George M. Christensen PhD, age 84, of Winona, Minnesota died Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at Lake Winona Manor.

George was born on March 15, 1927 to Lars and Alma (Larsen) Christensen in Wilmot, South Dakota. Growing up he attended school and graduated from Wilmot High School. After his high school graduation he attended the University of Minnesota where he received his Bachelors, Masters and PhD. George attended college under the GI Bill, as he was a member of the United States Army, where he proudly served his country.

On March 3, 1979 he was united in marriage to Pauline M. Connell in Winona.

George was a professor of psychology and a clinical psychologist at Winona State University. He was dedicated to his job and found joy in his work, and the support that he was able to give students at the counseling center. George was also the grant director for the program that eventually became the Hiawatha Valley Special Education Program in Winona. He retired in 1990.

He took great pride in his family heritage, especially that his parents were Danish immigrants.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Pauline of Winona, Minnesota; children from a prior marriage: Kim (Louie) Gloede of Racine, Wisconsin; and Carl (Pandora) Christensen-Charpentier of St. Paul, Minnesota; Pauline’s children from her marriage to the late Larry Connell: James (Becky) Connell of Shell Lake, Wisconsin; Kathleen (Jason) Sherwin of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota; Joseph (Sheila) Connell of Maple Grove, Minnesota; and Jeffrey Connell of Falcon Heights, Minnesota; grandchildren: Jessie, Jolie, Brody, Matthew, Jennifer, Jacob, Nathan, Zachary, Jared, Elisabeth, Calvin, Casey and Corwin; five great-grandchildren: Bradley, Alexandra, Matix, Hawken and Lullaby; sister, Eunice Pederson of Fargo, North Dakota; other extended family and many friends. George was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers; and two sisters.

Memorial service will take place on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. at the Fawcett-Junker Funeral Home in Winona. Visitation will be prior to the service starting at 9:30. Burial will be in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Winona.

The family requests in lieu of flowers memorials be directed to the Connell-Christensen Scholarship Fund at Winona State University. Words of sympathy or remembrance may be left at www.fawcett-junkerfuneralhome.com. Services entrusted to Fawcett-Junker Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Winona.