



Rolf H. Brothen

Rolf H. Brothen, 76, of Minneapolis, MN, died Saturday, March 12, 2011, in Jupiter, Florida. Born in Fergus Falls, MN, on October 29, 1934, he was the son of the late Ivar and Ruth Brothen. He was the founder and President of Brothen, Inc. in Minneapolis. His favorite hobbies were tennis, and spending time with his beloved dogs. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Marilyn Brothen; daughters, Brenda Lamphere, and Betsy Krutzig; sons, Bradley Brothen, and Brian Brothen; grandchildren, Timothy Krutzig, Jeremy Krutzig, Julie Krutzig, Sarah Lamphere, Paul Lamphere, Cole Brothen, Amber Brothen, Ernie Brothen, and Daphne Brothen; sister, Joanne Holt; twin brother, Ivar Brothen; nieces and nephews.

A Graveside Service will take place on March 17, 2011 at 11:00 AM at the Riverside Memorial Park, Tequesta, FL. Rolf was truly a great man and will be missed more than words can say. When Rolf was 15 years old he became very ill with mononucleosis. He was not certain he was going to live and wrote this poem. I am so blessed to be his son, and I am honored to carry his name. Love always, Brian.

The Lord is my shepherd
Who wants me to live
I shall not want
He wants me to give
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures

Where I may sit and look up at Thee
He leadeth me beside the still waters
Where He is present with me
He restoreth my soul
To be righteous and clean
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
To fulfill His dream
For His name's sake
To love and esteem
Yea, though I walk through the valley
With His halo's bright gleaming band
Of the shadow of death
Toward the heavenly band
I will fear no evil
With the guidance of His hand
For thou art with me
And present everywhere
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me

Tribute Wall



“ *Rolf H. Brothen*

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *"Dear Grandpa,
I think about you often... And many memories that we share are so precious to my heart... Going to the Scandinavian festival and eating all the lefse we could eat!! I will always remember your wise and kind words you said about my mom and especially my dad, Bill. All who loved you very much... I think about you daily as I am recovering from my accident... I spoke to you often to you and God about healing me... And finding strength from you.. And Him! I love you Grandpa... Hope you are safe and Happy up in Heaven playing tennis and playing with Molly and Missy!! Love you grandpa Rolf xoxo. I know I have learned so much about you when I listen to my dad and my mom tell me stories of you when we were younger... My favorite memory of you was going to the park by the ocean down by Marina Jacks!! What a beautiful day it was as we walked around... Love you grandpa Rolf"*

Julie KRUTZIG - November 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *"Leave a condolence or a memory."*

Julie KRUTZIG - November 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JB

“I am proud to say that one of the most gentle souls every to walk this earth was my father-in-law, Rolf. For nearly 22 years I had the honor of being blessed with his kindness, generosity, and his genuine heart. Rolf and I had an ongoing joke. When I would see him, I would always tell him how handsome he looked. He would reply with the cutest grin, "I can't help it". Then he would turn to me and tell me I was beautiful, and would not let me off the hook until I had the same reply. Then we both would giggle. My husband would do and did do anything and everything for the man that was his lifelong hero. I am blessed that my husband has the same giving heart as his father. Rolf will live on in so many ways. When I see my son lift his pointer finger the exact same way Rolf did when he was trying to slow the world down, when Brian and I roll our meatballs every Christmas, and when I look at the beautiful square heads of my family, it is Rolf that comes alive. Each person who had the privilege of knowing my sweet father-in-law knows that the world was a better place with Rolf. Now heaven is a better place too.”

Jill Brothen - April 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BB

“Yesterday was the first Master's Sunday in 15 years that I did not call and talk to my Dad. They say time heals all wounds, but I pray one day soon I stop hurting so much from the loss of my life long hero! The way he handled conflict and the way he handled a negative situation made me so proud. I love that Cole wrote about him on this site, and I hope that my dad is living pain free with his mom in heaven. If anyone ever deserved to be there it would be my kind father!!”

Brian Brothen - April 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CB

“I always would love when my grandpa would go to my baseball games. He would sit in the sun for hours, just cheering me on. I love hearing his stories about his legendary knuckle ball he would throw as a kid. It would make me feel so good whenever he said "great game Cole" or "nice hit", always followed by a thumbs up. My grandfather was such a great man and he has taught my dad many things which he has passed to me. One of my favorite things he has taught my dad, and someday soon I hope he will teach me, is how to make his old family recipe and Christmas tradition of great Norwegian meatballs. They had the best taste of curry and pepper and even better was that every meatball was made with love. He was a great man I will miss him very much.”

Cole Brothen - April 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BL

“To honor my Dad by living the remainder of my life by following his example of unconditional love and kindness is the best tribute I can think of. Dad was truly a wonderful man who lead by example and was the same at home as he was at work or on the tennis court - as brother Brad pointed out at his graveside service. He was always so happy to share time with his family and friends - and it was his character to listen to others and offer up encouragement sprinkled with wisdom, kindness, humor and forgiveness. Dad was amazingly patient - and there are only two times in my life I can remember that he was even slightly impatient - and both times centered around him trying to teach me to drive a 5 speed VW. It was a blessing to spend any time I could with my Dad because I never stopped learning life's lessons from him. His generous spirit was evident to the very end. He refused to say a discouraging word since it did not serve a purpose. Dad made life choices that always benefited others - above himself. I am grateful that Sarah was able to spend precious time with her Grandpa - and it becomes more and more clear that his sweet spirit influenced her - since they spoke the same language. Regardless of external circumstances Dad viewed life from a "half full" perspective and saw the world through a positive filter that was very consistent - no matter what. I am grateful to all of the people who touched his life and were blessed by Dad too. He will be my forever hero - a "safe" man who would never think of being dishonest or hurting another person - a true peacemaker who held onto the hope of a better tomorrow. Dad leaves a legacy of love - and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be his daughter. Heaven has received a wonderful man - and I hope he is busy rolling meatballs and buttering lefse with LaLa and other family and friends!”

Brenda Brothen Lamphere - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BB

“Thank you for those of you that have shared your memories of my dad Rolf. He was such a wonderful man and it breaks my heart that I will not be able to see him again in this life. In his final years he tried to comfort me by letting me know he was OK with passing on. He told me he talked to his mom every day, and missed her so very much. He told me not to be sad if he died, but to be happy that he was home with his mom. I love him and miss him so much. I look at my kids today and hope I can be as good of a father as my dad was to me. I will miss you dad and I love you so much!!”

Brian Brothen - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LI

“Rolf was such a soft spoken man, who loved his dogs. I'm sure he is up in heaven with Mitzy on his lap. United with famiy and friends having peace in his heart and enjoying the fruits of heaven. God bless you and may you rest in peace.”

Liz - March 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KR

“Uncle Rolf was a kind gentle man. He was funny and always willing to be there to listen. He was so talented and also very humble. He loved a good laugh and was always at the ready should someone like a snack . He did love his pickled herring and snacks. I was lucky enough to spend some time with him in Minnesota as an adult and he enjoyed telling me stories about growing up and our family. As my sister said " he was an angel on earth and now they have another angel in heaven. As kids we were always thrilled when Uncle Rolf and Aunt Marilyn would come and visit. It was a rare treat and the times we spent at the lake are forever in my memory ! God Bless you Uncle Rolf , you will be missed.”

Kristine - March 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KA

“*"Make that niece :)"*

Karen - March 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KA

“*"Uncle Rolf was a sweetheart, he was the most genuine man I ever knew. I would always call him on his birthday every year and he would always have time to talk to me even when he was at work. My only regret is that I didn't have a chance to spend more time with him. The world is minus one angel but now heaven has an extra one. Love you uncle Rolf! Karen"*

Karen - March 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JE

“*"Rolf was one of the most brilliant, respectful, generous and humble men I've known. I never heard him say a negative word about anyone, ever. He was as honest as the day is long. I loved playing tennis with him and especially enjoyed the way he called the ball out or in bounds (just the shake of the hand, pointing one finger towards the ground, not a word spoken) - I never knew if it was in or out - gesture was always the same for both calls. I loved listening to his stories and his detailed descriptions of things, though they may of taken a while to finish - it was a good lesson in patience and I always learned something. Rolf touched many peoples lives - more than he ever realized - mine was one of them. I'm grateful for the time I spent with him, memories I will treasure forever. jt"*

Jeff - March 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM