



## William D. "Oz" Osmundson

November 1, 1929 - November 25, 2021

William D. ("Oz") Osmundson, passed away in his Clear Lake home November 25, 2021, at the age of 92.

A private family Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Clear Lake, with Rev. Josh Link officiating. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, during the 2022 sailing season.

Oz was born November 1, 1929 in Forest City, IA to Floyd W. and Lucele (Kelly) Osmundson. The family soon moved to Mason City where Oz spent his boyhood years. He graduated in 1947 from Mason City High School.

In the fall of 1947, he enrolled at Grinnell College and enlisted in the United States Army in 1948 during peace-time. He was released in 1949, and returned to Grinnell for his sophomore year. In 1950, he transferred to the University of Iowa in Iowa City where he could join the Air Force ROTC, enabling him to finish college. He graduated from the university in 1953, with a BA in Economics.

From Iowa City, he moved to Rock Island, IL joining the accounting firm of McGladrey, Hansen, Dunn & Company (now called RSM). He was awarded his CPA certificate in 1954, and made partner in 1956. The firm's modern era of consulting began in 1966, and at McGladrey, Oz was dubbed the "father of the consulting practice". Oz was someone who won the partners' confidence, maintained the culture of the firm and recruited future leaders and people who were committed to helping clients succeed. He was a straight arrow in his profession, even refusing to take on some "questionable" clients. He continued his employ with McGladery until 1989 and was self-employed thereafter.

While at UI he met his future wife, Fran Swartz from Iowa Falls, and they were married in 1954 in Iowa Falls. They made their home in Rock Island, IL where they lived for 53 years. In 2007, they moved to Clear Lake, making Oz's childhood summer home their permanent residence.

He served on various boards including Rock Island Chamber of Commerce, Rock Island Community Chest, Quad City Graduate Center and Rock Island Public Library. He thoroughly enjoyed attending the Quad City Symphony and various operas in Chicago with his wife. He was a member of St. Pius X Catholic Church – Rock Island, St. Patrick's Catholic Church – Clear Lake, Order of Artus (Honorary Economics Fraternity), Phi Beta Kappa (honorary fraternity), Phi Kappa Psi (social fraternity), Clear Lake Yacht Club, and a mentor at Clear Creek Elementary School in Clear Lake.

During his life Oz had numerous friends and acquaintances from all walks of life and enjoyed many activities. In his younger years he was a scout, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. He loved the water and was involved in sailing his X-boat named the Bill-O-Wee, on Clear Lake in his youth and boating on the Mississippi with Rock Island friends. He wrestled both in high school and at Grinnell College. He enjoyed duck and pheasant hunting, snow skiing with family in Colorado, golfing, his monthly poker group and playing cribbage with his friends. Being an accountant, he was always good with numbers, but he also had a creative side. When called upon to do so, he could quickly compose a rhyming poem or limerick for most occasions.

Throughout their years Oz and Fran were able to do some traveling in Europe, bareboating in the British Virgin Islands and connecting with relatives in Norway. Some of his more memorable vacations were time spent in Grand Cayman and the Greek Isles as well as the many short winter visits to Mexico with friends.

Oz is survived by wife Fran of 67 years and sons Brad (Margaret), Bill (Linda) and Kurt; grandchildren Christian (Kylie), Jon (Lizzie), Erik, Elizabeth, Annelise and Zachary; and nieces and nephews.

Oz was preceded in death by parents, Floyd and Lucele and sister Jo Christian.

If you wish, memorials may be directed to Clear Lake Sailing Center (103 Main Ave, PO Box 29, Clear Lake, Iowa 50428) St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1001 – 9th Ave S., Clear Lake, Iowa 50428) or your favorite charity.

A very special Thank You to the Hospice nurses and friend caregivers that enabled Oz to stay at home.

“Life's journey is not to arrive at the grave safely in a well preserved body. But rather to skid in sideways, totally worn out, shouting...what a ride.”

# Comments

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“ Fran and family

So sorry to hear of the passing of Oz. I have many fond memories of Oz and working on clients with him. He was an amazing resource. I can distinctly remember working on a California client and we (Oz, John Stemlar and myself) would finish up at night and go out to eat. John and Oz would send me back to the room to do some work and they would say they were going to do the same (I knew they were actually going to the bar) and then I was to pick them up at 6:30 the next morning. To my surprise, the next morning they were raring to go and had actually done some work (Oz was a really quick study as you know). Oz was an amazing resource and always had that one question that everyone would say, why didn't I think to ask that. I was at the Hall of Fame ceremony for him which was so richly deserved, and it was so great to see both of you then. Know you are in our prayers. I give many thanks for all the training and time I had with Oz.

Jim Blayney

Jim Blayney - December 07, 2021 at 10:06 AM

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“ I would like to let Fran know I am sorry about Oz passing away. I use to deliver mail to you when you lived in Rock Island. I really enjoyed visiting with you. Your husband had a extraordinary life. I am glad I got to know you both. God bless. Bernie Thiergart

Bernie Thiergart - December 05, 2021 at 10:15 AM

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“ Fran, Brad, Bill, and Kurt - my best wishes to you in this difficult time. Oz was the best! It was real honor to have known him. I greatly enjoyed reconnecting with him from time to time when I started working in Rock Island 20+ years ago. On behalf of our entire family, our condolences. Steve Ollenburg

Steve Ollenburg - December 02, 2021 at 09:29 AM

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“ We will remember his great smile and kindness when we moved back! Please know we think of your family as you celebrate his life! Pam & Tim Coffey.

Pamala Bergo Coffey - December 02, 2021 at 08:56 AM



“ I started with the firm in 1978. Oz was already a fixture in the Quad Cities by then, and someone who I was in awe of. He was so highly respected. He was one of the smartest people I have ever known. I was at his RSM Hall of Fame ceremony a few years back, it was a most deserved honor, as he was instrumental in the development of not only the firm, but many of the folks who had the fortune to develop under his wing.

My deepest sympathies to the entire family. Please keep us posted on the Celebration of Life to be held at a later date.

Sincerely,

Steve McCann, Quad Cities USA, Retired RSM Partner  
mccannsj360@gmail.com

**Steve McCann** - December 01, 2021 at 02:34 PM

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“ Bill Osmundson was a GIANT in McGLADREY. One of my dynamic role models for work and LIFE.

I am now retired at age 76 and one more time want to give homage to a man who was great in business but more importantly a role model for living love and life!

I was with Bill and nominated and supported his induction into the MCGLADREY HALL OF FAME---the last time I saw him ---a happy day for all of us.

May he rest in peace.

If possible I want to attend his celebration of life-please include an invite or note when that will be for now you can email me at bob.jensen@rsmus.com

Bob Jensen  
20676 Meadow lane Deer Park Il 60010

**Robert F. Jensen** - December 01, 2021 at 02:28 PM