



## David Carl Bidstrup

March 21, 1931 - February 4, 2019

David Carl Bidstrup (age 87) was taken into God's arms on Monday, February 4, 2019 from Ascension All Saints Hospital.

David's life was one of gifts received and gifts shared.

David was born March 21, 1931 to Emil and Clara Bidstrup in Racine, WI. He grew up with his older sister Marcella (Nielsen). David graduated from Park High School in 1950. After a brief employment at SC Johnson, David served his country as a member of the Marine Corps. Following his discharge he returned to school, attending Dana College in Blair, NE. While serving as a photographer for the school, he had the good fortune of being asked to photograph incoming freshman students. One of them was Betty Christensen from Green Bay. She learned that David was also from Wisconsin and arranged a ride back with him at the end of the term. This was the beginning of a life long journey together. They were married August 10, 1957. David graduated in 1958 and they remained in Blair as he was employed by the college. Their first child, Kären, was born while they were living in Blair. They moved to Racine in 1961 after David took a job with the Racine School District. David became the Director of Buildings and Grounds shortly thereafter (a position he held until his retirement in 1989). Their family then grew with the additions of Karla and Kai. The family was active in the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. David served as a trustee and frequent volunteer. He was also a member of Kiwanis. One of the many gifts David was grateful for was the kidney he received from his daughter Kären in 2000. It gave him

renewed health and 18 more years to enjoy his family. His hobbies produced heirloom items that are owned by many, and are used weekly by his church family. His woodworking skills produced both beautiful furniture and artfully turned pieces. His braided rugs softened hard floors for many feet. His 700+ quilt tops were turned into complete quilts by the women of the church, and have been distributed worldwide through Lutheran World Relief. But the greatest gift he shared was his quiet, gentle approach to marriage and parenting. He will be dearly missed by his family: wife Betty, children Kären Gueldenzopf (Robert), Karla Bidstrup, Kai Bidstrup (Susan), grandchildren Carly Griffis (Nic), Evan Spencer, Elizabeth Bidstrup, Margaret Bidstrup, and great grandchildren Audrey Davis, Andrew Davis, Rose Griffis and Luke Griffis. David was looking forward to the glories of heaven, including seeing his grandson Aaron Davis (Ana) who preceded him in death. He greatly enjoyed both the love he was shown by his many nieces and nephews and the time he spent with friends.

A celebration of David's life will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, February 9 at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 322 Ohio Street, Racine, WI 53405. Visitation will be held from Noon - 2:00pm preceding the funeral.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, for facility maintenance.

# Cemetery Details

## Graceland Cemetery

Racine, WI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 9. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
322 Ohio Street  
Racine, WI

## Celebration of Life Service

FEB 9. 2:00 PM (CT)

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
322 Ohio Street  
Racine, WI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of David Carl Bidstrup*



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**Sturino Funeral Home** - February 07, 2019 at 06:31 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Carl Bidstrup.*



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February 09, 2019 at 07:03 AM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of David Carl Bidstrup.*



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February 08, 2019 at 02:48 PM

SG

“ Sharon & Cliff Goddard lit a candle in memory of David Carl Bidstrup



Sharon & Cliff Goddard - February 08, 2019 at 02:12 PM



“ Uncle David was one of the calmest, sweetest people I have ever known. He will be greatly missed by his family and community. Paula Landis

Paula Brengelman Landis - February 08, 2019 at 12:00 PM

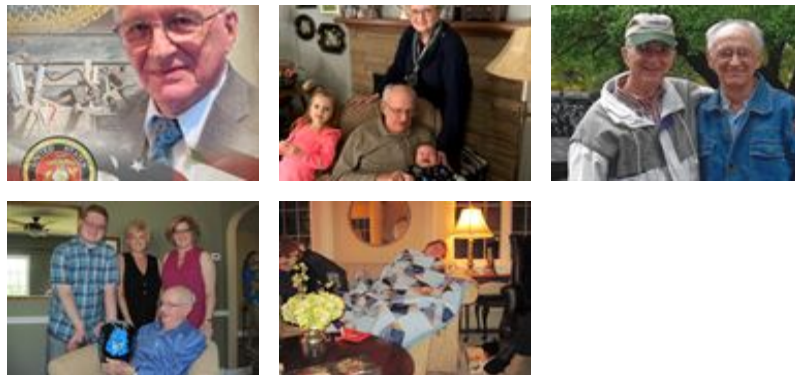


“ So sorry for Betty and her family. I think of him almost every day because he turned both of the bowls I use for keys, wallet, etc. And in particular since I'm turning a lot and appreciating other people's work. John Brengelman

Paula Brengelman Landis - February 08, 2019 at 11:59 AM



“ 79 files added to the album LifeTributes



Sturino Funeral Home - February 07, 2019 at 05:22 PM

SB

*Betty, so sorry for you and your entire family. You are in our prayers, may God give you strength and peace. Sending Hugs! Tom & Sarah Brusky*

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**Sarah Brusky** - February 08, 2019 at 06:36 AM

CM

*Karla, I am so sorry for your loss. Having a good dad is a blessing . You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Carol Michalski** - February 08, 2019 at 11:11 AM

MM

*“ Our parents were good friends. It took many years but David, Betty and I met again at a Dana College Homecoming. We moved to Milwaukee in 2006 and we would touch base often, including birthday lunches with other Dana alumni. David inspired us with his many gifts of beautiful furniture and quilt tops. We know we will meet again.*

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**Margaret Madsen** - February 06, 2019 at 07:55 PM