



## R. Udell

October 15, 1922 - August 24, 2012

R.FOSTER UDELL passed away at age 89 on Friday August 24, 2012 in LaCrosse, WI. He was born October 15, 1922 to Roy and Jessie (Foster) Udell of Fall River, Wisconsin. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II from January 1943 through March 1946. He was in the Signal Corps, landing on Okinawa on Day 4 of that encounter. He served in the occupation of Korea after the end of the war. On August 8, 1948 he and Carolyn Plumb were married in Beloit, WI. They have four children: Richard (Neuza Porto) of New York, David (Diantha Clark) of New Jersey, Kathleen (Scot) Samelstad of Roberts, WI, and John[Jack] (Amanda Strosahl) of La Crosse. They raised their children in Sun Prairie, WI, retiring later to a home on Upper Springstead Lake in their beloved northwoods.

Foster graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1951 with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He worked for the Ray-O-Vac Corporation for 35 years in the Madison Corporate offices. He was Director of Government Contracts involving specialty batteries for unique situations. While a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Madison he served as state chairman of the safety committee, taking personal satisfaction in his work to bring automobile safety belts into normal usage. For many years Foster was an active member of the United Methodist Church of Sun Prairie, transferring his energies for his Lord to the Manitowish Waters Community Presbyterian Church after moving north. Foster enjoyed designing and building, be it additions to their homes or his HO railroad layout. In addition to his wife of 64 years and their four

children, Foster is survived by eight grandchildren (Tom, Nick, and Kaelyn Samelstad, Ashlen and Nathanael Udell, Claire, Hannah and Richard Udell) and 2 great-grandchildren (Kaedyne Coogan and Riyan Samelstad). He is also survived by his brothers, Jon (Susan), and Gerry (Karen) and many dearly loved nieces, nephews, and cousins. It is a supportive and loving family in total, for which Foster was always grateful. A celebration of the life of Foster will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2012 at the Manitowish Waters Community Presbyterian Church. Visitation will be there at 10am. The 11am service will be followed by a luncheon and gathering time at the church. Memorials may be given to the Manitowish Waters Community Presbyterian Church, donating to their Christmas For Kids program, or to an organization of your choosing.

# Tribute Wall

AH

“ *Deep sympathy to you, Mrs. Udell and family. We love Jack and Amanda and their kids and look forward to you joining them in La Crosse. Alice Holstein*

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**alice holstein** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

LB

“ *Jack, Amanda and family. There are not words to ease the pain, but please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks to come. God Bless*

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**Lorie Berget** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

TW

“ *Dear Jack, Amanda and Family....Sorry for your loss. I know your family is close and your father/grandfather sounded like a wonderful man. I am sure he will be missed by all your family....*

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**Tina Welke** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

JH

“ *DEAR JOHN AND AMANDA.WE ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. You are so special to us and we feel your pain.GOD will help you tru this & your dad will always be in your heart.He would want you to be strong--because when we get old we want this for our children.All of us have to go--so feel the love and peace your father leaves with you.GOD BLESS--All our LOVE--JUDY & BOB HALL-ONALASKA--PATIENTS*

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**JUDY & BOB HALL** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

HB

“ So sorry to read about your dad. Sounds like he lived a wonderful and meaningful life.

*Scott & Heidi Blanke*

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**Heidi & Scott Blanke** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

DF

“ in October of 1975 my family moved into the house at 376 Miller Street in Sun Prairie Wisconsin. I was a nosy first grader who decided (on my own) to march next door and introduce myself to our new next-door neighbours. I rang the door bell and Foster opened the door, looked down and said "well hello there!" It the beginning of one of the most treasured friendships of my life. A "grown up" who "spoke kid" and treated me like a conversational equal. I have never forgotten the kindness, and great generosity and patience of my friend next door. God Bless.

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**David Fabie** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

JZ

“ Dear Carolyn and family,  
Today I am rejoicing with you from my home in Sun Prairie as you pay tribute to Our Lord for the many wonderful, loving years that you shared with Foster. I am hearing in my mind the most glorious music being played (and hoping there is a song or two from your own compositions, Carolyn). I am feeling your peacefulness, for you and I know, that in death as in life, Foster will always be by your side. I can never think of you without also thinking of Foster and that wonderful love you shared, Your children and grandchildren are so blessed to have been embraced and surrounded with the music of love, the joy of song, and the gentleness of two hearts that are forever entwined. Know Carolyn that you are in my heart and prayers and it is with deep appreciation that I thank you for the years you shared your experiences, musical talents and joyful self with teachers and students at Westside Elem. but mostly for modeling the beautiful connections and companionship you and Foster shared together.

All my love,  
Jill Zimmerman

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**Jill Zimmerman** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

BH

“ We want to give a wish of condolence and honor for Foster's life to Carolyn and children. I always remember Foster from my first acquaintance with him and Carolyn as I moved to Madison in 1985. My uncle Bill Heifner had worked with Foster and had informed me of Foster and Carolyn living in Sun Prairie. I contacted them and they welcomed me with a visit to their home on more than one occasion as well as visits to their Northwoods Cabin with our children. I loved the way Foster always complimented others with such superlatives, and we have his blessing to us on a videotape of our wedding. Thank you Foster for the memories and your kind spirit. Bill and Noranne Heifner

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**Bill Heifner** - March 22, 2013 at 11:52 AM

DF

“ Dear Dr.Udell and Family,  
You were blessed to have such a loving and caring father. His  
obituary was beautiful.  
With my sympathy and prayers,  
Fondly,  
Deonne Flynn

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**Deonne Flynn** - August 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Our prayers and remembrances go out to you, Carolyn, and the  
family. We were privileged to have you as both neighbors and  
friends.

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**John & JoAnn Fabie** - August 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM