

Richard Harold Olsen, 82, of Hernando, FL passed away January 13, 2024 in Gainesville, FL. He was born on August 17, 1941 to Harold and Elizabeth Olsen in St. Paul, MN. In 1964, Richard graduated with his B.S. E.D. in Speech Correction from the Wisconsin State University at River Falls, then in 1966, he graduated with his M.S. in Communication Disorders from the Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL. In 1970, Richard graduated with his Ph.D. in Communication Disorders from the University of Denver, CO. He was a Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology as well as a Fellow of the Academy of Dispensing Audiologists. He managed the hearing conservation programs for large companies like Swift independent Meat Packaging and the Tribune News Paper as well as many other companies. He also was responsible for training nurses to administer hearing tests and was named the Head of the Communications Disorders Department of the Kankakee State Hospital. Later, he opened his own private practice in Audiology where he served his community in Kankakee from 1974 until his retirement in the early 2000's. During his life Richard was very community minded, he was President of the Kankakee Lion's Little League, President of the PTO of St. Martins Catholic School and a member of the Lions Club. Richard is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Jeanette Olsen; two sons Eric Olsen and his wife Amy, and Ryan Olsen and his wife Natalie; grandchildren Cole, Evan, Bennett, Hannah, Ela, Ada and August. Private cremation is under the direction of Brown Funeral Home & Crematory in Lecanto, FL. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.