



Celebration of Life



David Ferdinand Durenberger

August 19, 1934 - January 31, 2023

“Senator Dave Durenberger, a man whose higher purpose led our country to a higher ground.”

– Senator Amy Klobuchar, 2023

Celebration of Life for David F. Durenberger
Saturday, May 20, 2023 • 2:00 p.m.
**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC		Ahmed Anzaldúa, piano
TOLLING OF THE BELL		Tom Zell
PRELUDE		
OPENING WORDS KINDLING THE CHALICE FLAME		Rev. Karen Gustafson
*HYMN	<i>Blue Boat Home</i> #1064, teal hymnal	
WORDS TO CELEBRATE LIFE		
REMEMBRANCE		Susan Foote
SILENCE		
MINISTER'S PRAYER		Rev. Kathleen Rolenz
INTERLUDE		
READING	<i>Remarks on the Occasion of My 88th Birthday</i> By Dave Durenberger	Mike Durenberger
CONGREGATIONAL SINGING	<i>This Land Is Your Land</i> See insert	
COLLAGE OF VOICES		
INTERLUDE		
CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION		
*HYMN	<i>Life Calls Us On</i> See insert	
*BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE		

Please join the family for a reception in Parish Hall following the service.

To access the Sanctuary's assistive listening system, please switch your hearing aid to "T" or request headphones or assistance from an usher. Large print orders of service are also available by request to an usher.

David Ferdinand Durenberger was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota to George and Isabelle Durenberger on August 19, 1934. He graduated from St. John's Prep School in 1951 and St. John's University in 1955 and received his law degree from the University of Minnesota in 1959. He served in the U.S. Army and then joined a South Saint Paul law firm. When his law partner Harold LeVander ran for governor, Dave became his chief of staff, beginning his life-long career in public service. He worked for former Governor Elmer Andersen in community affairs at HB Fuller Company before his 1978 run for U.S. Senate to fill the vacancy created by the death of Hubert H. Humphrey. His book, written with Lori Sturdivant, *When Republicans Were Progressive*, chronicles his path from Collegeville, MN, to Washington, DC.



Dave served for three terms from 1978-1995. He was known for bi-partisan spirit, and his commitment to protecting natural resources and the environment, health and safety regulation, and expansion of health care services through Medicare, Medicaid. He was the original sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the National and Community Service Act, and the Economic Equity Act that provided a platform for greater equity for working women, among many others. He credited his Minnesota constituents for sharing their concerns and providing creative ideas for solutions to problems.

Following his retirement in 1995, Dave remained active in Minnesota environmental initiatives, support for Minnesota's parks and trails, for protection of the Mississippi River, built the National Institute of Health Policy at the University of St. Thomas, chaired the Medical Technology Leadership Forum, and served on numerous federal and non-profit advisory boards on health care policy.

Dave has four grown sons from his marriage to Judy Durenberger who predeceased him in 1970. He married Susan Foote in 1995, making a blended family of six children that grew over the years to fourteen grandchildren, all of whom he adored. Dave returned to Minnesota in 1999 with Susan and they settled in St. Paul. While he remained a life-long Catholic, he enthusiastically accompanied Susan, a member of Unity Church, to this sacred place that became very important to him as well. Through Susan, Dave had a deep connection to and admiration for Arthur Foote, minister here from 1945-1970. Today we come together to joyfully celebrate his long and wonderful life.