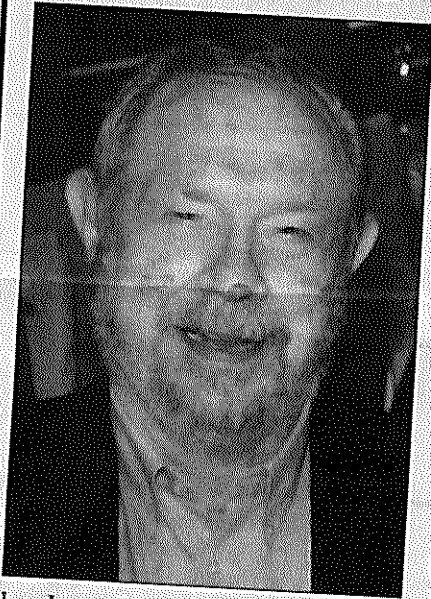


GH-12

## Duane Arthur 'Dewey' Meyer <sup>10-22-</sup> 2015



The Most Rev. Dr. Duane Arthur "Dewey" Meyer, 85, of Grinnell, died on Monday, October 19, 2015, at the Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Dewey Meyer Memorial Fund.

Dewey wanted a party - not a formal service. Please join us for a party and celebration for Dewey's life at 3:00 p.m., Saturday, October 24, 2015, at their home, 1110 - 1st Avenue, Grinnell. All are welcome.

Dewey was proud to be a Meyer. He was born on October 14, 1930, to William and Lena (De Beer) Meyer in Ack-

ley, Iowa. Dewey's dad, Bill, was a carpenter. He was loved and respected by all, especially the little old ladies, for whom he would fix things for free. His mom, Lena, was a strong and independent woman, heavily involved with the church. Dewey wanted so much to emulate his dad.

After he flunked out of calculus at Iowa State, he heard God calling. With his parents blessings, Dewey headed to Elmhurst College and then on to Eden to finish seminary. Some years later, he received his Doctorate of Divinity at Eden Seminary.

He married his first wife, Barbara Blair, before seminary. To Barb and Dewey's union, three daughters were born, Ann and twins Nancy Jo and Jane.

In 1984, Jo and Dewey were married. To this union they had six dogs, several horses and one cat. Oh yes, with the marriage package came twin sons, Matthew and Mark, who he quickly considered his sons.

Dewey's professional life started at two small churches, Wilton/Moscow, then to Denver, Iowa. He was then called to be an associate conference minister for the Iowa Conference United Church of Christ, where he stayed for over 25 years.

His love of developing people's inner selves through small group dynamics was so apparent and helpful. Anecdotes of how he helped during this time period are still being heard and the lessons have carried on. This period of his ministry was his true passion.

Dewey could never sit still or "retire." After his time in Iowa, he served a large church in Bakersfield, California. On his 65th birthday, Dewey retired from the ministry. Jo had started a software company and immediately made him Business Manager.

Dewey always made it known he wanted to settle at Mayflower, in Grinnell. He loved people, parties and conversations. What better place to do that than at Mayflower, Saints Rest or at Rotary. Dewey was known for his gregarious nature, variety of opinions, sparkly eyes, powerful voice and heartfelt laugh. But we can't forget about the hugs which he gave freely.

The beauty in Dewey was while he had his opinions - he valued and respected other people's opinions. His love was strong, his faith was even stronger. He will be missed but not forgotten. He is and will be forever in all our hearts and souls.

Dewey is survived by his wife of 31 years, Jo Meyer, of Grinnell; his daughters, Nancy Jo (Mike) Fairfield Cook of Texas, Jane Meyer and Ann (John) Ghrist, all of Des Moines; two step sons, Mark Fulton of Omaha, Nebraska and Matthew (Cheryl) Fulton of Rogers, Arkansas; twelve grandchildren; two great grandchildren; his sister, Marilyn Harkin of Camdenton, Missouri; and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, LeRoy Meyer; and his sister, Lorraine Schultz.