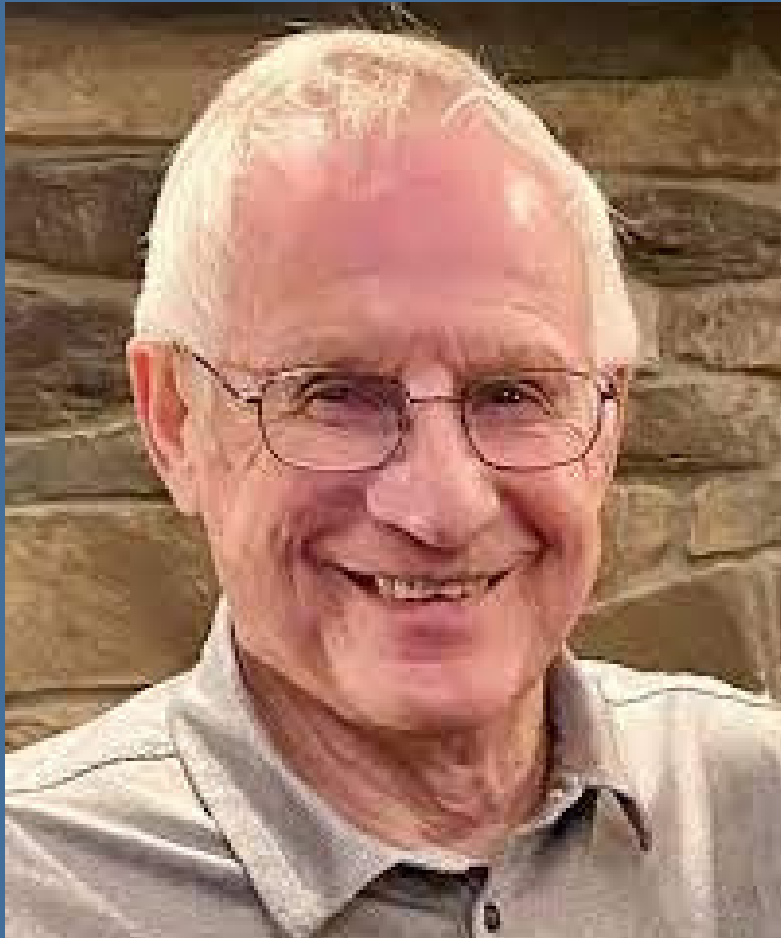


Celebrating
THE LIFE OF



Al Lick

November 30, 1942 - March 8, 2024



North Dakota and the Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators (CJJA) mourn the passing of Al Lick on March 8, 2024. From his position within state government as the Director of Institutions, Al led the movement to create North Dakota's juvenile corrections system. He served as the first director of the Division of Juvenile Services from 1987 until he retired in 2006.

Al's preparation as a teacher molded his commitment to improving the lives of young people. His career as a high school and college athlete prepared him to approach his work in juvenile justice with endless energy and the tireless competitive nature of an athlete. In Al's world, there was always room to improve your game.

Together with a small group of his peers, Al was a founding member of the organization we now know as the Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators (CJJA). CJJA was founded in 1994 with the purpose of giving juvenile justice leaders a national voice at a time when forces external to the field were shaping an incomplete and sometimes inaccurate narrative about youth who were involved in the juvenile justice system.

CJJA (then CJCA, the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators) understood that the field needed to support and prepare leaders, and critical to leadership was the ability to speak from a data informed perspective. Al often shared his experience and leadership with other juvenile justice leaders and members of CJCA in a tireless effort to assist and mentor others.

Al was passionate towards working to improve juvenile justice systems and, most importantly, improving the long-term outcomes for youth involved in the juvenile justice system.

As many of us felt, “What impressed Al’s peers and colleagues was his approach to leadership--his passion for the work and his diligence to ensure staff realized the importance of the work they were charged with working in a juvenile justice facility. His passion and conscientiousness came through in his work. It was always good to reconnect with Al at CJA meetings. Al was steadfast in his approach with colleagues, always providing a helping hand and sharing his dry wit. Al was a mentor to several new directors, and in his home state of ND where he shepherded many juvenile justice staffers to success.”



Council of Juvenile
Justice Administrators

