



## Terry A. Sorom

January 9, 1940 - July 6, 2019

Terry Allen Sorom was born in Lanesboro, Minnesota on January 9, 1940.

A year later Suzanne Adele Johnson was born on February 13, 1941.

Terry's parents, Elvira and Martin Sorom and Suzanne's parents, Ruth and Stanley Johnson were friends and involved in many community activities in this rural mostly Norwegian immigrant town. Both families were members of Bethlehem Lutheran church and the story goes that Terry discovered the "Johnson girl" the night she gave devotions at the Luther League meeting. He was 15 years old.

So Terry's story is Suzanne's story until his death July 6, 2019, of pancreatic cancer.

Terry graduated from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa in 1962 and attended the University of Minnesota Medical School from 1962 -1966.

Suzanne attended Northwestern University and graduated in June 1963 and one week later on June 22, 1963 married Terry. A son, Martin, was born in the final year of medical school and this little family then headed west for a year of internship at the Oregon Health Sciences Hospital in Portland, Oregon.

After completing his internship, Terry enlisted with the U.S. Air Force because all young doctors were being recruited for the Vietnam War. Fortunately, Terry was assigned to the U.S. Air Force base in the Panama Canal Zone. The family lived in Panama City and Terry was able to visit most major cities in Central and South America during his tour of duty. In 1969, a son, Jeb was born and this family of 4 returned to Portland, Oregon for Terry to train as an ophthalmic surgeon. Loving life near the mountains, Terry joined the Eye and Ear Clinic of Wenatchee, WA in March 1973. The family was now 6 strong with twin sons, Abraham and Theodore joining the family August of 1972.

Terry was a Renaissance man with many talents and a unique sense of humor. Married 56 years to Suzanne, they were dedicated to each other and raising their four sons. He loved his career as an eye doctor and making his patients see the world more clearly.

Terry enjoyed leadership and participation in many community organizations such as the Chelan Douglas Land Trust, The Community Foundation of North Central Washington, Rotary International, Boy Scouts, Wenatchee Valley College Foundation and others. He was President of the Washington Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons 1996-97 and of the Oregon Ophthalmological Alumni Association 1987-88.

He was appreciative of receiving The Good Scout Award 2002, Spirit of A.Z Wells 2007, Luther College Distinguished Service Award 2012, and Wenatchee Valley College Foundation Friend of the College 2019. Terry also had a gift of making people laugh and was often asked to be the Master of Ceremonies for events. Travel was an important part of his and Suzanne's life and his sons learned from them that "Travel is the Great Educator". He was a talented photographer and wood worker. He enjoyed hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, kayaking, birding, wearing bow ties, drinking his son's beers, and eating Suzanne's food, "the best restaurant in Wenatchee".

Choosing Wenatchee to raise the Sorom family was the right choice as three of four sons chose to work and raise their children in this beautiful valley. Ted and family live in San Rafael, CA happily in the same time zone and a reasonable plane ride to share family time.

Terry will be deeply missed by his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Martin and Elvira Sorom, son Martin, brother Richard Sorom and brother-in-law Jim Johnson.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne and sons Jeb, wife Galen and sons Lars and Boden; Abraham, wife Denise and children Theron, Haakon and Anna; and Theodore, wife Heather and daughter Hannah; and daughter-in-law, Jenny Sorom and children Jenna Sue and Preston. He is also survived by a brother Jim and sister, Mary Ann Kirkwood and important members of the Sorom and Johnson families as well as Norwegian families the Evsensens and Jordes.

Celebration of Life will be held at Grace Lutheran Church the afternoon of September 14, 2019.

Donations in his name can be made to the Sorom Family Fund at the Community Foundation of North Central Washington at 9 S. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee WA 98801. Donations will support a number of local charities that were important to Terry.

# Events

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## **SEP** Celebration of Life Service

**14**

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Grace Lutheran

1408 Washington St, Wenatchee, WA, US, 98801

# Comments

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“ Suzanne and family - Carol and I admired Terry's commitment to his faith, family and community. We respected his authentic "service above self, and heartfelt belief in lifting others up with appreciation and genuine respect for each individual and their story. We enjoyed and benefited from his optimism and sense of humor. Personally, I was a better person in Terry's company as he served as such an ethical role model and believed that it was always the right time to do the right thing. I (we) will miss him greatly. A great man who made a great contribution to his faith, family and friends.  
Gene and Carol Sharratt

Gene and Carol Sharratt - July 15, 2019 at 07:32 PM

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“ When I was a nurses aid in the 70's at the Eye and Ear I worked the night shift . One night around midnight a little redheaded guy came to the "night door" I went to the door and asked him thru the door how we could help him I did not see a car or anyone else around. He said he was the new eye doc and wanted to come in. I was not at all sure about this . I asked him to wait and went into the nurse's station where we had a newspaper with the announcement of Dr Sorom coming lucky there was a picture of him so I took the paper with me the door and checked to see if the guy at the door looked like the picture in the paper and yes I did finally let him in Lynda Mikelson

Lynda Mikelson - July 15, 2019 at 05:42 PM

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“ Suzanne and family - I was so sorry to hear about Dr. Sorom's passing. Of my 45 year nursing career I spent 42 of those at the Eye & Ear and have lots of memories of Dr. Sorom from our Christmas parties that he would emcee to scrubbing in surgery with him when we were on call. He could be serious one minute and so funny the next. After he retired and came in he always asked how everyone was doing in my family which meant alot to me. He was a special man and I know how much he was loved and will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Colleen Hensley

Colleen Hensley - July 12, 2019 at 11:15 AM

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“ 4 files added to the album Love & memories from Australia



Jodie White - July 11, 2019 at 07:41 AM