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Obituaries

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July 24, 2005

Gillen Arthur F. Gillen October 10, 1919 to July 15, 2005 - Age 86 years What a wonderful guy. What a wonderful life. Adoring husband to Lois for 60 years, loving and dedicated father to his six children and their families: Robert, deceased 2000, (Robbie Chula, Aric (Stefany and Robbie), Patrick, and Timothy); Ted; Anne Marie (Bernie Wire); Peter (Laura, Heather, Ryan, and Matt); Janice (Robert Sosalla); and Mary (Paul Berger, Beau, and Greta). Also survived by sister, Ruth Housley; many nieces and nephews, and dear in-laws. Art was born in South St. Paul, Minnesota where he spent his youth and dedicated his career. He graduated from South St. Paul High School in 1937; very active in debate teams and led many dance bands as trumpet player. Very involved in the Boy Scouts throughout his youth eventually serving as Scoutmaster of Troop 97 in SSP. Received law degree 1943 from the University of Minnesota Law School; member Gamma Eta Gamma legal fraternity; member University of Minnesota Band. Committed to every church he belonged; altar boy, lector and church councilman. Longtime resident and active community member of White Bear Lake Minnesota- Member of White Bear Lake Police Commission; White Bear Lake Conservation District; St. Mary's Parish Council. Arthur Gillen was elected to the Minnesota State Legislature in 1942, while still a student in law school - the youngest legislator to be elected in the state - serving 8 years as a Representative and another 8 as Senator. Received the National Distinguished Service award from the United States Chamber of Commerce. He joined the Kelly-LeVander law firm in 1943, becoming a partner (Kelly, LeVander & Gillen) in 1949. Counsel to Minnesota State Dental Association, Minnesota Food Retailers, United Federal Savings and Loan Association, Municipal Finance Council. He remained with the firm until his retirement in 1995. The LeVander, Gillen, and Miller law firm produced 2 Governors, a US Congressman, a US Senator and several MN Supreme Court justices. Lover of life. Whistler of show tunes. Student of everything. Jokester. Leader of the band. We were so happy to have you and we are so very sad to let you go. Private interment. Memorials to the Art and Lois Gillen Scholarship Fund c/o SSP High School. MEMORIAL SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S OF THE LAKE, 4741 Bald Eagle Avenue, White Bear Lake, MN 55110, SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, AT 10:00 AM. Website: www.ArtGillen.com