



## Craig Grant Swanson

April 29, 1942 - December 29, 2015

Craig Grant Swanson, 73, of Bonita Springs, FL and Annandale, MN, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 29, 2015 at Joanne's House at Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs. He had been a seasonal resident of Bonita Springs for the last 20 years. He was born April 29, 1942 in Hutchinson, MN, the son of Carl and Clara (née Gunnerson) Swanson. He grew up in Bloomington, MN and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1960.

In 1964, he married Anette Nelson. In 1965, he became a police officer for the Edina Police Department. In 1967 he enlisted in the U. S. Air Force and attained the rank of Captain before his discharge in 1970. In April of 1977 he became the Chief of Police in Edina, serving until his retirement in 1994. Craig loved his country and loved police work.

Since retiring, he could be found fishing and boating in the backwaters of the Bonita Springs area and Bass Lake in Annandale, MN. Fishing was always a passion, along with being outdoors and enjoying nature, birds and sunsets. He also enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and attending their events and shows. Another hobby was tinkering around in his shed, inventing things, repurposing antiques and going garage sale-ing to find new projects. He was a volunteer at Café of Life in Bonita Springs. He was 100% Swedish and loved lutefisk, herring and sour cream raisin pie...and he was known for his blue eyes. Among his fond memories were his five week camping trip to

Alaska, and on Bass Lake, the many pontoon rides with friends and family and getting many people up on water skis.

Mr. Swanson is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Anette E. (née Nelson); his beloved daughter, Karna (Joseph) Holub of Blaine, MN; and his three grandchildren, Tayler, Sofia and Victoria.

He was preceded in death by his son, Eric Grant Swanson in 2011.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 16, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home, 515 Highway 96 West, Shoreview, MN 55126. Friends are invited to greet the family from 10:00 until the time of the service. A reception will follow the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to Café of Life, [www.cafeoflife.org](http://www.cafeoflife.org) or to Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Victory Park Fund, [www.christusvictorfl.org](http://www.christusvictorfl.org).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home  
515 Highway 96 West  
Shoreview, MN 55126

# Tribute Wall



“ *Craig Grant Swanson*

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October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Chief Swanson was my first Police Chief when I was hired at Edina PD. I was a brand new officer when I got married, and Craig was only one of a few people from the PD that took the time to attend. I have never forgotten that. I still remember his gift, a salad shooter!*

*Many years later I also became the Edina Police Chief. Despite the years that had passed, those in the "Chiefs" circle still asked about Craig.*

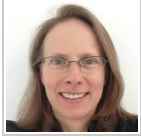
*Being a Police Chief is NOT an easy job. Being the Police Chief in town like Edina can be even more challenging. However, Craig did it for many years and he did it well.*

*He will be missed by those in law enforcement!*

*Jeff Long*

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**Jeff Long** - January 08, 2016 at 01:26 PM



“ *Uncle Craig and Anette, put up with our family visiting every summer for two weeks! Those weeks were some of my favorite summers! I was so happy to be able to go fishing with Craig and my son, this summer. My son and I, are now able to share a very similar memory of Craig, Bass Lake and the love of fishing. I wish we had more time, but I am happy to have known him. Craig will be missed, but he left us with wonderful memories.*

*Karen Nelson*

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**Karen Nelson** - January 07, 2016 at 05:25 PM



“ *WE WILL MISS SEEING CRAIG SITTING BY HIS FRONT DOOR. ALWAYS A KIND GREETING AND INTERESTING CONVERSATION. LOVED SHARING HIS "CATCH" WHEN HE WENT FISHING! WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIM FONDLY. LOVE TO ANETTE, DAUGHTER, KARNA AND THE REST OF HIS FAMILY.*

*EVA AND EARL*

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**EVA MCGILVERY** - January 07, 2016 at 01:21 PM



“ *To the family of Craig Swanson. I am so sorry for your loss. I was part of a group of police chiefs who met every Wednesday for breakfast. Craig was one of the original members. He always referred to it as "hump day" because of the day of the week. Craig held many important positions and leadership roles at the local and state police levels. He was a good man. I will never forget him.*

*Dick Carlquist*

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**Dick Carlquist** - January 07, 2016 at 10:27 AM

JS

“ AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN

*It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have known Craig Swanson, as a neighbor and a friend.*

*Craig was not only good-looking, he was a great conversationalist due to his vast knowledge of many subjects, and his great sense of humor.*

*Craig was always the first to introduce neighbors to each other, with kind words of praise.*

*Craig and his wife Anette were "Secret Angels" doing a world of good for many others, but forsaking notoriety for themselves. They were true humble servants of the Lord.*

*Craig gave his best to his country, his community, his family, and his friends. His ethics were always beyond reproach. An honorable man, in word and deed, his physical presence will be sorely missed. But his powerful and commanding spirit will continue to guide us on.....*

*Thank you, Sir. We respectfully salute thee.*

*WELL DONE, SIR!!!*

*We pray for the strength of his beautiful wife, Anette, and their wonderful and amazing daughter, Karna, and the rest of the family.*

*With Love and Support,*

*Sandie Treichel & Jaime Ziadie*

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Jaime & Sandie - January 06, 2016 at 09:44 PM

NP

“ Craig was my granddaughter Tayler's grandfather. He was very loving. When my daughter was married to his son Etic, he and Anette treated myself and my other daughter as family. But more importantly, he loved Tayler's big sister. He treated both girls the same. I will always have a special place in my heart and in my memories of him and all the Swansons. I was introduced to lutefisk by them. I can't say we became friends ! I am glad he is no longer suffering . Heaven's gain. Mike and I send our love and condolences to you all. With love, Mike and Nancy Prenatt.

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**Nancy Prenatt** - January 06, 2016 at 09:13 PM