Robert “Bob” A. DuFresne

94, of Winona passed away Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2015, at Saint Anne Extended Healthcare. Bob was born Oct. 29, 1921, in Brainerd, Minn., to Joseph and Margaret (Gleeson) DuFresne. He graduated in 1939 from Brainerd High School. Bob served in the Navy during World War II. Bob graduated in 1950 from St. Cloud State University with his undergraduate degree. He received his doctorate from University of North Dakota.

Bob attended many different institutes, most notably the I.C.E.T. Conference of International Education in Nairobi, Kenya, the European Parliament Delegation at Federal Union, London, and Congress of the Union of European Federalists in Koln, Germany. Bob was president of Winona State University from 1967 to 1978. He previously worked as the director of teacher education at Kearney State College, associate professor at Mankato State University, visiting lecturer at Drake University, Troy State University and Western Washington University. Bob was a teacher in the Austin, Minn., public schools. Following his tenure as president of WSU, he was a distinguished service professor, taught political science and was coordinator of the Studies Abroad Program in England at WSU. Throughout his lifetime, Bob received many honors and awards. He was a Distinguished Service Professor, Minn. State University System, Distinguished Alumni Award, St. Cloud State University, Outstanding Community Achievement Award, Winona, Minn., Who’s Who in America, Danforth Foundation Associate, and Good Will Ambassador to Turkey.

Bob was an active community member and served on the board of directors for Norwest Bank Winona, board of regents, Saint Mary’s College, Winona, board of directors, Winona Chamber of Commerce, board of directors, Winona Y.M.C.A. and councilman, second ward, Winona.

Bob was an accomplished writer with many publications and papers. His biggest publication was “A History of Winona State University,” 1985. Bob had a passion for golf, and even played a little until the summer of 2015. He was an excellent tennis player. Once upon a time he sang in a barbershop quartet, and played the cello and harmonica. He loved to travel. He had visited the U.S.S.R. and Outer Mongolia, Norway and Africa.

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Betty; a sister; and a brother. Bob is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Jeffrey (Jorja); grandson, Joshua (Amanda); three great-grandchildren, Jackson, Maxwell and Eli. A visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20, 2015, at Fawcett Junker Funeral Home. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, with visitation one hour prior, at Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, with the Reverend Monsignor Richard Colletti officiating.

Words of sympathy or remembrance may be left at www.fawcett-junkerfuneralhome.com. Services entrusted to Fawcett Junker Funeral Home, Winona, Minn., and Fountain City, Wis.