



Paul Wilbur Summers

July 13, 1952 - May 3, 2011

Paul W. Summers, 58, Bismarck, passed away after a very courageous battle with lymphoma cancer on May 3, 2011, at Rochester Methodist Hospital, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN. Funeral Services will be held on Monday at 11:00 AM at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bismarck with Rev. Sara Akre officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery in Bismarck. Visitation will be Sunday from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM at Eastgate Funeral Service in Bismarck and will continue on Monday one hour prior to the service at the church. Paul Wilbur Summers was born in Fargo, ND, on July 13, 1952. He lived in Dickinson with his parents, Wilbur E. and Hilma A. Summers and his sister, Sherry, until they moved to Jamestown in 1965. Paul graduated from Jamestown High School and Jamestown College. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu, CA, in 1978. In June of that year he joined the law offices of Fleck, Mather & Strutz, Ltd. He became a shareholder with the firm in September of 1983 and managing shareholder in 1992. He specialized in the practice of natural resources and mining law, real estate law, probate and estate planning. In January 2009 Fleck, Mather & Strutz, Ltd. and Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich PLLP combined their practices. Paul then became a partner in the law firm of Crowley Fleck, PLLP. He was a member of the North Dakota Landman's Association, North Dakota Mineral Title Standards Committee, and the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the North Dakota Bar Association. Paul married Marlene A. Smith on October 15, 1983, in

Jamestown. Paul and Marlene made their home in Bismarck. They were constant companions for over 27 years. Paul loved to golf. He also enjoyed working in his yard and watching sports, especially baseball. He is survived by his wife, Marlene; sister, Sherry Krueger, Wishek, ND, and her children, Daniel Jennifer Krueger, Bismarck, and Victoria Krueger, Bismarck; Sherry's grandchildren, Noah and Sarah Krueger; his sister-in-law, Diane Brad Knoll, TN, and their daughters, Brigitte and Gabrielle Knoll; and his aunts, Lorene Summers, Dickinson, Eleanor Summers, Dickinson, and Florine Wetzel, Bismarck. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Dear Summers Family: Sending you love and letting you know how much the Rod Mather Family will miss Paul. He was such a bright spot in my father and mother's life and they often spoke fondly of him. My father, Rod, will miss him very much. We will always remember him.

Judi Mather - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ Marlene: We are heart broken to lean that Paul has been called home far to soon. Please accept our sympathy and we will keep you and your family in our prayers.

Dean & Florine Nelson Auch - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ The North Dakota Bar, its Real Property, Probate and Trust Section, and many engaged in the oil,gas and mineral industry have lost a good,respected and talented lawyer. Paul was for many years a dedicated worker and a great asset to the Mineral Law Committee of the Section, particularly in its formulating and revising of the North Dakota Mineral Title Standards. He will be missed by many.

John L. Sherman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ To the family of Paul, Through the years I often had contact with Paul as an attorney. I always appreciated his approach to resolving issues. Always a gentleman. Please accept my sincere sympathy.

Dennis Johnson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ *My sincere condolences to Marlene and family members. Paul and I were golfing buddies in high school and I will always remember his calm demeanor and clever wit. May you rest in peace, Paul.*

Al Ottinger - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *Marlene, we both are so saddened to hear of the loss of our cousin, Paul. I remember the excitement that abounded when he came into our family circle. Our prayers are with you and your family.*

Betty & Glendell Weisenburger - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ *Marlene; So sorry to hear of Paul's passing. He was such wonderful man with his always present wit and humor. I know we have not seen as much of you in recent years, but we'll never forget the birthday parties and the stolen apples for pies. Sympathy to you - Deb & Heather Nelson - Stan Weisz*

Deb Nelson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *Dear Summers Family, I am so sorry to hear that Paul died. What a loss for you as well as the people of ND! We have never forgotten his kindness and help after my dad died. My deepest condolences to the entire family. Sincerely, Barbara Fleck Boyce Ernie's daughter*

Barbara Fleck Boyce - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *My Mother Rusty and our entire family are very sad to hear of Paul's death. He was a great help to us when my Dad died 15 years ago and we will always remember him.*

Joel Fleck - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *Condolences to Marlene and the family of my cousin Paul.*

Liz Strauss - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MY

“ *Paul and I had alot of fun times together when we were kids. My sincere sympathy to you.*

Myra - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ *Paul joined the law firm just two years after I did. We spent some of our early years running mineral titles in small towns in North Dakota and Montana. I'll never forget the time we went to Plentywood, MT, when we were supposed to be in Wolf Point. We still laughed about that geographical error many years later! Paul was an excellent attorney. He also was devoted to Marlene, who was devoted to him. As far as I can tell, there were were few days when Paul did not go home at noon to have lunch with Marlene. He confronted his last illness with enormous dignity and courage. We always expected Paul to return home from Mayo. We will miss him at Crowley Fleck and our sympathies go out to Marlene and the other members of his family. Gary Wolberg and Cynthia Bates Wolberg*

Gary Wolberg - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ Bill Strutz introduced me to Paul as "the best real estate attorney" and I found in my many years of working with him, that Paul was as Bill said. Just before he left for Mayo, we visited about his health challenges and he had great faith! And, as always, he knew the answer to my real estate question and again gave me expert advice. Thorough, conscientious, and an all-around nice guy --- he will be missed, and God now has one great real estate attorney! Condolences to Marlene and family, and his partners at Crowley-Fleck. Mike Tomasko Retired CEO Mid Dakota Clinic

Mike Tomasko - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Marlene, So sorry to hear of Paul's passing. I have worked with Paul since 1980 as he was one of Petro-Hunt, LLC's main title attorneys. Paul was very consciences and through in his title work and was a pleasure to work with. He is truly going to be missed as both a business associate and a friend. My thoughts and prayer are with you in this difficult time.

Jeff Herman - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM