

Isaac Weir Sears Jr., 87, passed away Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at his home surrounded by loved ones. Isaac Weir Sears Jr. was born October 18, 1929 in Davenport, Iowa to Margaret Neasham and Isaac Weir Sears, Sr. He grew up showing horses and enjoying his summers at his family cabin in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. He attended St. Ambrose Academy and graduated from St. Ambrose College in 1951, where in 1980, he received an honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree.

On June 7, 1952, Weir was united in marriage to the love of his life, Patricia Gavin, a native Chicagoan. Together they had six children. Their sixty-four and a half years of marriage were filled with fabulous adventure, travel, and excitement.

Weir was an entrepreneur and inventor, holding ten U.S. and forty-six international patents. With the help of talented associates and partners, he was a driving force behind business ventures in the vehicle seating and apparel markets. A magnanimous personality and creative vision led him to great success throughout his life.

In 1951, Weir joined his family's tent and awning business. After acquiring a struggling Davenport industrial seat company, Weir and his father decided in 1960 to move production from downtown Davenport to the current manufacturing location in West Davenport. From these humble beginnings, Weir crafted a global business. Sears Manufacturing now competes on an international scale to design and manufacture seats for the agricultural, construction, industrial, and on-highway truck markets.

The employees of Sears Manufacturing were a family of their own to Weir. Through the years, he made many wonderful friendships with these coworkers, business partners, and employees. On behalf of Weir, the Sears Family would like to thank all of the employees, customers, and friends of Sears Manufacturing. Weir was a former director of Mercy Hospital, St. Ambrose University, and the Southeast National Bank. As well as being a laureate of the Junior Achievement Quad City Hall of Fame, Weir was a member of the Outing Club, the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club, the Rod and Gun Club, and the Davenport Club.

Additionally, he actively partook in his membership at Sacred Heart Cathedral and the Knights of Malta. Some of Pat and Weir's fondest memories include their time with family and friends at his boyhood cabin on Deer Lake. They have had countless fantastic friends whom they have cherished deeply.

Weir is perhaps most greatly missed as the marvelous husband, father, and grandfather he was. His famous Sears silver dollar pancakes, recitation of Robert Service's "The Cremation of Sam McGee," and adventures on the houseboat Explorer, live on in the memories of the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren he loved.

Weir never forgot a name and never forgot a face. He was a friend to everyone he met, eager to understand the lives of others. His exceptional kindness and generosity truly made him a rare person.

He will be dearly missed.

Weir was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Betty Carver (John Carver), and brother Lewis Sears (Mary Railsback, and Rita Mills). He was also preceded in death by his son, Isaac Weir Sears III, and his daughter, Barbara Ann Sears.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia, and his children: Elizabeth (Richard) Ware, James (Melissa) Sears, Stephanie (Ryan) Boldt, and Stephen (Beatrice) Sears. Also among Weir's beloved are his fifteen grandchildren—Chris (Jessica) Ware, Trisha (Neil) Taylor, Barb (Bob) McClure, Beth (Kyle) Elliott, Sarah (Jeremy) Warner; Lauren and Aidan Sears; Kyle, Andrew, Jack and Nicholas Boldt; and Mary, Isaac, Stephen Gavin, and Beatrice Sears—twelve great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and faithful Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Thunder.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Genesis Hospice, or Sacred Heart Cathedral Building Fund. Finally, the Sears Family would like to thank the magnificent caregivers with whom Pat and Weir have been blessed. These people include: Sue Badley, Rachel Conner, Taylor Jewell, Lindsey Lenane, Sara Loete, Lori Meighan, Alissa Roberts, Cheryl Tix, and Jennifer York.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Weir Sears, a resident of Davenport, will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, February 11, 2017 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 422 East 10th Street, Davenport. Immediately afterwards, burial will take place at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Davenport. Visitation is from 2:00 to 5:45 p.m. Friday, February 10, at Sacred Heart Cathedral followed by a brief prayer service. Halligan-McCabe-DeVries Funeral Home is assisting the family with funeral arrangements.

Online remembrances and condolences may be expressed to the family by visiting Mr. Sear's obituary at www.hmdfuneralhome.com