



Richard Bentrup

April 5, 1946 - January 4, 2012

Wadena, Minnesota resident Richard “Dick” Edmund Bentrup was born on April 5, 1946 to Reverend Edmund Albert and Margaret Louise (Bollman) Bentrup in Bremerton, WA. Dick graduated with a degree in Sociology in 1969 from Moorhead State College. He served in the United States Army from February 5, 1969 until his honorable discharge December 20, 1971. He and Lin Christensen were married on July 11, 1970 at First Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MN. They made their home in Wadena where they raised their two children David and Martee. Dick served for many years on the Wadena Public School and Technical School boards, as Past President of Wadena Rotary, on the Wadena County Adult and Child Protection Teams, as a Church Elder, and on the board to merge the technical schools in Northwest Minnesota. Dick will be remembered as the social worker at Tri-County Hospital for 39 years, who touched many lives in many ways, even after his retirement in 2010. He was a member of the Wadena Rotary Club and American Legion. His interests included golfing, camping, raising roses, tumbling rocks, and reading. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family and being surrounded by friends. Dick passed away with family at his side, on January 4, 2012, at the age of 65, at his home in Wadena. He is survived by his loving wife Lin; daughter Martee Lin (Tom) Herman of Yankton, SD; son David Richard (Kari) Bentrup of Alexandria; granddaughter Alison; brothers Thomas of Eagan, Paul (Karen) of Kennewick, WA; Mark (June) of Chanhassen; and John of Chipita Park, CO; sister Mary (Ken) Wagner of

Fisher; and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Rev. Edmund and Margaret Bentrup. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, January 9, 2012 at Trinity Lutheran Church in New York Mills with Pastor Carlton Andersen officiating. Honorary pallbearers will be Bryan Bentrup, John Elvehjen, Adele Lausten, Nancy Tumberg, Hans Wagner, Andy Wrase and Jim Wynn. Pallbearers will be Andrea Craig, Joni Dailey, Jenny Doll, Shanna Hendrickson, Rose Lorentz, Brenda Packer, Cindy Scott, and Amy Widmark. Military honors will be provided by the Elmer Goche Post 3922, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wadena, MN. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Fisher, MN in the spring. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials to Tri-County Hospital in Wadena.

Tribute Wall

BT

“ Dick will forever be an inspiration to me. I pray that when I go to my reward, it will be with at least half the class and dignity that Dick had...I was lucky to have known him and shared some of the paths in this life. Many blessings to the family, may you find peace knowing he is in Heaven, in God's arms.

Beth Topp - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Dick has always been one of my favorite people. I have known him since I moved to town and became his insurance agent. And I consider his wife Lin one of my close friends. He was always so understanding of Lin's desire to act and sing in many community theatrical productions. But Dick didn't share her talent for singing. LOL! I will miss his smile and calm demeanor. What a rock he has always been! And at the end, he was such an example of how to live with grace and gratitude. Until we meet again! Love you!

Jolene Johannes - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ To Lin and family, I send my deepest sympathy. He was a great man. May God help you through this tough time.

Lynne Piepkorn - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ My deepest sympathy to Lin and family, Dick was one of the most gracious people I have known. He was always smiling and greeted everyone. He taught us all how to live and die with dignity. Rest in Peace Dick, you will be missed.

Shirley Malone - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TE

“ My condolences to you on your loss. As a nursing facility social worker, I appreciated working with Dick for almost eleven of his years at Tri County. I found him to be very patient, understanding and knowledgeable; a pleasure to work with. On the rare occasion we met in person, his sense of humor was also enjoyed.

Tom Ellingson - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ Lin, Martee and David: I am so sorry to hear about your loss. I too watched my Dad slip away and nothing about it is easy. However, we know that that the second he slipped away from you he was met with amazing things! I hope you can take comfort in that. I have many fond memories of Dick from church and working at the hospital. He was such a kind man and he will surely be missed. I will be thinking of you over the next few days as you celebrate his life! I also have one funny story from many years ago! I was babysitting at your house and Lin was already gone for the day but before Dick left for work he slipped me an extra \$5 and asked me to do the dishes but not tell Lin I did them!!! Gotta love it!

Shannon (Schlecht) O'Keefe - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Linda So sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sandy and Will Seedorf - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VC

“ I used to work with Dick many, many years ago at Tri-County Hospital and remember him fondly. May all of his family and friends find comfort in the special way he touched all of our lives.

Vicki (Theisen) Chesney - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ he said, “...as parents it's our job to teach our children how to die with dignity.....”

he did.

God's arms are around him today and God will see you and your family thru these difficult times.....

with love and respect.....

G'ann and Hans

Gann, Hans Wolf - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Lin and family, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Dick was one of the first people I met when I started at Tri-County and it was truly an honor to have known him. I will not forget his wonderful sense of humor or his passion for helping others. The way he faced this battle was inspirational - such courage and grace. My hope is that treasured memories will help you get through this time of great loss. He will be missed.

Roxy Hejhal - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ I served with Dick on the School Board and always appreciated his knowledge and fairness, even when there were conflicts. I also served on the Child Protection Team with him- he was such a caring person! May his memory and good deeds live on in all our hearts.

Cathy Hansen - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Lin and family - I am so sorry for your loss. Dick was a very special person and I have many great memories of him - we had some good times over the years! Take care and our prayers are with you.

Salli

Salli Crawford - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Dick was a excellent representative for Wadena Tech when the Colleges were merging in 1992. His work for Wadena Tech was very much appreciated by administration and staff of the College. He also worked well on the merger with Deer Creek Schools. He was an excellent leader for the Wadena School Board and spent countless hours for the children and adults in the Wadena area. His type of leadership will be missed. Lin and family, you can be very proud of your husband and father. May God bless you at this very difficult time.

Marie Johnson - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Hi, So sorry to hear of your loss! We know that Dick is now in a better place. Dick and I go back to the 70's when we both were at Tri-County and extended through 2009 at the nursing home. Since then, it has been a friend basis. Lin was also a co-worker for many years. He was a unique personality, always trying to serve the individual he was working with to get the best results for that individual. It was a pleasure to know and work with him. God bless his memory! Love to you Lin, and your family. Marie

Marie Johnson - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Lin, Martee, David - Jackie and I just wanted to send our condolences. Dick was a terrific guy! He was very helpful when my mother was in her last stages of her cancer. I thought he handled his diagnosis with the grace that the rest of us can only hope to have when facing a similar situation. We had the opportunity to golf together at the TCHC Foundation tournament last summer. At one point I asked him how he was doing and he said "The doctors gave me 6 months and I've had 11." And he smiled! I may have gotten the exact numbers wrong, but what a great attitude!! Plus he made the putt that won the longest putt contest for our team!!! Rest in peace Dick!

Kyle Gylsen - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Dick was so considerate and helpful when my mother had to leave the hospital and enter Shady Lane. He guided me through the necessary steps and made the transition a little less difficult. I appreciated that so much.

Mary Ellen Kollodge - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ Thank you for the memories...

Ron and Gretchen Noon - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ It has been many years but I will always remember Dick fondly. I worked at TCH in the 1980's but mostly Dick took the pictures for my wedding. He was a great guy.

Patty (Lockhart) Guck - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *Lin & Family, We did know all of you, except to have met you through Karen & Paul, but know that Dick was an amazing guy and a real blessing to everyone he knew. My family has you in their prayers and will lift you up with our prayers as you travel this road. God has you in his hands. All our love, Cindi, Missy, Naomi, Leif, and Matt, and families*

Cindi Throngard - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ *Lin and Family,
So sorry to hear of Dick's passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers. May fond memories of your many years together carry you through the difficult times. Hugs to you all.
AMY Hunter*

Amy Hunter - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *I am deeply sorry Lin for your loss. He was a good man. GOD BIESS*

Morgan Poole - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

IR

“ *I met Richard when i had my first baby and then again when he helped my Grandmother set up her living will. I will never forget his kindness as he patiently waited to make sure she understood what he had written down. he answered all her questions. He was a wonderfull person. you as the family have my sympathys.*

illa roth - January 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM