



# Norman P. Larson, Jr.

## *Community Service*

Norman grew up in Minnesota and graduated in 1953 from the Minnesota School for the Deaf. Upon moving to Sioux Falls, Norman joined the Chat & Nibble Club and one of his very first volunteer remodeling projects was to renovate a room for the group to sell pop and candy. Over time, the club changed its name to the Sioux Falls Association of the Deaf and for almost six decades, Norman has made tremendous and countless contributions

to the clubs and organizations that serve the Deaf in this area. Norman is most well known for coordinating or being the chair of various remodeling projects — in fact, in almost EVERY building project that has occurred for SFAD, SDAD and even CSD, since the 1960's, Norman has been involved in one way or another. He is an excellent craftsman and plies his trades with amazing skill. He learned his skills as a master carpenter, electrician, plumber and mason from many years of on-the-job experience in past positions, learning from books, or from watching others as an apprentice. He has gladly shared his knowledge and taught these skills to many other deaf volunteers while making a long lasting, tangible contribution at the same time.

Norman took the lead role for the remodeling of the old Deaf Club on 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Sioux Falls (formerly an old Army barracks) and the later additions that were made to it. He also led the remodeling efforts of the Gateway building, which housed the SDAD Deaf Club, recreation center and CSD offices. He was involved with some of the historic renovations that occurred at CSD's national headquarters (formerly a part of the SD School for the Deaf), and later at Camp Lakodia in Madison, SD. In addition, he worked on the homes and properties of countless deaf individuals throughout the area and his love for remodeling also spread into Minnesota, where he remodeled Camp Knutson -- a camp for physically challenged individuals.

Not only was renovation projects and remodeling his passion, he also served as President and Board officer positions in several different organizations including: the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, Sioux Falls Association of the Deaf, Sioux Empire Sertoma Club, and the South Dakota Association of the Deaf. His many years of devoted service, volunteerism, leadership and craftsmanship are all very much appreciated.