



## Anselm "Ansie" Joseph Sperl

April 21, 1922 - October 27, 2020

Anselm Joseph Sperl (Ansie) was born in Albany, Minnesota on April 21, 1922, and passed away peacefully on October 27, 2020 at the age of 98. He was one of seven children born to Aloys and Frances Sperl. Ansie was predeceased by his parents, and his siblings: Hyacinth, Alexander, Frances, Sylvester, Robert, and Adelheid, and his dear wife of 68 years, Marcella E. Sperl (Sal).

Ansie and Sal are survived by five children: Susan J. Sperl (Milo Fine), Minneapolis, Karen Sperl, Minneapolis, Gary (Elaine) Sperl, Little Falls, Steve (Jean) Sperl, St. Cloud, Kelly Sperl, Chicago. A sixth child, Peggy, died at the age of two. Ansie had nine grandchildren: Jessica (John) Behm, Andrea Imhoff, Erika Sperl, Laura (Elliot) Kim, David (Meghan) Sperl, Michael (Michaela) Sperl, Amanda (Adam) Lieberman, Adam (Stephanie) Sperl, and Mariah Sperl. They and his seven great-grandchildren: Johnny, Lilac, Lilya, Gracie, Willa, Hattie, and Theo were always a source of great pride and joy. His love for all was apparent in his interactions and in the example he set. His family will forever cherish the many experiences and stories they shared with him.

Having grown up on a large farm, Ansie knew well the value of hard work. One of the greatest compliments one could receive from Ansie was "He/She is a good worker!" He also said, "If you're going to do a job, do it well or don't do it at all!" He lived up to his own standards during his 50 years with DH Blattner and Sons. Ansie was well-respected by his bosses and his road construction team, due to his expertise, camaraderie, and integrity. Ansie loved people and people loved Ansie. He went out of his way to help others, developing relationships with young and old alike everywhere he went. He brought joy and laughter to any gathering and never missed saying, "I love you" as family members took leave of a visit. He had a quiet yet strong faith in God that was evidenced in the way he treated people.

While Ansie enjoyed woodworking, deer hunting, and playing 500 at the Albany Bakery, fishing took top priority. He so enjoyed telling and retelling the story of spearing the big Northern, which was mounted and on display wherever he lived. In addition, Ansie and his

siblings will always be remembered for their four-part harmony. His tenor voice carried on in the Albany choir and as a soloist at weddings and funerals.

Ansie spent his later years at Mother of Mercy in Albany, MN, in an apartment overlooking the golf course, which he helped build. From there, he transitioned to Country Manor in Sartell, MN. He especially enjoyed the sing-alongs and visits with the therapy dogs. Ansie received excellent care in both of these facilities. The family is so very grateful to the staff at both facilities for the care they gave Ansie as well as for the medical expertise of Drs. Nate Brever, Kurt Schwieters, and Doug Watkins.

A drive-by visitation will be held from 9 am to 10:45 am on Saturday, October 31st in front of the Church of Seven Dolors gathering space in Albany. A mass of Christian burial will follow at 11:00 AM at the Church of Seven Dolors with interment to follow in the parish cemetery. Our family cares about your safety and respects and supports your decision to not attend the indoor mass in light of the COVID pandemic. Social distancing and masking requirements will be followed in the church. A celebration of life social will be held in Ansie's honor at a time when it is safe to do so. Memorials to Church of Seven Dolors, Knights of Columbus, Mother of Mercy, in Albany, or to Country Manor, in Sartell, are appreciated and preferred in lieu of flowers. Funeral arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

# Cemetery

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## Seven Dolors Catholic Cemetery

Albany, MN, 56307

# Events

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**OCT 31** **Visitation** 09:00AM - 10:45AM

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Seven Dolors Catholic Church - Albany  
151 2nd Street, Albany, MN, US, 56307

**OCT 31** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Seven Dolors Catholic Church - Albany  
151 2nd Street, Albany, MN, US, 56307

# Comments

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“ I knew Ansie & Sal through the many meetings I attended with the Albany Seniors. They were so friendly and always supported me in so many ways. They were happy and positive. I stopped by their home more than once, just to say hello!

God bless both Ansie and Sal. Heaven just got a little better!

**Jeff & Marlene Bertram** - October 31, 2020 at 08:33 AM

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“ Sperl Family....  
Our sincere sympathy at the loss of your father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

We have so many fond memories of Ansie. His presence was always felt at social gatherings as he brought much joy and laughter to each event, including pre and post deer hunting parties. We loved his jokes and excellent storytelling. When you were with Ansie he always made you feel so comfortable and also that you were the most important person in the room. He had many sayings that will live on in our memory. Our favorite was his parting line at the end of a party: "I am so glad you had the pleasure of meeting me." This statement has added meaning to us now that he is gone - we were truly blessed to have the pleasure of meeting him - it enriched our lives.

Al and Doris Karls

Nick Karls, Paul, Jackie, Emme and Haddie Karls, Kelly and Eric Waynert

**Doris Karls** - October 30, 2020 at 10:56 AM

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“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Anselm "Ansie" Joseph Sperl.



October 29, 2020 at 08:20 PM

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“ Oh I loved Ansie, he was one of the adults in town that a kid could have fun with and who didn't feel like it was his job to show his disapproval of the "younger generation". It still brings a smile when i think of his visits to the Thelen Family Market, where I was the checkout girl and carry out boy. i remember his energetic gait, ready laugh and big smile. He enriched the lives of all he met. So sorry for your loss, Rose Thelen

**Rose Thelen** - October 29, 2020 at 01:09 PM

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“ Karen Haaland sent a virtual gift in memory of Anselm "Ansie" Joseph Sperl



**Karen Haaland** - October 29, 2020 at 08:07 AM

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“ Ansie was the one of the most positive and friendly person you could ever meet. Always a smile and warm hello. Congratulations Ansie on a life well-lived. RIP. Tom Baumgartner

**Tom Baumgartner** - October 28, 2020 at 09:06 PM



“ So sorry to hear of the passing of your dad. We are thinking of you & sending love & prayers- ! Dawn & Brad Laager

**Dawn & Brad Laager** - October 29, 2020 at 04:59 PM

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“ STEVE and Jean, (and family) So sorry for your loss. Now we have another angel in Heaven. Virtual hugs. Lori (Walth)Eaton; Rochester.

**lori eaton** - October 28, 2020 at 08:46 PM

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“ Condolences to Gary and families on the loss of your father. Mary McCarthy.

**Mary McCarthy** - October 28, 2020 at 08:11 PM

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“ Claudette Moran lit a candle in memory of Anselm "Ansie" Joseph Sperl



**Claudette Moran** - October 28, 2020 at 03:31 PM

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“ Gary and family,  
Sorry for your loss! Your family is in our prayers.  
Andrew and BreeAnn Rakow

**BreeAnn Rakow** - October 28, 2020 at 03:27 PM

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“ My condolences to the entire family! No matter how much we know this day would arrive, it still leaves a hole in your heart - especially his family!! Ansie would always call me "cousin" and have a warm smile and share his great laugh every time I saw him over the years. Our lives were definitely enhanced because Ansie shared his with us! Hugs to you all!

Gail Schiffler McNair

**Gail L McNair** - October 28, 2020 at 03:06 PM

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“ Romelle lit a candle in memory of Anselm "Ansie" Joseph Sperl



**Romelle** - October 28, 2020 at 12:10 PM



“ Love and prayers

**Romelle** - October 28, 2020 at 12:12 PM

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“ Sperl Family,

We are so sad to hear that Ansie passed away. Our sympathy to everyone in the family. We are thinking of all of you during this time.

Gene and Nancy Kalthoff

**Nancy and Gene Kalthoff** - October 28, 2020 at 08:45 AM

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“ Gary and families, sincere sympathy on the loss of your father.



**Debbie Jelinski-Harakel** - October 27, 2020 at 11:00 PM