



*"I have fought
the good fight,
I have finished
the race,
I have kept the
faith!"*

2 Timothy 4: 7-8



*"Unless the Lord builds
the house;*

*Those who build it Labor
in Vain."*

Psalms 127: 1

*"Follow me - I will
make you fishers of
men."*

Matthew 4: 19



*"The voice of the Lord is
upon the waters"*

Psalms 29: 3

SERVICES IN CARE OF
Furness Funeral Home
Clark, South Dakota



*In Loving Memory Of
Mark Stephan Ceisel*

April 8, 1946—September 17, 2022

Mark Stephan Ceisel was born on April 8, 1946 in Madison, Wisconsin, to parents Ernest and Colia Ann (Martin) Ceisel. The family moved to Niles, IL where Mark attended St. Juliana school and graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1964. Mark went away to college, but returned home to care for younger siblings when his mother died unexpectedly in 1965.

In his youth, Mark took dance and art classes. Along with his siblings, cousins, and friends, he embarked on many adventures that they all; surprisingly; survived.

Mark joined the Army in 1967, serving in Korea and finishing at Fort Sheridan, IL. He retired from the Army in 1969.

He joined the Mt. Prospect Fire Department around 1974 and stayed committed to this career for 25 years, retiring from the fire department in 1999. During this time, Mark also worked for the family construction company.

Mark's first marriage ended in divorce, but his two children, Amy Lynn and Mark Nicholas, were his gift. They enjoyed many trips together and he valued every opportunity he had to spend time with them and every phone call made. Mark was very proud of his children.

While teaching a CPR class for the fire department, Mark was drawn to one student. Mark asked Karen out for coffee after class on January 22, 1986, Friday, he asked her to marry him, and Sunday they picked out their rings. On February 7, 1986 they were married in Niles, IL. Both families felt that 3 weeks was not enough time to decide to marry someone, but Mark and Karen were together for over 36 years. During their time together; Mark and Karen became CPR instructor trainers and taught together for many years.

Mark continued with the fire department, Karen quit her teaching job and they established their own construction business. Over the course of 15 years, they bought and rehabbed 4 houses. They were employees of the Avis Rent A Car business at Chicago O'Hare airport doing a variety of small repairs that big companies didn't want. Mark was their hero when he figured out how to keep the water in the car wash from seeping into the office next door, as the professional architect had failed.

Mark did not enjoy formal education and got caught trying to skip kindergarten, but he was brilliant, often using words that no one had ever heard of. He was an avid reader of *Scientific America* and *The Smithsonian*. There were few projects Mark wouldn't tackle. His attitude was that if he got it correct, he could get paid for learning, if he struggled to get it right then he paid for it, but he still learned something. Either way

Following the service, please join the family for lunch and a time of fellowship in the Ulliot Building.

Mark was a "Big Kid" at heart and was most likely found chasing after the little kids, making giant soap bubbles or having water fights. He had a great sense of humor and a knack for building a story. He loved fishing, swimming, and sailing his Sunfish. He loved camping and adventure.

Mark was a boy scout, boy scout leader, and served on other committees and boards. In Arkansas he joined the Lions Club, Volunteer Fire Department, and was on the planning and zoning board for Marian County.

Mark's dream after retirement (1999) was to move to Arkansas. Together, Mark and Karen, found a partially built structure off the shore of Bull Shoals Lake. They enjoyed the beautiful landscape and peaceful surroundings until 2008, when Mark suffered a debilitating stroke. Karen returned with him to Clark, SD, where Mark, Karen, and Karen's mom; Alma, shared life for 14 years. Alma at 105 entered heaven in July of this year (2022) and Mark, after many medical issues and declining health, went to heaven on September 17, 2022; this was the same day as his parent-in-laws' anniversary.

Mark held to his belief that the stroke was a blessing as it brought him to his knees at the "feet of Jesus Christ his Holy Lord and Savior." He maintained a cheerful smile, words of Blessings to everyone he encountered. He listened to the entire Bible on tape at least a dozen times. Mark looked forward to morning prayers with his brother John. All phone calls or visits concluded with "The Lord's Prayer". Mark was God's servant and would want to be remembered for the strong faith he loved to share with others.

Blessed to have shared his life are his wife (Karen), daughter; Amy (Marco) and granddaughter Maddie, his son; Mark Nicholas, his 9 siblings; Steve, Colia, Mike, Patrice (Ron), Lynn (Mike), John (Jaikie), Alan (Anne), Beth, and David (Alexandria), brother-in-laws; James, Jeff, and Alain, sister-in-law; Kedrin, and his aunt Dorothy, plus a host of relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents. His step mother Joan, 2 uncles; Joe and Eddie, and an aunt Celeste. A brother-in-law; Patrick, his father-in-law, and recently his mother-in-law, an aunt Thelma, and a sister-in-law JoAnn.



Memorials may be made to:
The Clark Boy Scouts: PO Box 6
The Clark American Legion: c/o Bruce Brekke 1034 N Smith St
Both in Clark, SD 57225

The family of Mark Ceisel thanks you for your presence here today, for your thoughts, prayers, and other acts of kindness shown to them.