



Harvey Myrton Ness

July 18, 1942 - August 19, 2015

On Wednesday, August 19, 2015, Harvey Myrton Ness “The Big Guy” passed away peacefully with his beloved wife of 49 years by his side at the age of 73. He was born July 18, 1942 in Watertown, South Dakota, to Maxine and Harvey Gabert.

After graduating from high school, Harvey eagerly enlisted in the Air Force to “see the world” he only dreamed about. He saw plate flat land, mounds of white snow, and mosquitoes at the Grand Forks Air Force base. On the bright side, this is where he met his future wife, Linda Engen. Harvey was an ambulance driver and attended the University of North Dakota where he graduated with two masters degrees in Chemistry and Civil Engineering. Linda instantly fell head over heels with Harvey’s good looks, intelligence, and calm demeanor. To hook Harvey, Linda used her mother’s cooking skills. Harvey didn’t stand a chance against Hazel’s famous meatloaf and baked beans. Harvey was in love. They married on September 3, 1966. Three years later their first daughter was born, Faythe Kathryn. He referred to her as “My #1 daughter” and “Toots the Boots”. Two years later, they were blessed with another daughter, Amy Joy. Harvey was a devoted family man.

Harvey’s career spanned 30 years with the Department of Energy developing methods to burn coal cleanly thus reducing environmental impact of power plant emissions. His love of work prompted him to leave retirement and move

to Bismarck, North Dakota, to be the liaison between the Lignite Energy Council and state government. He has spent his last six years in St. George, Utah, where he has been near his two precious daughters, grandchildren Jack and Sam, and family.

Harvey is survived by his wife, Linda Ness; daughters Faythe Ness and Amy Bennett; son-in-law Ben Bennett; grandchildren Jack and Sam Bennett; sisters and their spouse Hope & Dick Manley and Faythe & Kevin Adams, brothers and spouses Robin & Irelean Lentz and Mike & Midge Martenson, mother-in-law Hazel Engen (104), in-laws Denny & Rosie Engen, Darwin & Helen Engen, Larry & Judeen Engen, Irvin & Eva Engen and Rick Engen, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Harvey's girls are going to miss this marvelous man, but all three of us have become strong and independent because he has been the gentle, loving, captain of our ship.

The family will be holding a private Celebration of Life. Instead of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Alzheimer's Dementia Society of St. George, Utah.

Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harvey Myrton Ness.*



September 11, 2015 at 07:25 AM

 John
Byam

“ *Linda & Family: I was saddened to learn that Harvey had passed on. He was a friend and great co-worker and I will forever remember his smile and positive approach to challenges. I remember well first meeting him at Grand Forks and then bringing him to Morgantown. He contributed immensely to the work done at NETL in developing clean coal technologies and the incorporation of Grand Forks into the organization. It was good to see him then return to North Dakota and continue working with the Lignite Energy Council to develop coal based technologies. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. Focus on the good times and the fond memories of Harvey to carry you through.*

John Byam

John Byam - August 27, 2015 at 07:11 PM

JD

“ Dear Linda and Family,

As you know, we convinced Harvey to come out of retirement and work for the Lignite Energy Council as the Director of our lignite research and development program before he retired the second time. His role as Director of the Lignite Research Program also included the position as Technical Advisor to the Industrial Commission, which consists of North Dakota's Governor, Attorney General and Agriculture Commissioner.

Harvey was one of the most dedicated and talented employees that the Lignite Energy Council has ever had. He was well respected by his peers and was a master in bringing all of the various competing interests together at the federal, regional and state levels to solve environmental issues.

His "model" he developed in leveraging funds and staff efforts in solving the mercury control issues is legendary and is one that has been copied by other industry groups.

While I was Harvey's boss during his last working years, I regarded him as a friend who was first of all a devoted husband and father. Harvey spoke lovingly of his wife Linda on many occasions and was so proud of his two daughters.

I know all of us will miss Harvey but it is my prayer that the good memories we have of him will sustain us during this difficult time.

*John W. Dwyer
Retired CEO, Lignite Energy Council*

John Dwyer - August 27, 2015 at 10:47 AM

“ Linda, Faythe & Amy: One of my favorite memories of our Harvey involves the time he and Linda spent two weeks with us on our boat cruising the west coast of British Columbia. We had been out about a week or so and Harvey had reinvented himself as a Canadian. He bought a RCMP tee shirt and was using a lot of "eh's," using words like "shed-ule" and "oot & about." Helen had been cooking her usual gourmet type meals, which included a lot of seafood, caught by us. I must admit that Harvey gave it a good try to eat some of the salmon, cod, crab & prawns Helen was fixing, but these were not Harvey's normal fare.

We planned a stop at Big Bay Resort & Marina on Stuart Island, which was a nice place with lots of amenities. But, the marina was full and there are very few alternative places to stay in the bay, because of strong swirling currents and depth. There was a pub about 300-400 yards down the shore that had a small dock and a guy was standing on it motioning to us that we could tie up there. Great! We got all secured to the dock and we were doing the things we always do when we first arrive, when we noticed that Harvey was gone. Where was he? He wasn't in their stateroom, he wasn't in the head, he wasn't in the salon, he wasn't on the bridge, he wasn't on the dock. He had disappeared! We thought maybe he had walked the trail behind the pub that went over to Big Bay Resort, where we intended to have dinner that evening. We decided to walk over there as well, but in order to get off of the dock, we had to walk through the pub. When we did, there was Harvey, sitting at the bar, eating a hamburger! He had finally found some "real food!"

Harvey was a great guy who was loved by all of us. He was always gentle and had an even disposition. He was highly intelligent, but very modest about his achievements. He was a good father to his wonderful daughters, Faythe & Amy, whom he loved very much. He was a good husband and he was good to everyone in the family. He treated our mother, Grandma Hazel, like she was his own.

Helen & I shall miss him very much. I was always proud that he was

my bother-in-law.

With love,

Darwin & Helen Engen

Darwin & Helen Engen - August 26, 2015 at 05:57 AM

LC

“ *Linda & Family: It is with great sadness to hear of Harvey's passing ... it was fortunate that our paths crossed when he moved to Morgantown; we were located physically and organizationally in the same office, we were co-Division Directors for several years, as well as worked through a very difficult time when the Morgantown and Pittsburgh Centers merged ... Harvey always had a great calm about issues; always saw the positive side ... if he ever got angry; it was not in my presence as he was always the gentleman ...in the early 2000's he shared a book with me entitled "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff"; the theme of the book was simply do you want to be always "right" or always "happy"; Harvey impressed upon me that being "happy" was more times than not the more important decision to make ... to this day, the book (and Harvey) made a lasting impression on how I have and currently live my life and the advice I give my children, their spouses, and my grand-children ... sadly our world's grew apart as both he and I retired, but it was my privilege that our paths crossed, that I shook his hand, and that he was a friend ... I hope you will find these few words comforting to know that Harvey was thought of highly by several people; and, I pray that God will ease the pain of Harvey's passing*

Larry Carpenter - August 25, 2015 at 03:44 PM

CK

“ Love the smile on Harvey's face... That's how I remember him when we were with Linda and Harvey. So glad we got time to spend with the two of you the past few years when we reconnect in St George. I remember the day you were having a lefsa lesson for me. That smile was there when he was eating lefsa hot off the grill. Keep the memories that keep that smile on your face, it helps you get thru the hard times... Love to the family Gods blessing and comfort to you all.... Carol Kolar / friend

Carol Kolar - August 25, 2015 at 10:24 AM

DA

“ Dr. Gail J Anderson lit a candle in memory of Harvey Myrton Ness



Dr. Gail J Anderson - August 25, 2015 at 12:29 AM

DA

My deepest sympathy and condolences to you Linda and your family. I had the pleasure of meeting Harvey only once. I was about 10 yrs. old and was spending a few days at your Mom and Dads house during summer vacation. We were all eating dinner together and Harvey and I were having a great conversation about what I wanted to be when I grew up. I said a doctor. He told me that was a fine choice and stressed the importance of getting a good education and the best grades I could get even if it meant lots of hard work. He told me to never give up on my dreams and that I could succeed at anything I hoped to become. That was great advice and encouragement and I never forgot it. I believed him and I did it. He had an amazing rapport with a little kid and made quite the impression on me. May he rest in peace.

Dr. Gail J Anderson - August 25, 2015 at 01:01 AM

CP

“ I had the honor of knowing Harvey in his capacity as a knowledgeable and thoughtful scientific professional. It was a privilege to know Harvey at EERC, USDOE and LRC. He was a pleasure to work with in all his professional roles. The energy world has lost a valuable member. Harvey left a legacy to emulate, honor and not forget. Thank you Harvey and thank the family who have shared his life with us. Clifford R. Porter

Clifford Porter - August 24, 2015 at 01:45 PM

DA

“ Linda, Gina and I send our condolences to you and your family. We were so sorry to hear about your loss. It was an absolute pleasure getting to know you and Harvey and working with Harvey after he decided to come out of retirement. Harvey was such a great guy and had a heart of gold. Sending hugs, Dave & Gina Allard

Dave Allard - August 24, 2015 at 09:17 AM



“ I remember meeting Harvey at your home in Bismarck. His energy was obvious, and his sense of humour was warm and entertaining. Even as years had deteriorated his human body, please know, many lives were touched by him. Thank you for allowing me to meet you at a fabric shop that led me to getting to know him. He is now whole again! Praise God.

Sheila Hinkel - August 23, 2015 at 10:45 PM

IE

“ Harvey was loved by many people. He was very easy to love, as we always thought of him as "The gentle Giant". He will be missed in many ways, but will be found in our hearts forever. Every time I see a Danish I will think of him and every morning I will have a taste of coffee in his memory. RIP Harvey.

Irvin and Eva Engen

Irvin and Eva Engen - August 23, 2015 at 11:40 AM

CH

“ Linda, Faythe and Amy ... Bob and I sent our deepest sympathy to your family as you grieve your loss. Our neighborhood in East Grand Forks was better because your family lived there. And, of course, our daughters grew up and played together and have now rekindled their friendship through social media! Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May the love of God give you peace, and the love of friends, comfort. Bob & Cheryl Hangsleben

Cheryl Hangsleben - August 22, 2015 at 06:34 PM