

## † Rasmus (Ras) Kalnes

Ras Kalnes, of Eagle, died on Saturday, May 23, 2009 at the age of 77 years, 11 months, and six days.

He was born on June 17, 1931 to Iver and Anna (Vangsnes) Kalnes in Stoughton, Wisconsin and baptized into the Christian faith that same year at Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison. Ras confirmed his faith on May 8, 1945 at the McFarland Lutheran Church in McFarland, Wis.

Ras married Donna Simondet on August 21, 1954 at the First English Lutheran Church in Redwood Falls, Minnesota after graduating from Luther College in Iowa. They moved to Eagle in 1965. Ras retired from the Muskego-Norway High School where he taught psychology and history. He was a veteran of the U. S. Marine Corps, a Republican Party delegate for many years, a past Village president of Eagle, head of the Committee on Aging for Waukesha County, a member of the Waukesha County Historical Society, and was instrumental in establishing Old World Wisconsin in Eagle. He was a U.S. Service Academy representative for the State of Wisconsin and a recipient of the Luther College Distinguished Alumni award.

Ras and Donna became members of St. John's Lutheran Church here in North Prairie in May of 1969, where over the years he served on many board and committees, including the Board of Education, the Board of Evangelism, and as an Elder. He and Donna were co-chairs of the Centennial Committee in 1987. Ras regularly attended several Bible studies, always adding to the discussion with insight and frequently with humor. He faithfully attended worship services

Ras is survived by his beloved children, Stephanie of Eagle and Eric of Huntington Beach, California; daughter-in-law Leslie and grandchildren Anna and Erik of Batavia, Illinois; his sister Pauline Larson of McFarland, and brother-in-law Robin Roberts of Tampa Bay, Florida. He is further survived by many loving relatives and friends.

Ras was preceded in death by his wife Donna in January of 2007; his son David in 1995; his parents; his brother Irving; and his sisters Mary and Ruth.

*"Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:39*

**Rasmus B.A. Kalnes**

June 17, 1931 – May 23, 2009

Rasmus B.A. Kalnes, 77, of Eagle, passed away peacefully Saturday, May 23, 2009, at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. He was born June 17, 1931, in Stoughton, the son of Iver and



Anna (nee Vangsnes) Kalnes.



He married Donna (nee Simondet) in Redwood Falls, Minn., on August 21, 1954, after he graduated from Luther College. They moved to Eagle in 1965. Ras was retired from Muskego/Norway High School where he taught psychology and history. He was a longtime member of St. John's Lutheran Church, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, where he earned a sharp shooting medal, a Republican Party delegate for many years, a past village president of Eagle, a head of the committee on aging for Waukesha County, Santa Claus for the Waukesha County Historical Society, was instrumental in establishing Old World Wisconsin in Eagle, a U.S. Service Academy representative for the state of Wisconsin and a recipient of the Luther College distinguished alumni award.

Ras is survived by his beloved children, Stephanie of Eagle and Eric of Huntington Beach, Calif.; daughter-in-law, Leslie; two grandchildren, Anna and Erik of Batavia, Ill.; and his sister, Pauline Larson of McFarland. He is further survived by many loving relatives and friends.

Ras was preceded in death by his wife, Donna, in 2007; his son, David; his parents; his brother, Irving; and his sisters, Mary and Ruth.

Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, May 29, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 312 N. Main St., North Prairie, and from 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral service Saturday, May 30, with the Rev. Brady Finnern officiating. Interment will follow at Oak Grove Cemetery in Eagle.

For the online obituary and guest registry, go to [www.hdl-funeralhomes.com](http://www.hdl-funeralhomes.com).

Mealy's Funeral Home in Eagle, 594-2442, is assisting the family.