



Wilbur Desrocher

September 25, 2021

The Mass of Christian Burial for Wilbur Desrocher of Verndale will be celebrated at 3:00 PM on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at St. Frederick's Catholic Church in Verndale with Fr. Gabriel Walz as celebrant.

Please Note: Friends may visit with the family at the Schuller Family Funeral Homes' Verndale Chapel from 1:30 PM until the time of mass on Thursday.

Wilbur passed away at his home in Verndale on Saturday, September 25, 2021, with family at his side and under the gentle care of Lakewood Hospice. Wilbur Horace Desrocher was born November 8, 1927, to William and Alice (Bourgeois) Desrocher, a year after they moved to Verndale, MN, and bought the Palace Cafe (later became the Desrocher Cafe). Wilbur lived his whole life in Verndale. His early teen years he would catch the train to North Dakota to work in potato fields. Wilbur talked of playing basketball in high school only because Mr. Peterson, the Superintendent at the time, volunteered to coach due to the hard times during the war.

Wilbur joined the U.S Army in 1946, and was stationed in Italy. He would tell the story of painting his bunk. When he returned from dinner to the barracks his bunk was taken and replaced. Not happy he investigated and found out it was the Motorpool Sergeant, who then gave him the job driving a jeep for a General.

Wilbur married Madonna Svir on June 15, 1949, whom he met at a dance at the River Inn in Aldrich, MN. They bought the cafe from his parents and raised

a family of eight children. They ran the cafe for about 23 years. He became head cook at Bell Hill Recovery Center.

Through the years Wilbur was a substitute mail carrier, then became fulltime in the early 1980s until his retirement. In addition, he was an avid vegetable gardener who generously shared his harvest.

Wilbur passed away at his home in Verndale on Saturday, September 25, 2021 with family at his side and under the gentle care of Lakewood Hospice.

Wilbur is survived by his children Alice (Mike) Carr, Ray and Tim Desrocher, John (Mary Ann) Desrocher, Renee (Mike) Halland, Rhea (Ken) Eickhoff and David (Sheila) Desrocher; siblings, Lucille (Howard) Selander, along with Bill (Julie) and Bob Desrocher.

Wilbur has 17 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Madonna; daughter, Anna Desrocher; parents William and Alice Desrocher; sister, Lorraine Everett; and brother Marvin Desrocher.

Cemetery Details

St. Frederick's Catholic Cemetery

16196 County Road 104
Verndale, MN 56481

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 30. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Verndale Chapel
9 North Farwell Street
Verndale, MN 56481
(218) 445-5191

Service

SEP 30. 3:00 PM (CT)

St. Frederick's Catholic Church
20 Mason Ave. NW (aka: US Hwy 10)
Verndale, MN

Tribute Wall

AB

“ *Al Bielema lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Al Bielema - October 03, 2021 at 03:30 PM

MD

“ *Mary Ellen Derby lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Mary Ellen Derby - October 01, 2021 at 02:19 PM

JJ

“ *Jon Johnson lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Jon Johnson - October 01, 2021 at 11:28 AM

DN

“ *My only contact with Wilbur was through the mail. He was a very faithful donator to the Verndale Area Food Shelf. My sympathies to his family. Hold on to all your precious memories.*

*Deb Nelson
Former Director of Verndale Area Food Shelf*

deb nelson - September 30, 2021 at 07:30 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wilbur Desrocher.*



September 29, 2021 at 03:29 PM

SB

“ *Sarah And Mike Booth lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Sarah and Mike Booth - September 29, 2021 at 08:36 AM

SB

“ *Sarah And Mike Booth lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Sarah and Mike Booth - September 29, 2021 at 08:34 AM

WS

“ Always enjoyed visiting with Wilbur and MaDonna! Loved to hear Wilbur's laugh and stories:) Our sincere sympathy to all his children and families. Please know we care and our love and prayers are with you each.



Wayne and Sheila Stave - September 28, 2021 at 09:56 PM

SB

“ Sandee Seaton Byrd lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher



Sandee Seaton Byrd - September 28, 2021 at 07:05 PM

LE

“ Lynn Erickson lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher



Lynn Erickson - September 28, 2021 at 09:25 AM

MS

“ Hello Desrocher Family! Sorry for your loss. I have very fond memories of your Mom and Dad and the Desrocher Family. As I recall, Mom ruled the roost at home and Dad was a perfect ‘yes dear’ spouse. Some of my best memories include the restaurant on Main Street, (Dad ruled the roost there, at least behind the counter). I also recall the annual potato/sweet corn harvest, Tarring a roof on the school in Perham, bumper pool tournaments in the basement with John and Tim.....Tim usually won. It’s a really nice photo of your dad.....’Nubs looks a lot like him. I remember the ‘Twins’ and hope they are doing well. Ray was always the ‘steady Freddy’! We got to see Alice and Mike a few years back at their winter home in Sun City West. I believe Mom passed a few years back? I guess you guys are orphans now. I grew up the the Desrocher Family and they were good times!

Mike Sellnow - September 27, 2021 at 05:58 PM

JC

“ Our thoughts and prayers go to all of Wilbur's family. He was quite the character. It always amazed me how sharp he was with every detail in every story he told. It was fun catching up with him last month when he was uptown taking his daily inspection of the new water tower. He was telling me about when he was a kid and that he lived down there and also how he climbed the other water tower to see what he could see. I am sure you all have many many wonderful stories and memories that will help you through the days ahead and keep him alive in your minds and hearts. He has left quite a legacy behind with all of you. HUGS!



James and Janell Carr - September 27, 2021 at 05:58 PM

PD

“ *Patty Desrocher lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



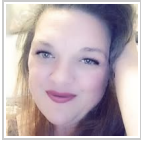
Patty Desrocher - September 27, 2021 at 12:01 PM

BD

“ *Bob And Kathy Derby lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Bob and Kathy Derby - September 27, 2021 at 09:01 AM



“ *Shelly Dukowitz sent a virtual gift in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Shelly Dukowitz - September 26, 2021 at 11:20 PM

LM

“ *Linda McIntire lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Linda McIntire - September 26, 2021 at 08:59 PM

LH

“ *Leo Haisman lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Leo Haisman - September 26, 2021 at 08:56 PM

BB

“ *Bruce And Barb Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Bruce and Barb Brown - September 26, 2021 at 08:42 PM

RO

“ *Rosemary Jane Oberg lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Rosemary Jane Oberg - September 26, 2021 at 06:30 PM

CW

“ *Cindy Webber lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Desrocher*



Cindy Webber - September 26, 2021 at 04:14 PM

LS

“ *Wilber was such an outstanding member of the Verndale community. We were often gifted with home grown onions and raspberries from their garden. He was a great story teller. Happy to have visited with him at Verndale Celebration this year.*



Len and Sally Siegler - September 26, 2021 at 02:42 PM