

# Agate Swimming Brings Success and Energy

By John Sandstrom



**Agate swimmers: Livia Dugas, Maddy Bjornstad, Casey Underdale, and Ava Oswald-Swenson.** (photo by Heather Mayfield)

During the years, I have had the chance to be at some loud and enthusiastic sporting events. I was at Metropolitan Stadium when Carl Eller sacked Roman Gabriel of the Rams, sending the Vikings to a Super Bowl. I was at the Metrodome when Dan Gladden homered against the White Sox clinching a playoff spot for the Twins in 1987. The loudest sporting event ever, though, was when I was the referee at a Mounds View vs. Irondale Junior High Swim Meet about a hundred years ago.

It was little surprise for me then to witness the enthusiasm at the Agate swim meet last week against Superior. Remember, this is a sport where your teammates are cheering from about two feet away from you as you reach the end of the pool in a closed environment where sound rarely escapes the pool area. No other sport is even close in energy!

Last week the Agates hosted the Iron Range Conference meet with teams including Mesabi East, International Falls, Rock Ridge, North East Range-Ely, and Chisholm.

Junior Livia Dugas left the meet as the conference champion in the 200 yard freestyle and placed second in the 100 yard freestyle. When asked about herself and her career, the National Honor Society member would only talk about her teammates. "I love our team and am so proud of the way they work. They are so enthusiastic. I see them improve each day. If we lose a meet, they come back to work with a smile every day."

Junior Casey Underdale is another all conference swimmer for the Agates. She placed second in the 100 yard backstroke and second in diving (missing first place by .25 of a point.)

Casey also plays softball and is involved in student council and the prom committee. She works with her grandpa to make and sell rustic wooden flags in whatever spare time she is able to find.

Casey believes that this year's highlights include watching her younger teammates improve every day. "There are some young swimmers who are going to be big stars. We don't have big numbers compared to other teams so we make up for it with team spirit and enthusiasm."

Two other Agate swimmers have earned all conference honors. Freshman Ava Oswald-Swenson is all conference in the 200 yard medley relay and junior Maddy Bjornstad received the award as part of the 200 yard freestyle relay.

Head Coach Heather Mayfield was very pleased with the results of the conference meet. "We were seeded fourth and ended up taking third place. It was very exciting, particularly to see our young swimmers grow. I am thrilled for their future and the future of our program."

## OBITUARIES

### DEACON FREDERICK C. WRIGHT

Deacon Frederick C. Wright, Age 71, of Silver Bay, died Sunday, October 10, 2021, at Benedictine Health Center with his wife by his side. He was born in Duluth, Minnesota, on May 6, 1950, to John and Margaret (Burke) Wright and was the eldest of ten children. Fred graduated Duluth Cathedral High School in 1968 and enlisted in the US Navy shortly thereafter. As a veteran of the Vietnam Era, Fred often proudly shared that he served "for 8 years, 10 months, 9 days, and an hour and a half." He returned to Duluth after his time in the Navy and worked for the Coast Guard. He met the love of his life, Mary Schlichting, and they just recently celebrated 40 years of loving commitment. Fred worked various jobs as a chief stationary engineer, finishing his career as a production coordinator at Minnesota Power, Taconite Harbor, Minnesota. In retirement, he thoroughly enjoyed road trips with his wife Mary and being "Poppy" to his grandboys.



Fred was known as a kind and faithful man. In addition to serving his country, he served his community as an EMT and worked with the Tower, Minnesota, volunteer fire department. Fred was a devout Catholic, an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Silver Bay, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and part of the Cursillo Community of the Diocese of Duluth. He was called to be a Deacon and was ordained in 1994. Fred faithfully served his home parish as well as other parishes on the North Shore.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Joseph Wright. He is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters Anne Wright and Katie (Alex) Jerabek of Rochester, Minnesota, and grandsons Johnny, Joey, and Tommy Jerabek; siblings Barb (John) Carlson, Mary Wright, John (Jane Laurence) Wright, Cathy (Guy) Gadowski, Ben (Melissa) Wright, Dorothy (Dan) Turnbloom, Joan (Dale) Maiers, Margi (Jeff) Kline, and sister-in-law Robin (McGinn) Wright; many nieces, nephews and cousins; and special family members Adam, Nicole, and Ruby Pond. Special thanks to the staff at Essentia Health St. Mary's Medical Center (4th floor) and the Benedictine Health Center for their respect and care for Fred.

Visitation will be on Thursday, October 14th from 5:00-7:00 PM with a Rosary starting at 6:30 PM at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 57 Horn Blvd, Silver Bay, MN 55614. Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, October 15th at 11:00 AM visitation starting at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary, 2801 East 4th Street Duluth, MN 55812. Interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis will be at a later date. Arrangements by Dougherty Funeral Home.

### ARTHUR C. BARTHMAN JR.

Arthur C. Barthman Jr., 85, formerly of Two Harbors, died Sunday October 10, 2021 in Warroad, MN.

Visitation will be from 5PM until the 7 PM Rosary prayers on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at Cavallin Funeral Home in Two Harbors. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 AM on Thursday, October 21st at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Two Harbors. Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery. To share your memories or condolences online please visit [www.cavallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.cavallinfuneralhome.com).

### KENNETH DALE PETERSON

Kenneth Dale Peterson, 86, went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Monday, October 4th, 2021 with his family at his side. He was the second child of Carroll and Arline Peterson, born May 18th, 1935. He was raised in Billings Montana.



He graduated from Billings Senior High School in 1953 and attended Trinity Bible College, where he met his wife, Ruth. He later received his Bachelor of Theology degree from North Central University in Minneapolis. Graduate work included: Dubuque University Theological Seminary, graduating with a Master of Divinity degree, and St. Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, receiving a Doctor of Ministry degree.

In his teen years, he worked as a wrangler on his uncle's horse ranch, breaking in horses and running a riding academy. He and his brother Lonnie farmed with horse teams. He excelled at woodworking and is known locally for his lavish Christmas and Easter light displays. He was an accomplished soloist and received a scholarship for college in a singing competition. He produced several records with a chorale and gospel quartet with whom he toured.

Ken & Ruth were married on June 30th, 1955. To this marriage two children were born, Rick & Cindy. Ken pastored Assemblies of God and Methodist churches in Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa. His ministry also included teaching music in three schools and serving as secretary/treasurer of the Montana Assemblies of God District. He retired in June of 2000 and lived in Two Harbors, Minnesota.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Delores (Herb) Adams; brothers Leslie (Patti) and Lonnie (Helen) Peterson; one grandson, Donald Peterson; and his wife, Ruth.

He is survived by his brother, Jim (Arlene) Peterson; sister, Verla (Wayne) Jones; son, Rick (Shaloy) Peterson; daughter, Cindy (Al) Laine; four grandchildren Rachel (Brandon) Batt, Michael (Alaina) Laine, Dale Peterson, and Dulce Peterson; great-grandchildren are Jaxson and Amelia Batt, and many nieces and nephews.

A special thanks to the St. Luke's home hospice team, Dr. Shawn McMahon, and Dr. Homam Alkaied.

Due to Covid risks, no services will be held. A Facebook memorial page has been set up for you to post memories and photos. It can be found under the name Kenneth Peterson Memorial. Memorials can be sent to the ministry of your choice.

### Lake County Veterans Services

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