

Paul was born July 23, 1941, to Floyd and Katherine (Lei) Longden in Spearfish, SD. He was the firstborn of four siblings and was always a wonderful older brother, watching over his younger siblings with compassion and care. After graduating high school, Paul went on to study Agriculture at SDSU. He took ROTC as a Junior, and due to this commitment, he began his career with the United States Army. He served two tours in Vietnam in the Medical Corps as an administrator.

After returning home to the States, he married Greta Kumley. Together they moved to El Paso, TX, in 1972. In 1975, he was sent to be a company commander in Wurzburg, Germany, where he spent much of his time visiting historical sites and going on Volksmarches. He visited Lourdes in France, climbed the Alps, and continued on Volksmarching. He returned home once more, and then went on to finish his degree in Healthcare Administration at Concordia in Moorhead, MN, and shortly after began working in Poplar, MT. It was there that he and Greta started their family, having three children, Jolene, Victoria, and Jonathan, whom he loved and cherished with patience and care.

Paul was always one to meet a challenge head-on. As a healthcare administrator, he could go into a struggling facility and turn it around, making sure it was being run more efficiently. He loved his job, and that showed in how he encouraged and supported his employees, especially those that were struggling. He would often make cinnamon rolls for all his coworkers, and if you'd ever tasted one, you would know what a treat that was.

Paul was never afraid of a new adventure and especially enjoyed traveling to historical sites with his younger brother, Steve. He loved reading (anything historical), and enjoyed old western movies and music alike. Any movie with John Wayne, and any song by Hank Williams, was a favorite of Paul's. He liked to tell ghost stories, and loved taking care of animals. In retirement, he cared for ducks, geese, chicken, and dogs, his two favorites being Shoelace and Raphael. He was a wonderful father, brother, and uncle, and especially enjoyed teaching his children to play chess and Risk.

Paul Keith Longden, 78, of Redig, SD, died Monday, March 2, 2020, at the Department of Veteran's Affairs, Fort Meade.

He is survived by his son, Jonathan Longden (Rebecca Powell); his daughters, Victoria Longden, and Jolene (Kevin) Carter; sisters, Betty Ann Christiansen, and Paulett Tryon; four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Katherine; an infant son, Samuel Keith Longden; and his brother, Steve Longden.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch in the church hall
following the funeral service, prior to the committal services.
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*



In Loving Memory

Paul Keith Longden

July 23, 1941 ~ March 2, 2020



In Memory Of **Paul Keith Longden**

Date of Birth

July 23, 1941
Spearfish, South Dakota

Date of Death

March 2, 2020
Fort Meade, South Dakota

Vigil

Thursday, March 5, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel
Sturgis, South Dakota

Mass of Christian Burial

Friday, March 6, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
Sturgis, South Dakota

Officiating

Father Timothy Castor

Musicians

Myron Volk and Dr. Barry Furze

Musical Selections

"Amazing Grace" "Be Not Afraid" "Gift of Finest Wheat"
"The Old Rugged Cross" "On Eagle's Wings"

Pallbearers

Frank Kumley Robert Domogalski Jonathan Longden
Chuck Goff Bob Lyons Michael Uhrig Charles Farrell

Honorary Pallbearers

All Paul's Grandchildren, Family, and Friends

Military Honors

Sturgis Veteran's Honor Guard

Final Resting Place

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

*God saw that he was getting tired,
A cure was not to be.
So he put His arms around him,
And whispered, "Come with Me."
With tearful eyes, we watched him suffer.
And saw him fade away.
Although we loved him dearly,
We could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating.
Hard working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He takes the very best.*

