



Some people have that inner strength that is needed to come from behind and win Gary is one of them. This photo shows him giving a halftime pep talk to the Washburn Castle Guards in their conference play

off game against Prentice. The score was 18-6 in favor of Prentice. After Gary gave his talk and drew diagrams, his team came back to win 34-18. He later said "I just told them to play our game"

This was a serious team from a small school who studied the Pros in films and whose parents made game movies of them as they played. We had many a movie nights at our house followed by careful analysis of corrections and improvements that could be made. Their positive attitude was backed by know-how.

By the way, the Castle Guards won the conference that year. They defeated some much larger schools than their own in order to do so.

Gary has faced many difficult situations since then and that inner strength has always surfaced. May it stay with us.



"A few days ago I lost the most important person in my life. We did everything together and always kept each other informed about what was going on, no bull shit and straight to the point. I think about him with everything I do. Took me a little bit to realize, but I realized, I'm the luckiest person alive to have had such an amazing man such as him in my life, his love and passion still burns in every person he ever met. He lived a life like no other, and lived as though the world was his and each day could be anything he made it. Sure I'm sad he's gone and every day I wish just to talk to him, but my grandpa is still a part of me and each action I make, where there is love, there is life." Benjamin Nelson

# *In Loving* M E M O R Y

## **Gary S. Nelson**

***Born to Albert & Edna Nelson***

May 18, 1941

Stanley, North Dakota

***Returned to His Heavenly Father***

November 16, 2019

Stanley, North Dakota

***Memorial Service***

Monday, November 25, 2019, 10:30 am

American Lutheran Church

Stanley, North Dakota

***Officiating***

Pastor Sarah Sorenson

***Music***

Wade Enget ~ Vocalist Steve Geller ~ Vocalist

Katie Harwood ~ Pianist

Gary's Grandchildren ~ Musicians

***Final Resting Place at a Later Date***

Fairview Cemetery

Stanley, North Dakota

***Arrangements By***

Springan Stevenson Funeral Home

Stanley, North Dakota

*In Loving Memory Of*

**Gary S. Nelson**



May 18, 1941 - November 16, 2019





Gary S. Nelson, 78 of Stanley, N.D. passed away November 16, 2019 at MCMC hospital in Stanley.

Gary was born to Albert and Edna (Byington) Nelson on May 18th, 1941. He was the 11th child of 11 children in the family. He married Jenette Kulczyk Schule on June 30th, 1963. They were married for 56 years.

Gary was an educator, farmer, rancher and banker. He attended UND and Minot State University as well as Superior State College where he obtained a specialist degree. He was an investment banker at Midland Bank in Minneapolis, Minnesota before moving to Washburn, Wisconsin where he taught grades K-12 and coached several sports. He was also the Ski School Director at Port Mountain near Bayfield, Wisconsin during that time.

He brought his young family back to Stanley in 1971, where he worked at Scandia American Bank, farmed, ranched and was a volunteer fireman. He was later elected President of the North Dakota Independent Bankers.

Gary served on many boards in his community. He also held state and national organizational offices for professional ski instructors and pool players. Gary refereed pool competitions in Las Vegas. He was an examiner for the professional Ski Association and mentored many in obtaining their credentials in both the fields of skiing and pool competition.

It was very important to Gary to help others to reach their potential, and he made special efforts with the young. His children, Scott and Ann were the joy of his life and he spent much time with them. (He also holds the distinction of being the only man who was able to teach his wife to ski.)

The greatest trauma in Gary's life was when his daughter, Ann, was killed on 9/11 while working as a Bond Broker for Cantor Fitzgerald in the World Trade Center. One of the things that saved his and his wife's sanity was that their son, Scott, his wife, Dawn Jensen Nelson, and five grandchildren lived in Stanley during the years that followed and shared their lives. Another was the building of Annie's House Adaptive Recreation program (in cooperation with Anne Carlson School). The work there with the disabled and wounded warriors seemed to keep Ann's spirit alive. Gary spent many hours instructing skiing there.

Annie's house is a collaborative effort by New York Says Thank You (founded by Jeff Parness), Bottineau Winter Park and friends and family. The initial effort began September 9, 2012, when 250 people from 23 different states arrived to build the house. It was then completed by faithful volunteers.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents and all his siblings as well as his daughter, Ann. He is survived by his wife, Jenette; his son, Scott; his daughter-in-law, Dawn Jensen Nelson; grandchildren; Brittany Giesen (Jordan), Brooke Nelson, Jesse Nelson, Jeremiah Nelson and B Nelson; great-grandchildren, Madison and George Giesen; numerous nieces, nephews and family members.



## Life's Plan

To every life-there is a purpose-  
For every life- there is a plan  
That is made with God the Father  
To refine the souls of Man.  
For the Soul – it is eternal.  
For the Soul will never die.  
It makes its home in heaven.  
It dwells with God on high.

But from time to time it visits  
The earth where we are now.  
It comes to do God's bidding...  
Before his will it seeks to bow.  
For the soul learns many lessons,  
As it lives in shells of clay.  
When its tasks have been accomplished  
The spirit simply flies away.

When it returns to heaven-  
Its true and rightful home-  
It does not forget its loved ones  
Who still struggle down below.  
It continues to assist them  
And to guide them as they go.

By Jenette Nelson

