Gerald "Jerry" Palmer

July 17, 1932 - August 4, 2021

Gerald Palmer, age 89, of Elk River passed away on Aug. 4, 2021. He was preceded in death by siblings Eugene, Maurice, Bernice Pipenhagen, daughter Lisa and son-in-law Michael Welton. Gerald is survived by his wife of 64 years, Catherine; daughters Becky (Robby) and Jeriann; grandchildren Stephanie, Zach (Chi - son Chase), Tyler (Scarlett - son Bennett), Emma, Alex and Samuel. A dedicated member of the Elk River community for over 70 years, Jerry's commitment to serving others was inspiring.

After serving his country during the Korean War as a member of the United States Army, Jerry returned to Minnesota and his job at the phone company, where he worked for almost four decades. Jerry met and married Kay and after living in Willmar for seven years, they returned to Elk River where they proceeded to build a home and raise their family. Upon retiring at age 58, Jerry ran his own communications company for 11 years.

Jerry's service to his community included membership with the American Legion Color Guard, the Knights of Columbus, lector and communion distributor at St. Andrew's Church, teaching gun safety training classes and championing the design and build of the Ray Schwartz Memorial, in honor of his fallen classmate. He was always willing to share his time and energy and was never afraid to speak up for what he believed in.

Jerry was also an avid fisherman, hunter and gardener. He was a devoted son, brother, husband, father, uncle, grandfather and friend and will be deeply missed by all lucky enough to have known him.

A funeral Mass will be held in his honor at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, 566 4th St NW, Elk River, MN on Tuesday, August 17 at 11am, with visitation starting at 10am.

Visitation

🕐 Tuesday, August 17th 10AM

📍 St. Andrew's Catholic Church, 566 4th St NW, Elk River, MN

Driving Directions

Mass of Christian Burial

🕐 Tuesday, August 17th 11AM

📍 St. Andrew's Catholic Church, 566 4th St NW, Elk River, MN

Driving Directions