David Paul Ruthenbeck

David Paul Ruthenbeck, age 70, of Mankato, died on September 16 at his home after a recent diagnosis of cancer. The family invites you to share in the worship service and a celebration of his life on Saturday, September 26 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 720 S. 2nd Street, Mankato. Visitation will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 9:30-11:00 am and following the service. The memorial service will begin at 11:30am and a lunch reception will follow.

David was born on September 26, 1938 to Alethea and Lehnert Ruthenbeck. His childhood years were spent in Roseville, Vernon Center and Sherburn where he graduated from Sherburn High School in 1956. He attended Concordia University and graduated from Mankato State College with a BA degree in 1963 and an MS degree in 1970. David taught and counseled at New Ulm High School and in 1970, joined the faculty of MSU until his retirement in 1998.

On December 30, 1961, he was married to LoraLee (Lori) Schmidt in Luverne MN. He devoted his life to serving students through his love of history and his belief in the advocacy for and value of every student. David's interests and abilities were countless and his faith sustained him throughout life.

David is survived by his wife Lori; sons Paul (Robin) Hart Ruthenbeck of Northfield and Joel (Anita) Ruthenbeck of Farmington; 8 grandchildren; brother Norman (Berniece) of Edina; and sister Nadene of Mankato. He was preceded in death by his son Daniel; parents Pastor Lehnert and Alethea Ruthenbeck; and grandparents.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests gifts to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, MSU Scholarship Fund or donor's choice.