IN MEMORIAM

JON JOHNSON

June 23, 1941 – February 16, 2012

Jon Johnson earned his Juris Doctor from William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul in 1970. He spent much of his career practicing with Richard Chadwick, and he later founded Johnson & Condon together with his close friend Mark Condon.

As a practitioner, Jon was wise, determined, fair and reasonable. As a partner and co-worker, he was a humble, selfless consensus-builder who was known for his keen sense of humor. He was a great mentor to many young lawyers. Jon retired in 2010 after practicing for 40 years.

Jon had wide-ranging interests outside the practice of law, and he pursued them with gusto. He traveled widely with his family and friends and enjoyed trips to Indonesia, Africa, Brazil, Costa Rica, Norway, Greece, Turkey and places throughout the United States.

He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed adventures of all kinds, including climbing to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro, marathon running, canoeing, camping, hiking on the North Shore, rafting through the Grand Canyon, kayaking in the Florida Keys, fly-in fishing in Canada and, most recently, sky diving to celebrate his 70th birthday.

Jon was also an uncommonly generous man, whose principal avocation was to enrich the lives of others. He did things for others every day, and he did them quietly and reflexively – they were just a part of his nature.

Some of the big things he did included helping people repair family relationships, giving people money generously in times of crisis and spending thousands of hours mentoring kids who needed a hand. He also did small things, such as helping someone prepare a resume, giving a ride to a person whose car had broken down, and buying and installing new basketball netting on an inner-city court he just happened to drive by.

In every interaction he had with people, he hoped to make their experience on this planet a better one.

Above all, Jon delighted in spending time with his four grandchildren. He was known for his slumber parties, root beer floats, "big games" and most especially for his entertaining stories. He never missed a game or a recital. He was the light of his grandkids' lives and is dearly missed by them.

He was also a devoted husband to Janice M. Johnson, and they enjoyed an epic partnership of 49 years until her death in 2010. Jon is also deeply missed by his sons Cary B. Johnson of Bloomington and Bradley A. Johnson of Lincoln, Nebraska; daughters-in-law Vanessa and Michelle; and brother, Keith Johnson of Palm Springs, California.

CARY B. JOHNSON