



Larry Eugene Nelson

July 16, 1959 - April 16, 2019

Mineral Point / Dodgeville - Larry Eugene Nelson, age 59, of Mineral Point, formerly of Dodgeville, Iowa County District Attorney, loving husband, father and brother, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison.

Larry was born on July 16, 1959 in Dodgeville to Eugene and Eileen (Dochnahl) Nelson. He graduated from Dodgeville High School and then UW-Whitewater in 1982. He later received his law degree in 1988 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Upon graduation, he served as Assistant Corporation Counsel for Sheboygan County as well as, Municipal Attorney for Sheboygan Falls and the Village of Kohler. In 1989, Larry began his career in Iowa County. He served as Iowa County Corporation Counsel and Assistant District Attorney from 1989 to 2006. He was appointed District Attorney by Governor Doyle in 2006 and since that time faithfully fulfilled his duties prosecuting all manner of crimes on behalf of the State of Wisconsin.

Larry was a champion for justice and a staunch advocate of victims impacted by crime in Iowa County. Larry was decent and fair, he was a true minister of justice, not punishment or of politics.

Larry had a huge heart full of so much love and enthusiasm for life. While his first and greatest love was for his children, wife and family, his love for all things “Badgers” was obvious to anyone who knew him. He always had time to talk with you about “the game”, or “the play”. He was proud to be a Badger. As a child, growing up in Dodgeville, Larry was blessed to have friends who remained throughout adulthood. If he could hit it, swing at it, catch it, but not quite dunk it—he loved it. He and his friends enjoyed their youthful playing years for decades.

Larry will be sadly missed by his wife Terry (Teresa Dye, nee Cullen); his daughter and hero Peyton Graber-Nelson and his most loved son Cole Nelson. He is also survived by his sisters Lou Ann (Glen) Hocking and Lynn (Tom) Evans of Dodgeville; his mother and father-in-law Tom and Kathryn Cullen of Columbus; his brothers-in-law Michael and Joseph Cullen and his former father-in-law Gilbert Graber.

He was preceded in death by his loving parents Eileen and Eugene Nelson and his former mother-in-law Audrey Graber.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at ST. JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC CHURCH in Dodgeville. Friends may call from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Monday and from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday at the GORGEN-McGINLEY & AYERS FUNERAL HOME in Dodgeville.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the family of Larry Nelson for a future scholarship at Dodgeville High School.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Compassion Way
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 22. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gorgen-McGinley & Ayers Funeral Home
400 East Grace Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533
(608) 935-5222
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

Visitation

APR 23. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Gorgen-McGinley & Ayers Funeral Home
400 East Grace Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533
(608) 935-5222
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

Mass of Christian Burial

APR **23**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
405 S. Dacotah Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Tribute Wall



“ *Larry Eugene Nelson*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *We want to extend our sympathy to the entire Nelson family. I have so many fond memories growing up of the family and Dodgeville. We are unable to attend the services but our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. GOD BLESS!!
Marlowe and Judy Helgestad*

John and Judy Helgestad - April 22, 2019 at 12:57 PM



“ *Your Ethan Allen Dallas family. purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Larry Eugene Nelson.*



Your Ethan Allen Dallas family. - April 22, 2019 at 12:31 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Larry Eugene Nelson.*



April 22, 2019 at 09:42 AM

SE

“ Our prayers and sympathy for Larry's family and friends. LouAnn, mom and I are always here if you need a shoulder.

Shannon & Deb Egan - April 22, 2019 at 05:02 AM

LM

“ God bless you, Terry, and family. My heart goes out to you. Louise Moore

louise moore - April 21, 2019 at 03:20 PM

SM

“ I only had the opportunity to meet Larry once, but for the love he brought to my dear friend Terry for the last two years, he will always hold a special place in my heart. I always said their story was the stuff of a Lifetime Movie, but it truly was a love story. I know that Terry will find comfort in their memories in the days to come.
Susan M

Susan Medlin - April 20, 2019 at 06:36 PM

SM

“ Susan and Phillip Medlin purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Larry Eugene Nelson.



Susan and Phillip Medlin - April 20, 2019 at 06:30 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry Eugene Nelson.*



April 20, 2019 at 12:42 PM



“ *It was a blow to learn we lost Larry, particularly so suddenly, and at such a young age. Compounding the emotional jolt is the reality we've lost such a vital part of society - long a trusted servant to each of us in Iowa County, to southwest Wisconsin justice, and our larger community statewide. In a deeper sense, we've lost a really good guy.*

Since I began practice in 1992 I know he influenced many of us here. He made me better, and I'm grateful. As a colleague, he always was collegial; as a lawyer - always professional; as an adversary in a charged adversarial setting - always fair, and as importantly, he was always nice about it.

Many who grieve worked more closely with Larry than me. Some worked daily - elbow to elbow. Surely their loss is deeper. I'm glad counseling was available promptly. May they continue to demonstrate Larry's influence, both in honor of him, and to better serve us, as he did. To those grieving most - those who lost family, those who lost love - may they recognize Larry's influence in his legacy, and may that knowledge ease their pain.

Gregg Waterman - April 20, 2019 at 11:34 AM



“ *My favorite Memory is during the worst ice storm in Wisconsin in 1976. All us cousins sitting in the Kitchen at the Nelson Residents playing games waiting for the power come back on. It was a few days. But we had fun.*

Kim Cleary - April 19, 2019 at 07:48 PM



“ *Kim Cleary lit a candle in memory of Larry Eugene Nelson*

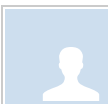


Kim Cleary - April 19, 2019 at 07:27 PM



“ *I enjoyed knowing and working with Larry for many years. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers for his families and colleagues. Rest In Peace Larry , and keep cheering for the Badgers !*

Jon n Elaine Pepper - April 19, 2019 at 05:10 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Larry Eugene Nelson.*



April 19, 2019 at 12:54 PM

MJ

“ My heart goes out to Larry's family..especially my cousins Lynn and Lou Ann. What a terribly sad time for you having lost your "little" brother. Uncle Gene and Aunt Eileen were very proud parents to Larry. To us girls, playing together in Dodgeville on warm summer days, he was that bothersome little tag-a-long that we told to go back in the house!! There are many family angels that have their arms around him. I will be thinking of you over these difficult days ahead and will be seeing you at services. It doesn't seem right that our family should be gathering for such a sad occassion. Larry should have had many more years ahead of him. God Bless.
Love--
Mary (Frisch) Johnson

Mary Johnson - April 19, 2019 at 12:02 PM

GK

“ To my dear and precious family, I am sending my heartfelt love, care and concern to all of you at this tragic time. Larry's father and I were like brothers, and I know how much he loved Larry and his work for the people. I wish I could send a special kind of love. However, even as a physician, I am saddened to experience the loss of such a fine man. Larry's grandmother and my mother were sisters--Roxy and Matie. As I am well aware, Larry was truly a fine example for his profession. As I look at his picture and tender smile, I can see his dear father. All we can do at this dreadful time is to be thankful that he served well, and we are all grateful for that. At the age of 88, it is very difficult to part with such a sweet man.

Love to the Family,

Jerry Kempthorne

GERALD C. KEMPTHORNE - April 18, 2019 at 10:41 PM