



Russell Dale Gorman

August 5, 1926 - January 21, 2015

Russell D. Gorman of Corvallis peacefully died Wednesday, Jan. 21.

He was born Aug. 5, 1926, in Fremont, Nebraska, to Frank and Oneata Gorman. He married Dolores Wiley on May 14, 1949; she was his beloved wife for more than 65 years.

An all-state athlete and graduate of Central High School in Omaha, Nebraska, he achieved a doctorate from the University of Indiana after receiving a master's degree from the University of Nebraska (Omaha) and an undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado. A recognized advocate and proponent of physical education, he began his career as a teacher and coach in the Nebraska towns of Crawford, Norfolk and Omaha.

He went on to become Chair of the Health, Physical Education and Recreation departments of the University of Nebraska (Omaha); Mankato State University in Mankato, Minnesota; and Illinois State University in Bloomington/Normal, Illinois.

Along the way he continually was recognized for the quality of his work, receiving recognition and awards from various organizations, including the Outstanding Educators of America Association; the Minnesota Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation; and the Nebraska Association of

Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

Survivors include his wife, Dee; four sons, Gary (Debby) of Yuma, Arizona, Mark (Marsha) of St. Paul, Minnesota, Rusty (Ruth) of Washington, D.C., and Kyle (Charlene) of Portland; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A memorial ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26, at the Corvallis Elks Lodge, of which Russ was a Past Exalted Ruler. The ceremony will be conducted by Past Exalted Rulers of various Elks Clubs with whom Russ maintained constant contact. A viewing is set for 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, at McHenry Funeral Home in Corvallis.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Elks National Foundation in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall

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“ Russ was one of the finest men I have ever known in my life ! He was the Chair of the Health / Physical Education Department at Mankato State University where I went to become a Teacher. It was the '70's- women were fighting for equality- what the women in my department didn't know was- Russ already KNEW WE WERE EQUAL ! IF YOU HAD ANY DOUBT ABOUT THAT - JUST ASK DEE !!! Russ allowed me to take most of my classes in the MEN'S Physical Education and Health Departments. Many of my classes were in the Men's Locker-Room on Upper Campus- a student would lead me- eyes covered into the locker room. I LOVED MY CLASSES !!! When I signed up for Graduation and met with my advisor- I was informed that the Board of Women's PE & Health-Mankato had met and decided that they were denying ALL my Men's Classes counting towards my Graduation & that it would take me another 2.5 years to graduate. I was informed that this was a final decision and it was not eligible for appeal. I took the first bus to Upper Campus- I walked into Russ' Office- sat down in front of his desk and started crying (something he had ever seen in 4 years). When I told him about my Graduation Meeting - he set his jaw (we all know what that looks like>>>) - Russ raised up on his hands- pressing against his desk- coming over my side of his desk. With a locked jaw- quietly he said- " SUE - YOU WILL GRADUATE FROM THE WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT - OR YOU WILL BE THE FIRST WOMAN TO GRADUATE FROM MANKATO'S MEN'S PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT !!! I'll call you when I know. " AT that moment it was like a light went on- I knew then and there- that Russ would make sure I would graduate, and I also realized then that Russ had been my Guardian Angel - fighting battles for me for ALL 4 of my years at Mankato.

I had already LOVED RUSS AND ALL THE GORMAN FAMILY- THEY WERE MY FAMILY. Like I said- Russ has been my Guardian Angel for over 40 years, and I know he will continue to take care of ALL of US- ONLY NOW HE HAS THE WINGS TO MATCH THAT HALO !!!

I know I have been LOVED by ALL the Gorman Family- for that I will be eternally grateful and - it didn't hurt that I married Mark's Best Friend- Patrick Dauphinais ... the pool playing, egg dying, beer drinking duo. ; }

*ALL MY LOVE NOW & ALWAYS,
Suzanne Belschner Dauphinais*

Suzanne Dauphinais - January 24, 2015 at 05:25 PM