



Kenneth W. Willman

May 2, 1935 - September 26, 2023

Willman, Kenneth W.,
Saginaw, Michigan

After a two-year battle with crippling neuropathy-related health issues, Ken was called home to his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, from Edgewood Assisted Living Center, Saginaw. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and dear friend. Age 88 years, Ken was born on May 2, 1935, in Saginaw, Michigan to the late Emil and Laura (Steltzriede) Willman. He was both baptized and confirmed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Ken's early school years were spent at Bethlehem Lutheran School and he graduated from Arthur Hill High School. In addition to earning his B.S. in Marketing from Eastern Michigan University, Ken met his spouse, Jacquelyn S. Cole. They were married on August 8, 1959 in Saginaw and enjoyed 64 years together.

Ken's legacy of love continues through his beloved wife, Jackie, daughter, Elizabeth Morabito, grandsons, Dylan and Kyle Dingman, and granddaughter, Gianna Morabito. He also leaves behind his niece, Susan Ross, nephews, Gary Willman and Chuck and Jeremy Herring, and brother, Ron Willman.

The heavens now reunite Ken with those who went before him: his parents, parents-in-law, Bud and Helen Cole, sisters-in-law, Janice Herring and Joan Willman, and niece, Lynnette Willman.

With a mind for numbers and a heart for service, Ken was Vice President and co-owner at Professional Management. After 41 dedicated years, he embraced retirement in 2001. Ken served throughout his life at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and also on the boards of the Castle Museum, Saginaw Preservation Society, and Saginaw Antique Society.

Ken was a long-time dealer at the Antique Warehouse in Saginaw. In addition to hunting for antique treasures, he could often be found traveling, cooking, gardening, or driving his Shay's 1928 Model A.

A celebration of Ken's life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 2, 2023, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 808 Weiss St., Saginaw, MI, with Pastor Michael Korte officiating. In a private ceremony, he will be laid to rest in the Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery. Friends and loved ones are invited to share memories with each other at the Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc., 1218 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, on Sunday, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., and at the church on Monday from 10:00 a.m. until the service begins. Memorial contributions can be made to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or the Castle Museum.

Memories and sympathies may be shared with the family on his memorial website at WakemanFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery

3356 Hermansau Road
Saginaw, MI 48603

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 1. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc.
1218 N. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 752-8531
wakemanfh@charter.net

Celebration of Life

OCT 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
808 Weiss St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Private Family Committal

OCT 2 (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery
3356 Hermansau Road
Saginaw, MI 48603

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Sorry for your loss. Ken and I went to Bethelm Church AHHS and Bay City Jr College Class reunions Lunch at Sullivans
I will miss my friend
Love and hugs to you. ALL

Jack Datte - October 01, 2023 at 06:09 PM

TM

“ Ms. Jackie and Family, I'm so sorry to hear of Mr. Ken's passing! I loved his sense of Humor and Fashion. You've gained your wings "Dapper Dan". It Was A Pleasure To Be One Of His Caregivers ❤️



Tara Moten - October 01, 2023 at 02:22 PM

JH

“ Dear Willman Family. May the unending support, love and peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, be yours at this time. “He tends His flock like a shepherd; He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart.” Isaiah 40:11
Rest in Jesus. Judy Hillman

judy Hillman - September 29, 2023 at 07:28 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Kenneth W. Willman.



September 29, 2023 at 10:05 AM

MV

“ Mr. Willman, so many great childhood memories living 5 doors down and you being the father of my BFF growing up. I’m so grateful that I got to see you, laugh with you, and sing “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head” with you one last time, it will be a memory I will forever cherish. I feel safe now saying that I am the one that broke your adding machine in your basement office when Elizabeth and I played down there together. I hinted to it in our last conversation, but now feel like I need to come clean. That may come as a surprise since the only others it could have been would have been Mrs. Willman, Elizabeth, or Knickerbocker. It was me. All kidding aside, you will be dearly missed, I look forward to seeing signs of you and pray that Mrs. Willman and Elizabeth will also see you stopping in, and I pray that it brings them peace. 📧 Meg (Fortin) Vaughn

Meg Vaughn - September 29, 2023 at 09:41 AM



Elizabeth Morabito - October 02, 2023 at 07:10 PM

LB

“ Love, Joe, Heather & Connor Buenaventura purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kenneth W. Willman.



Love, Joe, Heather & Connor Buenaventura - September 28, 2023 at 11:58 PM

SG

“ Uncle Kenny we did not share blood but you were the best Uncle a girl could ever have. So many memories through our lives, all are wonderful. God has you in his graces now and someday we will meet again. I know you are catching up with the rest of the group of friends that preceded you. Love you always

Sarah Jane Gedraitis - September 28, 2023 at 10:15 PM

MM

“ Marcy, Bruce and Michael McLennan purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Kenneth W. Willman.



Marcy, Bruce and Michael McLennan - September 28, 2023 at 08:13 PM

MM

“ Marcy, Bruce and Michael McLennan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth W. Willman.

Marcy, Bruce and Michael McLennan - September 28, 2023 at 08:13 PM

MN

“ I will never forget how sweet both Ken and Jackie were to mom after my dad had passed away. They always included her in group outings and even after she moved closer to me, they were two of the few people who came to visit her even though she was 90 minutes away. I was honored that they let me stay at their house one snowy winter night because it was closer to the hospital and I had been locked out of her condo. I cherished our dinners at Bergers together (now I always think of Ken when I drink a Blue Moon). We would sit and talk for hours about the latest happenings with Elizabeth and the grandkids. He was so very proud of them. I considered Ken and Jackie to be my "earthly parents" when my parents passed on. They the kind of love that is very rare and set a great example of what a true relationship should be. My heart goes out to Jackie and Elizabeth. Nothing can ever fill the void of this legendary man. He will be forever missed.

Marcy Ng - September 28, 2023 at 07:52 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth W. Willman.



September 28, 2023 at 01:43 PM

DM

“ You were the matriarch of the Boulevard and will be missed. You're spirit will live on. Debbie Melkonian

Debbie Melkonian - September 28, 2023 at 11:53 AM

CD

“ Ken was a fantastic neighbor and friend. He will be missed by all his Adams Blvd neighbors. Hugs and prayers for his family. Vic and Cherie Davila

cherie davila - September 28, 2023 at 11:03 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth W. Willman.



September 28, 2023 at 10:44 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth W. Willman.



September 28, 2023 at 10:35 AM

TM

“ Ken and Jackie were early supporters for the project to purchase, move, and restore Saginaw's oldest remaining home, the Benjamin Cushway House. They also played a significant role in furnishing the house with appropriate items. Ken served on the board of directors, and Ken and Jackie attended practically all meetings and events held at the home. They were largely responsible for the success of the project. Ken was a gift to Saginaw's history through his dedication to the Castle Museum, the Saginaw County Antique Society and the Saginaw County Historic Preservation Society. And t top it off, Ken was just such a wonderful person, sincere and giving.

Tom Mudd - September 28, 2023 at 09:12 AM



Oh Tom, this was so lovely. Thank you so much! Elizabeth

Elizabeth Morabito - September 28, 2023 at 12:04 PM

RM

Not only was Ken involved in Saginaw history and the organizations, but he was a regular at the monthly Arthur Hill luncheons. He will be missed!

Roberta Morey - September 28, 2023 at 06:06 PM

JW

When John and I joined the group at Florida, Ken was always caring for us by including us in the gatherings.. I thought Ken was such a positive person-accepting people for their positive qualities not the negatives. He gave of himself where ever he went. I enjoyed the time we worked together at the Antique Warehouse with our memories of days gone by. A very special man has left this world to the glories of heaven.

Judy Wilson - September 30, 2023 at 10:30 AM