ALLAN “AL” WETENKAMP

Allen “Al” Wetenkamp was born on August 14th, 1932, the son of Walter and Ruth Wetenkamp in Martin County, MN. At the age of 3, Al moved with his family to Lamberton in 1935. Throughout his school years, Al worked at Miesen’s Super Valu and helped his dad do Carpentry. Upon graduation from Lamberton High School in 1951, Al worked for a year, and then enlisted in the Army Security Agency in 1953. After military stops in Fort Devens, MA, Seattle, WA, Alaska, and Warrenton, VA, Al attended Mankato State College, and graduated in 1958 with majors of History and English.

After college, Al returned to Lamberton. His career was made as a meat cutter at the Lamberton grocery store until 1994, followed by working at Tauer’s Super Valu until retirement in 2006. However, along with his career in the grocery industry, Al had a profound interest in sports. Al took on many responsibilities within High School and amateur sports around the Lamberton area. Al covered High School sports for Lamberton High School starting in 1958, and continued to write articles, take photos, and keep statistics for various sports with Lamberton, Sanborn/Lamberton, and Red Rock Central schools for many years. He also was the head book keeper at basketball games, and traveled with the many teams to their away contests. Throughout these years of dedication, Al received many awards from the Minnesota State High School League, including the Minnesota Athletic Director Association Award for Distinguished Service in 2002.

Beyond his dedicated work with the High School Sports, Al managed the Lamberton American Legion baseball team from 1960-2001, and was the coach of the team from 1965-1974. Al was a devoted fan of the Minnesota Twins and Minnesota Vikings, even holding season tickets to the Minnesota Vikings for many years. He cherished the connections and relationships he made with people through his years working in sports.

Al passed away on November 28th of 2020. He will forever be known as the Lamberton, Sanborn/Lamberton, and Red Rock Central “Super Fan.”