



David E. Hanson Ramsett

May 12, 1942 - January 6, 2021

David E. Hanson Ramsett (78) passed away January 6, 2021 at Leesburg (FL) Regional Hospital. He was born May 12, 1942, to Harold and Eleanor Hanson. Following their deaths, he was adopted by Arnold and Beulah Ramsett and lived before marriage in the Viroqua, WI area, graduating from Viroqua High School in 1960.

He joined the Wisconsin National Guard and became active in the fall of 1960 for stationing in Ft. Lewis, WA. On August 25, 1962, he was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart, Maureen D. Rude. They attended Luther College, Decorah, IA where he graduated Magna Cum Laude in Economics and Public Administration May 1965.

Awarded a NDEA scholarship, he enrolled in graduate programs at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK and completed his Master's and Ph.D. degrees August 1968.

David began his professional career as Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA. In the fall 1970, he and family moved to Grand Forks, ND to become Director of the Economics Leadership Studies Program and Assistant Professor in the Economics Department of the University of North Dakota.

He advanced from Associate Professor to full Professor in the College of Business and Public Administration and subsequently chaired the Department of Economics.

During his 30 UND years, he served on numerous committees and authored two books.

David and family enjoyed being together at their lake home in nearby Detroit Lakes, MN where he and Maureen lived part-time upon his 2001 UND retirement. In 2006 they purchased a home in The Villages, FL for their winter living. He loved to swim, water ski, fish and golf; and dearly loved watching his Packers play football and the Badgers play basketball. His favorite lake place was the house deck enjoying all the activity and the views.

He was preceded in death by his biological and adoptive parents and is survived by his wife of 58 years, two daughters-Renee Yoder (Doug) of Elkton, VA and Jodi Achterberg (Wayne) of Loveland, OH; and one son, Dean Ramsett (Holly) of Andover, KS. Also mourning his death and missing him are his three biological brothers-Ralph Thurin (Christine) of Viroqua, WI; Roger Elver (Rita) of Fitchburg, WI; and Daniel Ellefson (Deborah) of Saline, MI; and six granddaughters (Hannah Lester, Abigail Perry, Peyton and Paige Ramsett, and Lexi and Jenna Achterberg), two great granddaughters (Eloise and Cecilia Lester), and many nieces and nephews. His children and their families brought much joy to his life.

Due to Covid, a celebration of David's life is being postponed. He will be buried at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory in Leesburg, FI has been entrusted with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to the University of North Dakota Foundation--Department of Economics and Finance, 3501 University Avenue, Stop 8157, Grand Forks, ND 58202 or other charities of choice.

Condolences may be left online at www.BeyersFuneralHome.com. Blessed be his memory.

Tribute Wall

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“ *Still thinking of Dave's family and all those others of you to whom he was special.* ”

David Endicott - December 30, 2021 at 11:09 AM

“ My father and one of my older brothers in Viroqua had been very accomplished bass horn (sousaphone) players. I started out on trumpet in the sixth grade and six months later asked my mom if "Nurdy" (Viroqua band director and "Wall of Famer" Emory O. Nordness) would let me switch to bass horn. He did. I was so small that they had to set the horn on a three-armed stand so I could crawl up through the large shoulder-hole to stretch my neck out so I could "play" it.

As a freshman, I was thrilled to learn that Nurdy wanted me to play in the high school band. Which was where I met Dave Ramset. He was a senior and played First Chair bass horn in a section of four. I was last chair, but glad to be there. As a rule in those days, high school seniors didn't pay much attention to freshmen. (Seniors seemed to be very look-up-to-able!) Dave always had some time to help bring me along. What a kind gentleman he was even then! And an absolutely fabulous player! When I succeeded to First Chair bass horn the next year after he'd graduated, I made sure to get Dave's bass horn. It was much more than a trophy, just because he had played it. I suspect he didn't know of the connection to his birth family I already had.

A few years earlier Miss Gehrke (GERR-key) had walked into our fourth grad class and said she wanted to introduce us to "Roger Hanson." Well, that was interesting, because we already had a Roger Hanson in class. The new Roger was Dave Ramsett's younger brother, was soon adopted by Pearl & Dick Elver and became Roger Elver. (Critical young problem solved.) Dick & Pearl lived just a block and a half up Main Street from us, so Roger and I became friends. So much so that I started picking him up on my to school, which we continued doing every year I can remember. Somewhere along the line I became aware that Dave Ramsett was Roger Elver's oldest brother.

I've thought of Dave many times in the intervening years and wondered what he was doing. How gratifying it is to read about his

unsurprising career accomplishments. Also astonishing it is how much he and Rog grew to look so much alike! Roger, of course, went on to become Dr. Roger Elver, Platteville dentist now retired with Rita to Fitchburg just outside of Madison.

And me? Well, I've had my own checkered and fairly unremarkable career, living in Seattle since 1976. One thing I am proud of: It's starting the non-profit Music4Life.org. We provide donated-and-repaired musical instruments to 11 (and growing) Seattle-area public school districts for use by students in-need. We started it in 2007 and dedicated it to Nordy, the man who rescued this at-risk youth, put a bass horn in his hands and opened the wonderful world of music to him for the rest of his life. I should think about adding Dave Ramsett to that dedication. An impact player if I've ever known one.

David Endicott - May 29, 2021 at 06:21 PM

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David Endicott - May 29, 2021 at 12:21 PM