

"Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them. Then all the trees of the forest will sing, they will sing for joy before the Lord.."

Psalms 96:11-12

A Celebration of Life for
ELMER H. SCHIRMER, JR.



Saturday, August 22, 2020

Community UMC • 20 Center St, Naperville, IL 60540
630 355 1483 • onecumc.net

* = Please stand as you are able.
You are invited to speak the words in **bold**.

ORDER OF SERVICE

ELMER H. SCHIRMER JR.

September 3, 1929 – April 8, 2020

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

Chris Garofalo
Director of Music Ministry

Procession

Be Still My Soul
arranged by Chris Garofalo

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

How Great Thou Art

Ringing of the Church Bell

Ken Cox

Prelude

Fugue in B-flat minor WTC I
by Johann Sebastian Bach

THE GREETING

Word of Grace

Hymn

In the Garden

UMH 314
Jaime Randel
Granddaughter

Opening Prayer

Prayer of St. Augustine

Howard Mueller

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Old Testament	Isaiah 40: 28-31	Daniel Schirmer
Psalter	Psalm 23	Grandson
Epistle	Romans 8:31-39	
Gospel	John 14:1-7	
Homily		Rev. Hannah Chong
Poem	<i>Death, Be Not Proud</i>	Ollie Taylor
Anthem	<i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i> arranged by John A. Behnke	Chris Garofalo
Witness		Paul A. Schirmer Matt Schirmer Howard Mueller

COMMENDATION AND PRAYERS

Prayers of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer		Paul N. Schirmer Grandson
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SENDING FORTH

Hymn	<i>On Eagle's Wings</i>	UMH 143 Cassie Weddle Granddaughter
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Benediction

Tolling of the Church Bell

Dismissal with Music	<i>Going to Another Place</i> by Mannheim Steamroller	
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Postlude	<i>Silhouette (2002)</i> by Chris Garofalo	
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OBITUARY



Elmer H. Schirmer, Jr, was born in East St. Louis, IL, on September 3, 1929, in his parent's home. When Elmer was 11 months old, the family moved to Freeport, IL.

He attended MO Synod Lutheran School for 8 grades in 2 rooms having the same teacher for 7 of those years. Elmer graduated Freeport High School in 1947 with letters in Track and Football (but he liked track better!). He set the school record in the 440-yard dash. Elmer also won the school Pentathlon (5 track events) as a sophomore, came 2nd as a Junior, and set a record winning it when he was a Senior.

Elmer received his pilot's license at age 18 and was half-owner of 1941 Aeronca Defender, and later part-owner of a Stinson Voyager.

After graduating from the University of Illinois with BS in Aeronautical Engineering in 1951, Elmer worked at McDonald Aircraft Company and attended St. Louis University until he was drafted. Later he attended Notre Dame graduate school of Engineering. He served in US Army, Chemical Corp., (1951 – 1953), in the Missile War Head Section.

Elmer married Joyce Kraft in 1953 and had two sons, Paul and Matthew. He married Mari Trossen in May 1999.

He worked for Bendix Corp. (Allied Signal, now Honeywell) in Mishawaka, IN in Systems Engineering on Navy Ship launched surface-to-air TALOS missile for 20 years, his specialty being in Aerodynamics, ramjet and rocket propulsion. Elmer was appointed to two task forces to solve special problems and was called back on three occasions as a consultant to solve propulsion problems. He also worked two years for Astronautics Corp. of America in Milwaukee, WI testing aircraft instruments.

In December 1973, Elmer bought Bush Insurance Agency in Lemont, IL then sold the agency in 1993 and semi-retired. He went on to drive for Airtran (1995 – 1999), Kids Kab (2001 – 2007), and prepared personal income taxes for others (1971 – 2016).

Elmer moved to Naperville in 1974 where he became a member of Naperville Heritage Society, serving as Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer. He joined Community UMC in 1980, serving on the Board of Trustees for many years (as President, 1991 – 2002). He also served on the Church Foundation Board and the Administrative Board, and the Finance Committee (as Chairman for several years).

A memorial fund has been established to honor Elmer Schirmer. Contributions, in lieu of flowers, may be sent to Community UMC, 20 Center St, Naperville, IL 60540, onecumc.net.