



Darwin Albert Novak Jr.

November 25, 1935 - December 1, 2020

Novak, Darwin Albert, Jr. 85, of Chesterfield, Missouri, passed away on December 1, 2020. Loving husband of 59 years to Carol Novak (nee Stephany), loving father of Robert (Mary) and Linda (John); adoring grandfather of Emily, Katie and Chris Novak and James and Ben Bernardy; dear brother to Lou Ann Niemann; dear brother-in-law to Sue (Ron) Walker; dear uncle, great uncle, cousin and friend to many.

Darwin was born in Quincy, IL to the late Darwin and Mildred Novak.

After receiving the Albert C. Murphy full scholarship to Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, he graduated with a BS in Chemical Engineering. Washington University awarded him with an MS and Doctor of Science in Chemical Engineering. Darwin had a 28 year career with Monsanto. Dar has been a member of the American Chemical Society, American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Darwin has been an active member of Second Baptist Church, enjoyed singing in the choir, and served as moderator for the church council for two years and as a co-superintendent of the children's Sunday school program.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Second Baptist Church in Richmond Heights, MO would be appreciated.

Services are private at Valhalla Chapel of Memories.

Cemetery

Valhalla Outdoor Garden Mausoleum

7600 St Charles Rock Road

St Louis, MO, 63133

Comments



“ Dar was one of my first bosses when I rejoined Monsanto in St Louis in 1980. I had been away at the University of Missouri at Rolla completing my PhD in Chemical Engineering. I remember many long discussions with Dar on English grammar and writing styles. When Dar became a manager he purchased a copy of Webster’s Instant Word Guide for everyone in his group. My copy still sits in the bookcase by my desk. The book is almost 40 years old. I learned more about writing reports and technical papers from Dar than I did from all of my previous English teachers. I remember being on assignment in New Jersey managing a series of tests at Hazards Research labs. After many weeks on site, it was Dar not my immediate supervisor who called me to ask:
“Where is your passport?”
No one else had nerve enough to call. The plan was for a change of clothes, airline tickets, money and my passport to be sent via courier so I could leave the next day for Europe. Dar relented and allowed me a week at home, I eventually was sent to Europe for a problem at a Monsanto site.
I remember Dar and I sitting in his living room playing Candy Land with his daughter. She always won (maybe a little cheating but who knows)!
Carol, if you read this short note, Dar was a good man and an excellent engineer. He will be missed.

Randy Freeman

Randy Freeman - December 05, 2020 at 04:17 PM



“ Thank you Dr Freeman. This is his son, Rob. I would turn in homework and my teachers would ask who taught this to you? Then, where did he go to school? Thank you for the great story!

Rob - December 06, 2020 at 06:56 PM



“ I was fortunate to work with Dar at CH2M HILL around 2008-2012. Dar was very smart, picking up new technology very quickly and helping clients and coworkers a lot. Above all, Dar was cheerful, optimistic, just all-around nice. It was a pleasure to know him.

Jim Anthony - December 05, 2020 at 12:47 PM



“ Thank you for the kind words.

Rob - December 06, 2020 at 06:57 PM



“ Jim, I greatly appreciate the comment about him quickly picking up new tech. When he worked with you he was in his 70s. Can you imagine?!? I am 54 and I have to remember what day it is. Thank goodness for the I phone. He loved the i phone

Rob - December 06, 2020 at 10:52 PM



“ It is with great sorrow I learned of the passing of Darwin Novak. Dar was always ready to help with any kind of work that had to be done He never required any kind of thanks. For example, when Al Larson passed away he gladly helped in going through many of Al's papers and determined which should be saved, He was a delight to know.

I could always depend on him to lend a helpful hand.

Edward M. Rosen
A Monsanto colleague

Edward Rosen - December 04, 2020 at 06:34 PM



“ Thank you Mr Rosen. We appreciate the kind words.

Rob - December 06, 2020 at 06:58 PM