



Kenneth Davies Allen

APR 13, 1935 - APR 18, 2020



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On April 18, 2020 Kenneth D. Allen departed for the wild blue yonder. He leaves behind his old cars, dogs, horses, tractors, the farm he built and loved, three moderately functional children and his beloved wife of 62 years, Rosanne.

Born to Eliza and Kenneth C. Allen on April 13, 1935 in Dayton Ohio, Ken was a brilliant man and a talented engineer. He went to Oakwood High School and graduated magna cum laude at the top of his class from Purdue University. His engineering career took him from Hobart where he worked for seventeen years to Mac Tools and finally to his own business, K&R Technologies where he did innovative projects for his clients until the last few weeks of his life.

Some of his more interesting engineering feats included building his own car from the ground up in his basement, a masterpiece later featured in Road and Track magazine. He also built a fully operational railroad handcar and took his friends on many harrowing adventures on active train tracks. He built bridges and boats and barn doors. He liked machines and motorcycles. He could fix anything, and no mechanical problem was too puzzling. He loved model trains, real trains, covered bridges and old things of all kinds. He taught his kids how to drive a stick shift, how to light a fire, how to be polite, and how to see the humor in life. He showed them how to build and create and stick with it and how to appreciate nature. He loved music, and his family grew up to a soundtrack of Johnny Cash, Chet Atkins and Joan Baez. He loved car races, fixing cars, driving cars, car people and antique cars. Recalling Ken, it's hard not to picture him cranking a fussy Model T into reluctant action or with his head under the hood of a moody Corvair.

Ken always encouraged Rose's love of riding. He was proud of her accomplishments and cared for their horses and ponies by her side. Later in life, he became interested in antique buggies, and he and Rose enjoyed driving together. Among all his interests, the adventures and achievements of his grandchildren were his favorite topic of conversation.

Ken passed after an illness that was probably long but seemed short to all who knew him because he never complained. He expressed gratitude for his family, his friends, his neighbors and all who



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cared for him to the very end.

He is survived by his wife, Rosanne, his younger brother Ned Allen and his wife Suzie, his children, Terry, Jim and Cathy and their spouses, Steve, Michelle and Bill. He will be fondly and epically remembered by his grandchildren, Randy, Ben, Ryan, Elizabeth and Carol.

A lifelong member of his very own church of the great outdoors, Ken adamantly did not want a funeral. His remains will be placed at Woodland Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio alongside his beloved parents.

You are welcome to send a condolence, plant a tree and share a story or picture about Ken here on his Online Book of Memories.



Tribute Wall

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NH

Nancy J. Huston posted:

In honor of Kenneth D. Allen, my Director and friend at Hobart Corporation, Dayton Scale Plant. God's blessings to him and his loving family.

March 11 at 11:44 AM

GC

Greg Taylor, Mason Company posted:

This is from Greg Taylor. I knew Ken thru the Mason Company. He was instrumental in helping us grow, and was always a gentleman.

March 11 at 11:44 AM

KK

Kathy Kavanaugh posted:

Dear Rosie and Family, We are sorry to learn of Ken's death. We have so many good memories of our times spent together. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Ginny Whalen and Family, Kathy, Mike, Bill, and Hew

March 11 at 11:44 AM

BL

Brad And Jill Luckenbill posted:

Such a beautifully written tribute! Obviously a well lived life. Sending you peace and prayers -

March 11 at 11:44 AM

JU

Jeff Ursell posted:

So sorry for your loss. I worked with Ken for 22 years thru the Mason Company. He was a great friend and taught me a lot. I am going to miss him.

March 11 at 11:44 AM

HP

Harriet Pansing posted:

My condolences to Roseann & family. They were partners ever since high school & spent a lifetime together. I heard many stories of their time together at our trail rides & lunches. Much love at Rose's time of grief. Harriet Pansing. MVHunt & Camargo Hunt member.

March 11 at 11:44 AM



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RF

Robert Fahrendorf posted:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Ken Allen for most of my adult life. His mother and mine were lifelong friends. Liza and Ken Sr., shared a friendship with my parents for as long as I can remember. Ken and Rose have shown my family the same warmth and caring for more than three decades. Ken and I have shared the joy and frustration of dealing with farm equipment, British cars, and boats, both power and sail. His keen intellect and sense of humor will be truly missed. Enjoy "The Wild Blue Yonder" my friend. With our deepest condolences. Bob and Monica Fahrendorf

March 11 at 11:44 AM

TB

Troy Brown posted:

Ken Allen had a significant impact on my life and I will always be grateful for our friendship. He definitely is the person who I call my mentor as an engineer. We worked together on projects at American Tool Company and Mason Company. I will always cherish our conversations. I learned so much from my friend Ken. He would always love talking and sharing about family updates too. My condolences to Rose and the family. with love, Troy

March 11 at 11:44 AM

TB

Troy Brown posted:

Ken Allen was such an important person in my life. I'll miss him greatly.

March 11 at 11:44 AM

TF

The Whalen Family posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.

March 11 at 11:44 AM



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JW

James Waldren posted:

I didn't know that Ken had passed on and we are sorry to have missed it but, I know that he is having fun with all of his friends in heaven. Ken was my dad's best friend and co-worker at Hobart Dayton Scale Div. and beyond dad's retirement. After my dad died in 2003, Ken called us every year afterward to check on my mom until her death in 2015. He was a true friend and an honorable man. He was a quiet man and he and Dad always had a good time whatever it was that they did together both professionally and personally. I will always remember him and Rose for just being such great friends to my family. RIP Ken. Jim Waldren.

March 11 at 11:44 AM

LW

Larry Wheeler October 29 at 5:11 PM

Jim, I spent many hours with your dad on the golf course and in many other settings including with Ken at the Dayton Gym club. Loved them both very much, Couldn't have had better friends and mentors. I was so lucky to have known them. Both honorable! Larry Wheeler

TA

Terry Allen posted:

Happy Birthday Dad! It is spring. The farm is still beautiful, the animals all happy. Your kids miss you and Mom is running strong, with you ever in her thoughts.

March 11 at 11:44 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Kenneth by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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