Prais.*



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February 11, 2020 at 01:31 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Byron J. Prais.*



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February 09, 2020 at 12:07 PM

LC

“ *Uncle Byron was such a wonderful guy.*

*One on my fondest memories was in my very young years how he could never get why I set my hair and it was still straight in the a.m.  
Our own little joke 💕*

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**Lore Case** - February 07, 2020 at 11:49 PM

LF

“ Love, The Scheer and Woodworth Families purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Byron J. Prais.



Love, The Scheer and Woodworth Families - February 07, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Byron J. Prais.



February 07, 2020 at 06:30 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Byron J. Prais.



February 05, 2020 at 05:10 PM

TJ

“ The Dietz Family Steve, Cindy, Justin purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Byron J. Prais.



The Dietz Family Steve, Cindy, Justin - February 02, 2020 at 02:29 PM

CD

“ So many memories of Uncle Byron , he was always willing to help whenever he could.  
In 2014 , he was our architect for our kitchen remodel. I enjoyed having coffee every morning with him. He was so instrumental with love and support with my dad , during a very trying time. You will be forever in our thoughts and hearts.  
Love Steve Cindy and Justin

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**cindy dietz** - February 02, 2020 at 02:07 PM

JA

“ Our most sincere sympathy .

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**Jack and Therese Anderko** - February 02, 2020 at 10:16 AM

JA

“ Jack And Therese Anderko lit a candle in memory of Byron J. Prais



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**Jack and Therese Anderko** - February 02, 2020 at 10:15 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Byron J. Prais.



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February 01, 2020 at 05:15 PM

TF

“ *The Dietz Family lit a candle in memory of Byron J. Prais*



**The Dietz Family** - February 01, 2020 at 04:58 PM

MJ

“ *Aunt Ruth , Robin , Kathy and families. Cathy and I are heart broken for your loss. Uncle Byron always has been and always will be Mr 4th of July, his laugh and smile will be with us all forever. His light is burning bright in heaven as it did on earth . Love Mark & Cathy Japuntich*

**mark japuntich** - January 30, 2020 at 10:46 AM

WB

“ *Wayne & Sharon Bower lit a candle in memory of Byron J. Prais*



**Wayne & Sharon Bower** - January 29, 2020 at 07:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Byron J. Prais.*



January 28, 2020 at 01:01 PM