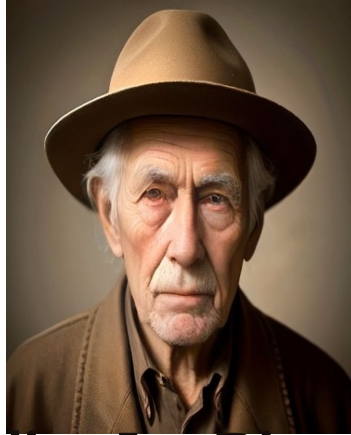




Cornelius Jan Rittenhouse

October 11, 1938 - August 9, 2026

Duluth, Minnesota

Cornelius Jan Rittenhouse died in Duluth on August 9, 2026. He was 87. Born in Duluth on October 11, 1938, with Dutch-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He counted ore tickets in wind that came off the lake like a verdict. A wool scarf outlasted winters; dockworkers tipped their caps. Colleagues still mention a wool scarf that outlasted winters.

He married Elsie in 1964. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a daughter through public schools and ordinary weather. After Elsie died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember quiet help with a stuck mailbox or a heavy trash can. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Duluth, among streets he never needed to explain. The radio is still tuned to the station that played while work got done.

Services

A memorial gathering in Duluth with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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<https://noticenearby.com/obituaries/cornelius-jan-rittenhouse-obituary-duluth-mn>

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