



Arnold T. Lee

June 3, 1930 - August 14, 2020

Arnold “Arnie” T. Lee, 90, of Beloit, WI, died Friday, August 14, 2020 at Agrace Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, Janesville, WI.

He was born June 3, 1930 in Viroqua, WI, the son of Amund and Thea (Johnson) Lee. Arnie graduated from Viroqua High School in 1948 and received his Bachelor’s degree from La Crosse State Teachers College in 1952. He started his teaching career in Beloit, WI, the same year at Cunningham Elementary School. He taught for ten years with subsequent teaching positions at Todd, Strong and Merrill Elementary Schools. In 1954 he met his future wife, Marcia, while both were teaching at Todd. They were married the following summer.

Arnie was then appointed the principal of Todd where he served five years. He was granted the MS degree in School Administration from the University of Wisconsin. He completed a year of residency at the University of Wisconsin after being admitted to the doctoral program where he was an instructor. Arnie returned to Beloit where he became principal at Gaston Elementary School. He did post graduate work at the University of Northern Illinois on a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant in the area of chemistry and physics during the summer of 1960; a summer school on an NDEA grant at Rhode Island College in Reading Instruction, and NSF grant at Eastern Michigan in Earth Science. He also received a Kettering Foundation grant as a Kettering Fellow to attend a summer session at the College of Southern Utah on Innovations in Education. In 1973 he was appointed an Assistant Administrator in Central Office. In July of 1979 he was appointed acting District Administrator while the district was searching for a new superintendent. Arnie served as Assistant Superintendent for Administrative services during the period of 1979-81 followed by the position of Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Business and Finance. He served as an Adjunct Instructor at Beloit College in the Department of Education from 1988-90 and was a Senior Lecturer/Supervisor of student field experience at the University of Wisconsin Rock County from 1995-2004. Following his retirement, he ran for School Board and served two terms as the Clerk of the Board. Arnie had local, state and national membership in the teaching, administration and supervision fields. He held membership in the American Association of School Business Officials as a Registered School Business Administrator. Arnie was the recipient of the

Rotary Club of the month in 1961; he received the Award of Excellence for the Best Instrument for Recording Teacher Observations in 1997 from the Educational Service Bureau, Inc. He authored several unpublished papers while serving in the Office of Curriculum and Instruction in addition to his Levels Approach to Teacher Supervision which won the award mentioned above. A Guide to Effective Education of the Capable Student; Unit Type Organization of Learning Experiences, Evaluation of the Centers Program, Early Reading in Kindergarten. Arnie was the recipient of the Beloit Daily News Volunteer of the Month in April of 2002. He was a charter member of the Greater Beloit Kiwanis Club and served each of the other two clubs at one time or another, the last being the Beloit Stateline Golden K. He was the recipient of the Legion of Honor having served for over 25 years as a Kiwanis member. He was a three-time recipient of the Kiwanian of the Year Award, Distinguished President Award from the Wisconsin Upper-Michigan Kiwanis District, a Distinguished Member of the Kiwanis International Builders Club Committee, recipient of the Kiwanis Hixson Award and served as the District Administrator for the K-Kids and Builders Club of Wisconsin Upper Michigan Kiwanis District. Arnie served as a Textbook and Trade Book reviewer for Curriculum Advisory Service of Skokie, IL. He served on a number of community boards and committees including the Family Service Association Board, Voluntary Action Center Board, Voluntary Action Center Grants Committee, the New Beloit YMCA Fund Raising Project, YMCA Boy Choir, member and chair of Beloit YMCA Youth Program Committee, member and president of Beloit YMCA Board of Directors, member and President of the Rock Valley Correctional Program, Inc., member of Greater Beloit Community Foundation, member of the Merrill Community Center Board, chairman of Beloit High School Alumni Scholarship Fund, chairman of the School District of Beloit Education Endowment Fund, University of Wisconsin -Rock Foundation Board and Finance Committee, Beloit City Traffic Review Committee, Beloit Cable Advisory and the Parks and Recreation Committee. Arnie was a 13-year member of the 32nd Division National Guard and retired as a First Lieutenant. He was a life member of the 32nd Division Veterans Association and a life member of the Red Arrow Club of Southern Wisconsin. He served his church in a number of capacities: he was a member and chair of the Board of Deacons at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, member and president of the church council, Sunday school and Bible school teacher, president of Our Savior's Lutheran Church Parent Teacher Organization and also served as an usher. Arnie was a was a former Cub Scout leader of the Wright Elementary School Pack, member and past president of School District Quarter Century Club. He served as a volunteer at Beloit Memorial Hospital as a Lifeline installer and was a member and past president of the Volunteer Board of Directors. He served as the chair of the Wisconsin Hospital Association committee for the selection of the "Best of the Best" hospital administrator of the year.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Marcia Lee; three children, Todd (Peggy) Lee, Lory

(Skip) Larsen and Kent (Jennifer) Lee; five grandchildren, Amy (Will Wait) Lee , Katy Lee, Cory Bricco, Thomas Bricco and Alexandra Lee; two brothers, Chet Lee and Charles (Ruth) Lee.

He was predeceased by his parents, two half-sisters, Mable Howbray and Esther (Perry) Ashcraft; and two half-brothers, Stanley (Sally) Leer and Marvel (Margaret) Lee.

Funeral service for Arnie will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, August 21, 2020 in Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI, with Pastor Tony Dusso officiating. Burial will be in East Lawn Cemetery. Visitation of remembrance will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday in the Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium, 2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI. Social distancing and face mask are required.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in his name to Our Savior's Lutheran Church or Caritas.

Cemetery

Events

East Lawn

Cemetery

2200 Milwaukee

Road

Beloit, WI,

AUG Visitation 04:00PM - 07:00PM

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Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and
Crematorium

2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, US, 53511

AUG Service 11:00AM

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church

749 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI, US

Comments



“ I'm so sorry for your family's loss of a wonderful man. I'm sure you will cherish the memories you have.
Sue Beeman

Susan Beeman - August 29, 2020 at 10:37 AM



“ Dear Marcia and family, Please accept our deepest sympathy for your loss. We appreciate Arnie's commitment as a valued volunteer at Beloit Health System. A memorial gift has been made in his name to the Beloit Health System Family Care Center.
Beloit Health System Volunteers in Partnership

Carol Cox - August 25, 2020 at 04:56 PM



“ Dear Marcia and family:

My sincere sympathy and prayers to you on Arnie's passing. As a young person struggling to learn the administrative side of education in Beloit, I found an invaluable counselor, coach, and friend in Arnie - rather, he found me. He was unfailingly patient, trustworthy, supportive and kind, forever willing to share his knowledge and experience. These many years later I look back to that teaching heart and technical excellence with wonderful memories and deep gratitude for his life.

With love and respect,

Tim Weeden

Tim Weeden - August 22, 2020 at 09:51 AM



“ Sincere condolences to the family of my wonderful, inspiring 6th grade teacher, Mr. Lee. The exciting suspicion of a romance between Mr. Lee and Miss Miller(?) made 6th grade even more fun. My cousin, John Blakely, one year behind me, recalls being put in that little room off the 6th grade classroom with several others to work on a project. For a half hour they goofed around and talked about Mr. Lee. Then they heard the flap flap of a tape recorder ending and realized they'd been recorded. Mr. Lee never said anything about it. Perhaps John will write his own condolences. John's sister Diane says Miss Miller, her 2nd grade teacher, was her favorite. As a retired teacher myself, I hope I inspired even one of my students as much as Mr. Lee inspired his students. He accomplished so much, and his family has so much in which to be proud. Mary Blakely

Mary Blakely - August 22, 2020 at 09:25 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Daley Murphy Wisch Funeral Home - August 21, 2020 at 04:37 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Daley Murphy Wisch Funeral Home - August 21, 2020 at 04:16 PM



“ Marcia,
I am so sorry for your loss. Arnie was there at the start of my career with Beloit. He was my first principal when I worked at Roosevelt in EC. Your family is in my prayers.



Linda Striegel - August 20, 2020 at 06:15 PM



“ Dear Marcia and family,

We were saddened to hear about the loss of Arnie. While we wish we could be in Beloit to support you during this time, we will always have wonderful memories, including the times Arnie and you spent with my parents and the laughter. I, in particular, always enjoyed the spirited discussions with Arnie about educational policy and leadership. We will remember Arnie for his kindness, continued interest in learning, commitment to education, and service to his profession and community throughout his distinguished life. We know you will miss him dearly but hope you and your wonderful family continued to be comforted by warm loving memories of him.

With deepest sympathies & love,

Mary Lynn & Marco Boscardin

Mary Lynn Boscardin - August 20, 2020 at 05:25 PM



“ Dear Marcia and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Arnie was a great man and I am honored to call him my friend. My husband, Daryl, admired him so much and always said that Mr. Lee was his favorite 5th and 6th Grade teacher at Cunningham School. I know Arnie planned to have Daryl as pallbearer at his funeral and Daryl would have been so honored. May you find comfort and peace at this time of sorrow. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Marcia, and your lovely family.
from Mary Porter

Mary Porter - August 17, 2020 at 11:36 PM



“ Rachelle Elliott lit a candle in memory of Arnold T. Lee



Rachelle Elliott - August 17, 2020 at 06:25 PM



“ Marcia, so sorry to learn of Arnie's passing. I always enjoyed talking to him and visiting about Kiwanis. I will miss seeing him at district events.



ken saville - August 17, 2020 at 05:00 PM



“ Kiwanis has lost a great member. Thank You Arnie for your service to Kiwanis and your Country. The Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis Community has been informed of Arnie's passing. My respects and sympathies, Roger Krogstad Governor WI-UM Kiwanis

Roger E. Krogstad - August 17, 2020 at 02:37 PM



“ Dear Marcia, Lory and family,
We were so sorry to learn of Arnie's passing. He was a wonderful mentor and friend. So many fun years & memories volunteering together at Beloit Memorial Hospital. Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers,
Love,
John & Nancy S

Nancy Schroer - August 17, 2020 at 01:46 PM



“ Marcia and family, We were so very sad to hear about Arnie's passing. As you know so well, he was a remarkable gentleman. We will miss seeing him as he walked by our house daily. Please reach out to us for anything you may need in the days ahead. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Harry and Kedron W.

Harry and Kedron Wiersgalla - August 16, 2020 at 10:28 AM



“ Marsha I am so sorry for your loss honey truly was an amazing man you're going to miss him terribly. I am sitting here with a huge Celine on my arm after having had shoulder surgery so am not driving and can't write with my left hand so no card or attendance at funeral, don't wanted to let you know that my heart goes out to you.

Sue Kurth - August 16, 2020 at 09:37 AM



“ Our community has lost a great man. Arnie was a dear friend, always helpful and encouraging. He was quick to praise, and I never heard him make an unkind statement about anyone. A real booster of Beloit and supporter of education for our community's children. I will miss Arnie very much. It was a privilege to have known him. Love to Marcia, and my condolences to all of Arnie's children, grandchildren, and family he loved so dearly.

Pam Charles - August 16, 2020 at 09:18 AM



“ Dear Marcia
My prayers and best wishes to your your family. Let me know if I can help in any way!

Teresa Hinds - August 15, 2020 at 02:52 PM



“ Arnie hired Mary to come and teach in Beloit in 1979. Arnie and Marsha rented a house to us on White Avenue. They were a great support to Mary and I as we become part of the Beloit community and the school district. We appreciate them both. We are so sorry for your loss! Arnie was one of the good guys! Love and peace to the entire family.

Gary and Mary Stuedemann

Gary Stuedemann - August 15, 2020 at 02:04 PM



“ Dear Tommy ,
Please accept our deepest condolences on the loss of your Grandfather. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family .
Love,
Mark & Cathy Joseph

Mark Joseph - August 15, 2020 at 12:39 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear of Arnie's passing and send my condolences to Marcia and family. I had the pleasure to work with him for 10 years at RAC. Arnie was a very kind, courteous man and did everything he could to help others. Heaven has gained a wonderful angel. RIP Arnie until we meet again.



Cindy Udell - August 14, 2020 at 11:52 PM



“ Dave And Terri Hanson lit a candle in memory of Arnold T. Lee



Dave and Terri Hanson - August 14, 2020 at 07:21 PM



“ Dear Marcia and Family,

Bill Heebink shared the news of Arnie's passing to me and Ruth Lansbery Zins. So very sorry.

When Judy and our girls and I came to the School District of Beloit in 1979, you and Arnie welcomed us to the district and the community with open arms.

Your friendship and support was appreciated then, and valued even more today. Arnie was a rock in the district , but also in the community. He was a valued friend, trusted advisor, and caring mentor.

The Walls family has fond memories of Beloit and our thoughts are with you at the difficult time.

It was good to see Arnie at Jimmy McMillan's service.

Michael Walls

michael walls - August 15, 2020 at 06:05 PM



“ What an honorable and accomplished gentleman. A true asset to his community and to society. He has left a wonderful legacy to follow. God bless you Lory and family as you mourn your great loss.

Susan Keller - August 18, 2020 at 10:02 AM