Virgil Earl "Chris" Christensen

Virgil Earl "Chris" Christensen died Sunday May 18th at Highview Hills in Lakeville, MN surrounded by his entire extended family. Memorial services will be held at First English Lutheran Church in Faribault, MN on June 15th at 2 pm. Burial will be at the Danebod Cemetery in Tyler MN.

Virgil "Chris" was born to Chris Paul and Ellen (Andersen) Christensen on July 9, 1925 in Tyler MN where he was raised on the family farm and attended school in District 55. Upon completion of his high school education, he enlisted with the US Navy where he served for 4 years aboard the USS Clarendon in the South Pacific during WWII.

Following his discharge in 1946, he married his high school sweetheart Bertha "Roots" Ris on June 28th, 1946. Following the attainment of multiple graduate degrees, he served for over 40 years as an educator - as a beloved high school teacher in southern MN in addition to bring a devoted university professor at campuses around the country. One of his proudest achievements was being named as the first consulting psychologist for the Children's Television Workshop with the Sesame Street Program while at Harvard University. Other campuses that Dr. Christensen served included Cornell University, Ohio State, Texas A&M, and MN State University at Mankato.

During his tenure at the various universities, Dr. Christensen held many educational service roles. He was named as a White House Fellow for Education serving for President Johnson 1963-1968. He was appointment to serve for several MN State Governors on the MN Board of Aging. As a long time active member of the Kiwanis Club, Chris served as the District Governor for the MN-Dakotas 1982-1983.

Virgil is survived by his wife Boots of 68 years, daughters Nan Borchardt (Paul) of Olathe, KS, grand children Alex and Andrea Borchardt of Olathe, KS, Karla Montgomery (Rick Lefebvre) of Savage, MN, Tom Montgomery, of Bloomington, MN and several nieces and nephews across the country.