

Leroy Garnaas, 79, passed away on Friday, August 11, 2023 at the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd, New Rockford, ND.

Leroy Bjorn Garnaas was born on November 9, 1943 to Bjorn Garnaas and Oresta (Paulson) Garnaas at the St. Luke's Hospital in Fargo, ND. Leroy had no brothers or sisters but several cousins which would visit. Leroy had a wonderful childhood which included swimming, bowling and traveling. He was the captain of the wrestling team while in school. He was a baptized member of the First Lutheran Church of Sheyenne, ND, where Leroy was also confirmed. He graduated high school from the South Dakota School for the Visually Impaired, in Aberdeen, SD. After his junior year, Leroy spent the summer studying massage at the Kansas City College of Swedish Massage, Kansas City, MO. He decided to return after high school graduation and earned his certificate on July 18, 1970. He worked in several spas and in 1970 he decided to start Leroy's Massage Center in Sheyenne. After twenty years he had to discontinue his business because of a severe accident. He lost all vision when he was 27 years old. He lived at the Memorial Home in Maddock, ND and moved to the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd around 2014.

Leroy loved sports and music. He also enjoyed acting and played the part of "Scrooge" while in high school, it seemed that this play was each Christmas and the best actor was given the part. He belonged to the ND Association of the Blind and the ND Association of Massage Therapists. He attended all conventions; state, regional and national of massage therapists. He always sang solos at their banquets. He would sing solos on Memorial Day at the church and for other groups. He knew the rules of all sports, having learned them from his father. Most of all Leroy loved people.

Leroy is survived by many cousins and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Bjorn & Oresta Garnaas.

*Celebrating*

THE LIFE OF



*Leroy Garnaas*

---

NOVEMBER 9, 1943– AUGUST 11, 2023

## High Flight

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds  
of earth and danced the skies on  
laughter - silvered wings; sunward  
I've climbed and joined the tumbling  
mirth of sunsplit clouds - and done  
a hundred things you have not  
dreamed of - wheeled and soared  
and swung high in the sunlit silence.  
Hov'ring there I've chased the  
shouting wind along and flung my  
eager craft thru footless halls of air.  
Up, up the long, delirious burning  
blue I've topped the windswept  
heights with easy grace where never  
lark, or eagle flew.  
And, while with silent lifting mind  
I've trod the high untrespassed  
sanctity of space.  
Put out my hand and touched the  
face of God.

By John Gillespie Magee Jr.

## Celebrating The Life Of *Leroy Bjorn Garnaas*

November 9, 1943 – Fargo, ND  
August 11, 2023 – New Rockford, ND

### **VISITATION**

Wednesday, August 16, 2023  
10:00AM - 12:00PM  
Evans Funeral Home, New Rockford, ND

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Wednesday, August 16, 2023  
1:00PM  
Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd Chapel, New Rockford, ND

### **OFFICIATING**

Rev. Paula Loewen

### **MUSIC**

Mary Ellen Rue ~ Organist  
Jeff Labrenz ~ Soloist ~ *He Touched Me*  
Paula Loewen ~ *I Believe*  
Congregational Hymn ~ *How Great Thou Art*  
Jeff Labrenz ~ Soloist ~ *You Have Come Down To The Lake Shore*

### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

All of Leroy's Friends at the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd

### **BURIAL**

Riverside Cemetery, Sheyenne, ND

Arrangements by  
Evans Funeral Home – Carrington & New Rockford, ND  
[www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com](http://www.EvansFuneralHomeND.com)