



albinchapel.com

Ralph H. Albinson • James W. Albinson • Daniel R. Albinson
6855 Rowland Road • Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55344

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Arnold Peter Petersen

Preceded in death by 1st wife Eva and daughter, Joann Jelinek

Survived by wife Jean

children James Petersen, Ruth Valesano, Lois Winslow, Esther Otto, Thomas Petersen
17 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren

Arnold Peter Petersen was born on November 27, 1907 in Thief River Falls, Minnesota where he grew up on a farm. When he was 17 he took a job with a mercantile company. In 1929 he married Eva Ayers.

In 1931 he and his wife, Eva, moved to St. James, Minnesota to manage a Red Owl store. Two years later, in 1933, he opened his own grocery business, the Petersen Food Market. Those were Depression days. Picnic hams sold at six cents a pound, coffee was thirteen cents a pound and all canned goods sold for five cents a can. Yellow corn dropped to as low as eight cents a bushel. But people still had to eat and business was good. The Petersens lived in St. James until 1940 when they moved to Minneapolis.

The purpose for the move to Minneapolis was for Arnold to further his education. He attended Northwestern Bible College, and graduated in 1944. This, of course, was during the Second World War. At that time, the Christian Businessmen's Committee, CBMC, had purchased the building at 902 Hennepin Avenue and was using it as a servicemen's center. They called it the Hospitality House. Arnold served there as a chaplain and counselor for servicemen until the war was over.

After the war, at the request of the Hennepin County Probation Office and Juvenile Court, the Hospitality House was converted into a youth care facility. Arnold was appointed chaplain of the Hennepin County Juvenile Court and Executive Director of the Hospitality House. Over the next decade the Hospitality House served as the primary foster care resource for the county, placing over 800 young people in foster homes around the state. During those years, Arnold conducted twice weekly radio broadcasts on radio station KTIS for the purpose of recruiting suitable foster parents. He would then visit each potential foster home to evaluate their capability.

In 1957 Arnold moved on to a different career. He entered into a partnership to form a real-estate brokerage firm; the Odell-Petersen Realtors. He continued in this business for the next 20 years until his wife, Eva, was incapacitated by illness. In 1977 Arnold sold his business to devote his attention to her care, until she died in 1979. They had been married for fifty years and had six children.

In 1981 Arnold remarried. Jean had been widowed five years earlier. In 2005, Arnold and Jean moved into The Heathers, an assisted care facility in the city of Crystal. They have now been married for twenty-six years - which means that Arnold has been married for a total of seventy-six years.

As is often the case, the activities and accomplishments we have just outlined do not really define this man. Rather, he is best defined by his love for God and love for people. Over his lifetime he has been a shepherd and mentor for hundreds. Up until the day of his death, just before reaching age one hundred, Arnold Petersen was filled with infectious joy. Examine his well worn Bible kept next to his chair and you will see that there is a hole worn right through the cover, worn by the pressure of his thumb gripping it as he carried it.



SERVICE
Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007
2:00PM
Albin Chapel
6855 Rowland Road,
Eden Prairie, MN.

VISITATION
Friday, Nov. 23, 2007
6:00 - 9:00PM
Albin Chapel

INTERMENT
Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007
Glen Haven
Memorial Gardens
5100 N. Douglas Drive
Crystal, Minnesota

MEMORIALS PREFERRED
Donor's Choice

Jim Petersen (son) 2007