

# Obituaries & Memorials



## ROMAN WACKER

Roman Wacker, 84, Two Harbors, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 25, 2022 at Lake View Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his loving family.

Roman was born March 26, 1938 to Mathew and Marie (Heimenz) Wacker in Morrison County, MN. He grew up living on Hannah Lake near Hillman, MN and had made his home in Two Harbors since 1961. Roman was married to Mary Lou Kiehm on June 8, 1963 and they operated the Sea Breeze Motel for many years. Roman was employed as a sawyer at JC Campbell Lumber Co. for many years and later worked as welder at North Shore Steel until retiring.

After losing his sight thirty years ago, he was trained by Lighthouse for the Blind, and was an amazing wood-worker. Many people were recipients of his wonderful wood-working creations. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, but most of all, time spent with his close-knit family.

Roman was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Lou; brothers, Leonard, Joseph, and Brian; a sister, Alice (Rich) Stauffeneker; brothers-in-law, Duane Hoffman and Jerry Banick.

He is survived by his daughters, Deb (Gary) Beck and Diane (Al) Lampela; a son, David (Gayl) Wacker; grandchildren, Ashlee Beck, Brandon Wacker, Brent Wacker, Matt (Lizzy) Bromaghim, and Andrea (Adam) Crandall; brothers, Kenneth, James (Brenda), and Dennis (Patty); sisters, Rose Hoffman, Bernice Banick, Delores (Dick) Meyer, and Joann (Duane) Boser; and sister-in-law, Carol Wacker.

Roman's family would like to thank the staff of Lake View Memorial Hospital for their wonderful care in his final days.

Services will be held at 1 PM on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at Cavallin Funeral Home in Two Harbors. Lunch will follow at the American Legion lower level from 2-4 PM. To share your memories or condolences online please visit [www.cavallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.cavallinfuneralhome.com).



*A graveside service for Lois M. Staples will be held on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm. at Lakeview Cemetery in Two Harbors. Following the service, please join her family for lunch and fellowship at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.*



## Bob Nyquist

**Celebration Of Life Event**

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**1:00 - 4:00 PM**

**Two Harbors American Legion  
(1<sup>st</sup> Avenue) • Casual Attire**

## RUTH ABBOTT

Ruth Abbott, 82, Two Harbors, died Friday, April 29, 2022 at Waterview Shores.

Ruth was born May 26, 1939 to Melvin and Margaret (Pearthree) Sather in Duluth, where she grew up and graduated from Proctor High School. She was married to Gerald Abbott on May 17, 1957 and they have made their home in Two Harbors since 1960. Ruth was a cook at various local restaurants, retiring from Louise's Place.

Ruth was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church for over 60 years, where she taught Tuesday school in the 1960's. She enjoyed watercolor-painting and her friends in the Brushwackers Art Club. Her greatest joy was time spent with her family and time at the family cabin.

Ruth was preceded in death by her son, Robert

She is survived by her husband, Gerald; a daughter, Kathy Dover; a grandson, John (Katie) Dover; great-grandsons, Sam and Lane; sisters, Betylu, Sandy and Susan; sister-in-law, Maxine; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from Noon until the 1 PM Funeral Service on Friday, May 6, 2022 at Bethlehem Lutheran 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).



## FRANCES P. MAGNUSON

Frances P. Magnuson, 97, of Two Harbors died Thursday, April 28, 2022 at Waterview Shores in Two Harbors.

Fran was born on November 5, 1924 to Louis and Mary Prebil in Chisholm, MN where she grew up and graduated from high school. She moved to Duluth and attended Duluth Business School, studying clerical work. It was in Duluth that Fran met Burt Magnuson and they were married June 23, 1951. Together they made their home in Two Harbors. Fran was employed as a bookkeeper for Community Health Center for 30+ years, retiring in 1986.

In her free time, she enjoyed time with family and friends, reading, Lawrence Welk, and playing cards. Fran also enjoyed bowling and curling in her younger years.

She was an active member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Burt; sisters Rose, Anne, Mary, and Jessie; and brothers, Tony, Ed, Louis, Joe, and Max.

Fran is survived by daughters, Mary (Robert) Mauss of Austin, TX, and Ann (Ritch) Raycraft of Two Harbors; son, David Magnuson of Cloquet; grandchildren, Kristy Schreiber of Georgetown, TX, Kelley (John) Crutchfield of Georgetown, TX, Katie (Brian) Hill of Duluth and Jennie (Nathan) Benjamin of Superior, and Anthony (Emily) Raycraft of St. Paul; 11 great-grandchildren; many special nieces and nephews; and special family friend, Arne Swanson.

A special thank you to the wonderful staff at Waterview Shores Assisted Living and Nursing Care Facility and Moments Hospice for your compassionate care. Also thank you to Fr. Steve and the volunteers at the church for arranging the funeral mass and lunch.

Memorials are preferred and will be given to Holy Spirit Catholic Church and Moments Hospice.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, May 2, 2022 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Two Harbors, followed by burial in Lakeview Cemetery. To share your memories or condolences online please visit [www.cavallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.cavallinfuneralhome.com).



# Todd Ford Public Information Coordinator for Cook County and North Shore Health

By Steve Fernlund

Cook County government and North Shore Health are sharing Todd Ford. He serves as the new Public Information Coordinator for both organizations. He enters this new position after serving as Marketing Director for Grand Portage Lodge and Casino.

Although the work of both organizations is quite different, Ford's areas of influence are the same.

A big issue for the county and the hospital is employee recruitment. He will work with Human Resource departments to effectively improve current, and develop new, recruiting programs.

In the area of media and public relations, Ford will edit and distribute media releases and articles. He will arrange interviews for representatives of each organization and provide talking points that will keep a consistent and effective message.

Ford received his Marketing Degree from Columbia College Chicago and he spent ten years in a leadership position with an advertising agency in Chicago. From there he was recruited to become the Creative Director at a Las Vegas, NV based advertising and marketing group. From there, he became the Execu-



**Todd Ford, Public Information Coordinator for Cook County government and North Shore Health.** (submitted photo)

tive Director of Marketing for the Stratosphere Hotel Casino and Tower. After ten years there, the Stratosphere was sold to new owners who furloughed the entire executive team.

A native of Omaha, NE, Ford has fond memories of visiting and camping on the North Shore as a boy. After the ownership change at Stratosphere created the freedom to relocate to a more rural area, he became the Marketing Director at Grand Portage. He and his wife

Susan live in Lutsen, along with Susan's mother.

Ford says, "I'm enjoying growing into the new position(s)". He is still getting settled into the job in both organizations and is open minded about finding appropriate communication strategies for each.

He will be developing Facebook and Instagram content and monitoring each for effectiveness and feedback. He will also be doing website development and maintenance, shooting and editing photo and video content as well.

In addition to developing brand identity programs for the county and hospital/care center, he will devote time to internal communications as well. He will be involved in writing and designing brochures, flyers and signage and will lead a communications team.

After high school, Ford attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Art is still a hobby for him. He shares his sketches on his Facebook page.

Ford can be reached at [todd.ford@co.cook.mn.us](mailto:todd.ford@co.cook.mn.us) and [todd.ford@northshorehealthgm.org](mailto:todd.ford@northshorehealthgm.org)