

DR. GORDON 'GORDY'

WALTER THORELL

WONEWOC, Wis. — Dr. Gordon "Gordy" Walter Thorell, 79, was called to his heavenly home Tuesday, Feb. 5 2013, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. He was born Nov.



21, 1933, in Rockford, Ill.; the son of H. Walter Thorell and Elaine (Anderson) Thorell. He graduated from Rockford East High School. He was united in marriage with his wife, Nancy (Johnson) on Aug. 31, 1957, at First Evangelical Covenant Church in Rockford. Upon completion of his bachelors degree at Wheaton College, he attended Loyola University where he received his doctor of dental surgery degree. He then served in the U.S. Army Dental Corps at Ft. Sill, Okla., at the rank of Captain. Upon completion of his military service, he returned to Rockford where he ran a private general dental practice for 35 years. He later practiced part-time for Crusader Clinic. Gordy loved Rockford and was very active in his community. He served as a board member on a number of organizations to include: the United Way, Visiting Nurses Association, Council for Community Services (president), Northern Illinois Comprehensive Health Planning Board, Rock Valley Planning Commission, Rosecrance Resident Chemical Dependency Center, Protestant Community Services, Milestone Residence for the Developmentally Disabled (president), Winnebago/Rockford

Clean & Beautiful, University of Illinois College of Medicine Biologic Resource Committee, Illinois Dental Society, Winnebago County Dental Society, American Cancer Society, trustee at First Evangelical Covenant Church, Republican Precinct committeeman and ward captain. Gordy enjoyed golfing, traveling, spending time up north at the cabin with his children and grandchildren and working on the farm. In later years he collected and restored antiques. He and Nancy relocated to Wonewoc in April 2012, to be near family. Gordy is survived by his wife of 56 years, Nancy; children, Jon Thorell (Karen) of Wonewoc, Kara Koester (Dean) of Cleveland, Ga., and Erik Thorell, (Linda) of Willow Springs, Ill. He is also survived by sister, Joyce Swanlund and nine grandchildren, Andrew, Austin, Haley, Jessica, Katie, Kelsey, Jack, Luke and Jake. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Phyllis.

Memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, at First Evangelical Covenant Church, 316 Wood Road, Rockford, Ill. Lunch will follow. Please make memorials to First Evangelical Covenant Church or the Swedish American Foundation, 1415 E. State St., Rockford, Ill. Special thanks to Home Health United Hospice, Baraboo, Wis., for all there wonderful care.