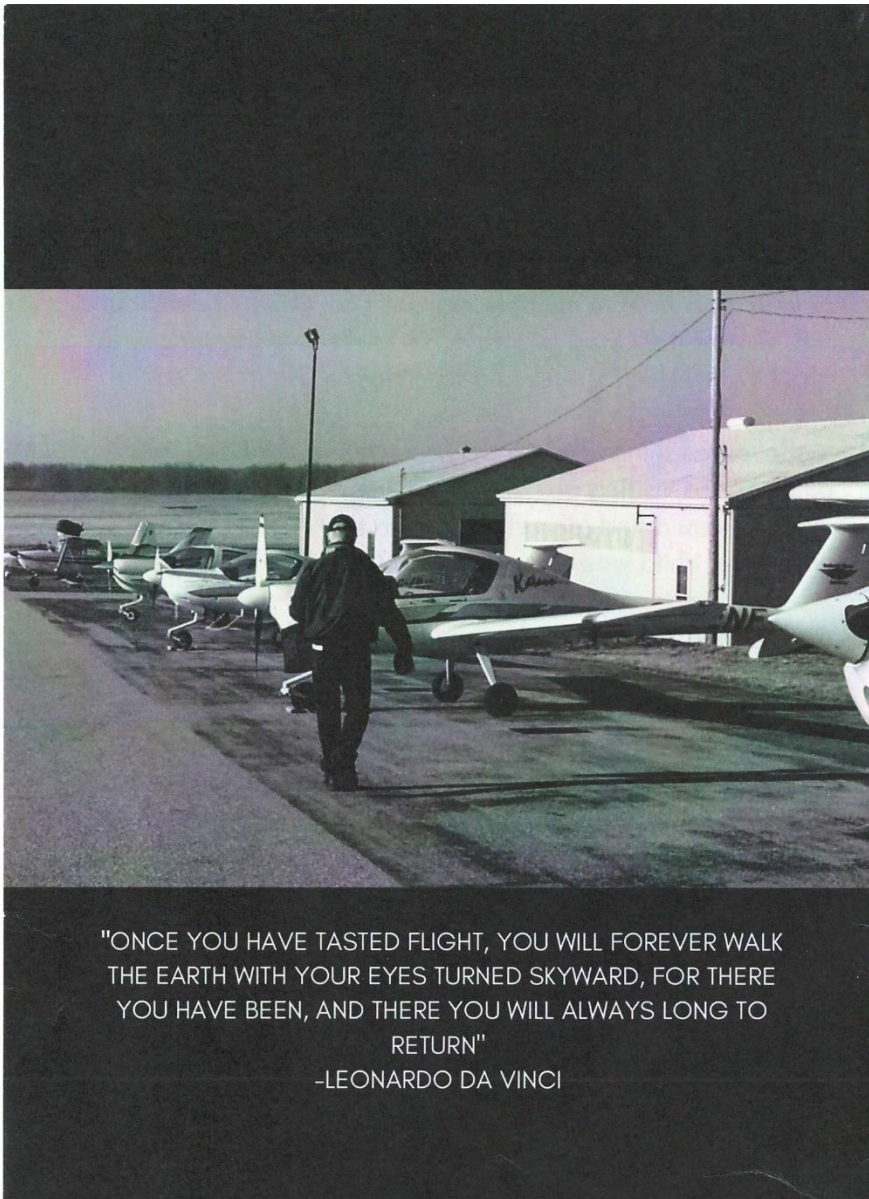




"ONCE YOU HAVE TASTED FLIGHT, YOU WILL FOREVER WALK
THE EARTH WITH YOUR EYES TURNED SKYWARD, FOR THERE
YOU HAVE BEEN, AND THERE YOU WILL ALWAYS LONG TO
RETURN"

-LEONARDO DA VINCI

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

JIM VANDERLEEuw

JULY 26, 1944 - JANUARY 8, 2023



A Service Celebrating the Life of

JIM VANDERLEEuw

Saturday, January 14, 2023

Waterloo Christian Reformed Church

OBITUARY

In the early morning of Jan 8, 2023, Jim went peacefully to be with his Lord. He was the devoted and proud husband of Wilma for 58 years and beloved dad to Leslie Vanderleeuw (Erik Spande), M James Vanderleeuw (Mauricia Matewish), Christie Eby (Joel) and Sherri Vanderleeuw (Mike Hagan).

Jim enjoyed spending time with his beloved grandchildren, Maddison Eby and Logan Eby. He loved to watch Maddison dance and enjoyed golfing with Logan. Jim was fortunate enough to gain two step-grandsons, Dylan Hagan and Matthew Hagan.

Jim is survived by much loved brother John Vanderleeuw (Mary) and sisters Tena Kielstra, Margaret Nywening (Wiebe), Florence Schaafsma (Stuart). He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Born in 1944 in Friesland, Netherlands, Jim emigrated to Ontario, Canada at age 6 with his family. He joined the Royal Canadian Airforce in 1962, married Wilma in 1964 and served as an RCAF navigator until 1972.

Post RCAF, Jim spent the rest of his career working in private industry as a Management Consultant and was well known by all he encountered as "the guy with the open door" policy. Jim was a dedicated member of the Winnipeg Christian Reformed Church before relocating his family to Waterloo in 1988. He was a very active member of the Waterloo CRC devoting his time to multiple committees, church council and the "Out of the Cold" program. He really loved singing with the "Joyful Noise" group and the "Wayne Gilpin Singers".

Jim loved all things flight including running the Gimli, MB airshow and visiting any air museum or attending any air show he could find (sometimes much to the chagrin of whichever child was dragged along). Jim fulfilled a lifelong dream by getting his pilot's license late in life. He loved any excuse to take people up in the air and never tired of sharing his newfound skills.

Jim was an athlete loving baseball (known as the "left-handed chucker"), riding his bike everywhere (often showing up at his destination drenched), roller blading, golfing and walking a million miles an hour. He was often seen zooming to the golf course with his clubs or a pool cue on the back of his motorbike! Jim would go to great lengths to play a round of golf or rack the balls on a pool table.

Special thanks to the staff on the 6th floor at St. Mary's hospital for their wonderful care. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the St Mary's MRI purchase fund: supportstmarys.ca.

PRAYER

Minister: Father of mercies and God of all consolation, you are our refuge in times of trouble, our light in the darkness, and our only hope in the valley of the shadow of death. Comfort our family in our loss and sorrow. Lift us from the depths of grief into the peace and light of your presence. Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying has destroyed our death, and by rising, restored our life. Enable us now to press on toward him, so that, after our earthly course is run, you may reunite us with those we love, when every tear is wiped away. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: *Ere Zij God #214*

COMMENDATION and BLESSING

Minister: Into your hands, oh merciful Saviour, we commend your servant James Vanderleeuw. Acknowledge, we humbly pray, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

People: Amen.

Minister: May the love of God and the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us, and gently wipe every tear from our eyes, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL

POSTLUDE

Celebrating the Life of Jim Vanderleeuw Service Liturgy

PARTICIPANTS:

Minister: Rev. Vicki Cok

Pianists: Ann Smith, Pam Joosse

Signing Group: Joyful Noise

PRELUDE & VIDEO

PROCESSION & OPENING

Minister: People of God, in whom is our help?

People: Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. (Ps 124:8)

Minister: The Lord says, as a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you. (*Is 66:13*). Jesus says, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (*Matthew 5:4 & 11:28*)

HYMN: *How Great Thou Art #553*

Minister: When we were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, we were baptized into His death and buried with Him, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. Those who believe in Him, though they die, yet shall they live.

People: Those who believe in Him, though they die, yet shall they live.

Minister: We have come here in sorrow, mourning the death of Jim Vanderleeuw. Let us share that grief with God:

O God, we remember before you today our dear brother, Jim, who through your grace entered and so much enriched our lives. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on this earthly pilgrimage. We praise you for all in him that was good and faithful and loving, and we bless you for the grace that flowed from you through him into our lives.

Even so, heavenly father, we grieve. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gateway of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth until, by your call, we are united with those who have gone before us. Through your Son, Jesus, we pray.

People: Amen.

Minister: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside still waters. He revives my soul.

People: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil. For He is with me.

Minister: He guides me along right pathways for His name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley, I fear no evil. For He is at my side with His rod and staff to comfort me.

2

People: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil. For He is with me.

Minister: He spreads a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; He has anointed my head with oil; my cup is running over.

People: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil. For He is with me.

Minister: Surely His goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever

People: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil. For He is with me.

All: Amen.

HYMN: It Is Well with My Soul (When Peace, Like a River) #451

READING: Micah 6: 6 – 8

Read by: Joel Eby

HOMILY

HYMN: Yet, Not I But Through Christ In Me

Performed by: Joyful Noise

FAMILY REMEMBRANCES

3