

Obituary

Gifford Thomas Gibson
1936 – 2018

Gifford Thomas Gibson, age 82, passed away on October 27, in Loveland, Colorado, surrounded by his loving family.

Giff was the son of Alenor Jr. and Hazel Gifford Gibson.

Giff was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin in 1936, graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1958. He served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve. He became the general manager of the Gibson Motor Company Inc. of Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, Neenah, Menasha, and Appleton, eventually retiring as the president of the company. Mr. Gibson served for many years on the Board of Directors of the First Wisconsin National Bank.

He was a past Commodore of the Oshkosh Yacht Club, a member of the South Side Ice Yacht Club, the Oshkosh Country Club, Bend Country Club, and Sisters Kiwanis Club.

Giff had a life-long passion for sailing; in building boats as a hobby and sailing on Lake Winnebago as much as possible. Winter was spent ice-boating, going out on exciting rides across the ice. Giff also enjoyed music and learned to play the piano by ear. He wrote a published novel. And he loved tennis — a lifetime of tennis.

Giff was a lifelong devout Catholic, and his faith formed who he was and how he lived. He was a positive, upbeat person who never spoke an unkind word. He will always be remembered by anyone who knew him as a gentleman with a kind heart.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Ellen McDermott Gibson. Three children, Kimberly (Mark Romerein) Lindberg of Timnath, CO, William (Chris Manuel) Gibson of New Castle, CO, Katie



(Scott Bischke) Gibson of Bozeman, MT. Three grandchildren, Corrina (Brandon) Benjamin, Laura (Dillon) Dugan, Katie Lindberg, and many dear nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters and brother: Jane Bergstrom, Marjorie Haase. Allan Gibson.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on November 17 at Saint Elizabeth Anne Seton Catholic Church, Fort Collins, CO followed by interment in Grand View Cemetery, Fort Collins Colorado.

In lieu of flowers, memorials could be made to the following: Oshkosh Area Community Foundation for the benefit of the Oshkosh Yacht Club, 230 Ohio St. Suite 100, Oshkosh, WI 54902; Pathways Hospice of Fort Collins at www.Pathways-care.org; or Alzheimer’s Association of Fort Collins CO, 415 Peterson St., Fort Collins, CO 80524.

Commentary...

The meaning of art in 2018

By Chris Morin
Columnist

Society has mostly concluded that the meaning a work of art has is primarily whatever it means to the person owning it. If the work resides within a museum or is public art, then the person viewing it determines the meaning. What the artist felt and thought when creating the work or what an art critic/expert might claim it means is not given precedence for determining the aesthetic qualities. This development in how to consider the meaning of art is rather recent, however, as the long history of art meaning and art appreciation provided for one of the earliest, most important branches of Western Philosophy.

Seattle, Washington, has a wooded park a few miles north of the skyscraper downtown region. Green Lake — lined by old-growth trees, inundated with hundreds of quacking-splashing waterfowl, a dozen different centers or playgrounds offering various activities — sparkles as an oasis in the metropolis. One-hundred-year-old Craftsman homes surround the park and have become some of the most expensive in the city. On a sunny weekend afternoon in the summer, 10,000 people might be swarming about the paths and grass fields.

Green Lake slopes

inward, to the lake itself, and a two-and-a-half-mile loop around it serves as a mecca for local runners. In the early 90s, I used to run there while attending grad school at the University of Washington. Back then, a single artist often set up next to the running path, painted, and effectively captured the scenes occurring.

I passed by the painter’s open-air, working studio hundreds of times while doing laps. In my early 30s and barely able to afford college expenses, I ached for but couldn’t manage to buy one of the paintings, which began at \$1,000. Now, 25 years later, I still recall some of his

park-humanity-cityscapes, the most stirring images I’ve seen in person.

Plato essentially dismissed art by viewing it as the lowest of all forms, besides seeing it as powerful and therefore dangerous. Aristotle countered his mentor two generations later by saying that art is the realization, in external form, of a true idea; it provides pleasure, which we feel in recognizing likenesses.

Two thousand years later the preeminent philosopher Immanuel Kant wove a complex interplay between judgment, beauty, and harmony as being that which allows

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