



## Kenneth E Anderson

January 8, 1944 - March 19, 2019

Kenneth E. Anderson, 75  
Kearney Resident

Ken Anderson, 75, of Kearney, passed away surrounded by family and friends on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at Kearney Regional Medical Center. Memorial services will be 1:00 pm Saturday, March 23, 2019 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Kearney. The Rev. Mother Stephanie Swinnea and the Rev. Dr. Charles Peek will officiate. Inurnment will be at St. Luke's Church Columbarium. The family will receive friends 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday at the O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home.

Memorials are suggested to the Ken and Linda Anderson Scholarship through UNK College of Business and Technology, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, or the Kearney Public Schools Foundation. Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com). Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Kenneth Eugene Anderson was born on January 8, 1944 in Kearney, NE to Joyce and Ardis (Ingram) Anderson. He grew up in Kearney and attended Kearney High School, graduating with the class of 1962. He went on to further his education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, graduating in 1968.

On June 11, 1966, he was united in marriage to Linda Keating in Omaha, and to this union three sons were born: Brad, Scott and Mike.

Ken owned and operated Anderson Kitchens for many years. He was a national award-winning certified kitchen designer. In 1985, he co-founded Task Lighting which he owned until retiring in the fall of 2018. He holds numerous U.S. patents and was inducted into the National Kitchen and Bath Hall of Fame in 2009. Ken has a Humanitarian Award named in his honor by a subgroup within the kitchen and bath industry. He was a strong supporter of young entrepreneurs including student mentoring, serving on the advisory board for the UNK college of Business and Technology. He and Linda established a scholarship to support UNK business students.

He was an active member in St. Luke's and in the Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska. Ken has served on many local committees to benefit the Kearney community including being a Colonel for the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce, a past member of the Downtown Improvement Board, Kearney Public Schools Foundation Board, and most recently, President of the Central Nebraska Senior Golf Association. Ken was a talented artist, enjoyed golfing but above all he was a family man.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Linda Anderson of Kearney; sons, Brad Anderson and his wife, Kelle Hunt-Anderson, Scott Anderson and his wife, Jean, and Mike Anderson and his wife, Michelle, all of Kearney; grandchildren, Misty, Levijames, Devin, Maddie and Max; sisters, Cheryl Schroeder of Columbus and Cindy Fahrenbruch and her husband, Jim of Loomis; brother, Tim Anderson and his wife, Carla of Ashland; in-laws, Bob Wiester of Kearney; Pat and Ken Beebe of North Bend, and Larry and Judy Keating of Valley; along with many nieces, nephews, Godchildren, other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joyce and Ardis Anderson, parents in law, Edmond and Phyllis Keating; sister, Jackie Wiester; and brother-in-law, Norman Schroeder.

# Previous Events

## Family receiving friends

MAR **22**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Homes and Cremations  
4115 Ave N  
Kearney, NE 68847  
(308) 234-3500  
info@osrfh.com  
<https://www.osrfh.com>

## Memorial Service

MAR **23**. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
2304 N. 2nd Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth E Anderson*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers are with the Anderson family from everyone at the National Kitchen & Bath Association. May he rest in peace. - Bill Darcy*

**Bill Darcy** - April 04, 2019 at 01:24 PM



“ *Linda and family, we are so sorry to hear this sad news. Ken was proof that you could be a good man and a successful business man. We are so happy to have known him, and we will miss him at conferences. Our thoughts are with you. Rich, Cathy & Scott Norman, Kitchen & Bath Design Center, Fort Collins, CO*

**Cathy Norman** - March 29, 2019 at 07:08 PM



“ *So sad to hear of Ken's passing. He was a great man! His knowledge will be a loss to the kitchen/bath community. I looked forward to seeing him at the BKBG meetings twice a year. He and Linda were a lovely couple. May he rest in peace. Hugs to Linda. We will be praying for peace for the family. Tracy & Denny Caruso*

**Tracy Johnston Caruso** - March 29, 2019 at 11:48 AM



“ I am very sad to hear of Ken's passing. His commitment to education, especially in the kitchen and bath industry, cannot be underestimated! I met Ken while he was the proctor for my CKD exam and he never forgot me. I stopped by to see him every time we were both at KBIS and he was always excited to show me his new products and to talk about my career. I will miss seeing him and our industry will miss his ingenuity. Praying for comfort for his family, who will miss him most.

*Pam Magner*

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**Pam Bowman Magner** - March 28, 2019 at 03:54 PM



“ I just learned of Ken's passing. I remember a conversation with him at KBIS when LED's were in the infancy stage. He was always willing to share his knowledge. He was well respected in the industry. Rest in peace Ken.

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**Adel Visser** - March 28, 2019 at 01:42 PM



“ I am sorry to hear of Ken's passing. Of course, I found the announcement on the NKBA.org website. :) I am a former intern that is forever grateful for the experience that Ken gave me during my time there. 21 years later, I am still in the industry doing well and his influence was a big part of that. To Linda and family, my thoughts are with you. Kristin (Kaul) Lewandowski

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**Kristin Lewandowski** - March 27, 2019 at 04:46 PM

RC

“ *This is such sad news...Ken was a true gentleman and I will never forget him. His kind heart, welcoming demeanor and willingness to share his incredible wealth of knowledge touched so many in our industry. My deepest condolences to Linda and Ken's entire family...*

*My heart is heavy...*

*Rick Caccavello, Central Kitchen & Bath Past President, BKBG*

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**Rick Caccavello** - March 26, 2019 at 12:57 PM

PG

“ *May Ken's memory be a blessing to all who new him. A great man, a great friend, he will be missed.... My condolences to you Linda, and your entire family.*

*Paul Greenspan*

*Central Kitchen & Bath/Milwaukee Kitchen & Bath*

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**Paul Greenspan** - March 26, 2019 at 11:49 AM

DB

“ Ken,  
Your smile and caring attitude to life and those around you will be missed. Your willingness to help was also one of the great traits about you. Michele and I will forever miss seeing you in the kitchen industry. Linda, you were his forever partner, always with a smile on your face. We can only think that Ken is in God's hands now and they both will be looking down on you till the time when you join him in heaven.

*Best wishes to you and the family in a time of sorrow.*

*Denis & Michele Buch  
Boone Creek Cabinetry & Design  
McHenry, Illinois*

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**denis buch** - March 25, 2019 at 05:24 PM

CW

“ Ken was a loyal client of mine, for many years. I will miss his caring words for me & my family. Always thinking of others!! God Bless. Connie Welty



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**connie welty** - March 24, 2019 at 11:06 AM

CW

“ Ken was a loyal client of mine. What a very Special, kind & caring man, with a loving heart. God Bless Connie Welty

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**connie welty** - March 22, 2019 at 09:08 PM

CW

“ *Connie Welty lit a candle in memory of Kenneth E Anderson*



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**connie welty** - March 22, 2019 at 09:02 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kenneth E Anderson.*



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March 22, 2019 at 04:28 PM

DM

“ *Ken was truly a "friend and supporter of education". He gave generously of his time and talent and treasure to the Interior Design Program at the University of Nebraska at Kearney and its students for many years. Many many graduates benefited from his support over the years. His service to the National Kitchen and Bath Association was notably recognized with his induction into the National Hall of Fame. My students and I will remember him with great fondness and gratitude for all he did for education. Dr. Phyllis Markussen, retired Department Chair and Professor of Interior Design, University of Nebraska - Kearney.*

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**Dr. Phyllis Markussen** - March 22, 2019 at 03:36 PM

RW

“ Oh Linda I just now saw the notice of Ken's death in the Lincoln paper. I am so sorry. Please know I am thinking of you. I just lost my husband in late November. Becky Haas Williams

Rebecca Haas Williams - March 22, 2019 at 02:46 PM

MK

“ Michael Kachala purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kenneth E Anderson.



Michael Kachala - March 22, 2019 at 01:20 PM

NG

“ So many times I visit the memory of celebrating Linda's birthday several years ago when you lived "down by the lake". One of the most spontaneous and delightful evenings of my life. When we have seen one another over the years on occasion and every time I get such a warm fuzzy feeling. Ken had a special way. We will miss him..In sadness and prayer. Nancy and Fred Gorge

nancy george - March 22, 2019 at 12:04 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Kenneth E Anderson.



March 22, 2019 at 11:27 AM

CM

“ Ken was such a gentle man. He was so willing to help me with a presentation I was to give in Boston several years ago. I have good memories of our conversations over the years at various St. Luke's activities. Know that you are all in my prayers.

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**Cheryl Munsinger** - March 22, 2019 at 11:18 AM

YD

“ I began working at Barney Insurance in 1957 -- Ken was about 13-14 years old when I met him - he and his parents, Cindy, Jackie and Cherie all crossed paths in our lives here in Kearney over the past 55-60 years. I always marveled at the closeness of the family and the good times they had at the lake. Linda, Cindy and Jim, Cheryl , Tim , Bob W. - so sorry for your loss. I admired Ken and his accomplishments over the years. He was special...

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**Yvonne Deyle** - March 22, 2019 at 09:39 AM

BS

“ Linda, Brad, Scott, Mike & Family - words can not express how much Ken will be missed. He truly was one of a kind. I will be forever grateful for the opportunities he created for me and thankful for all the wonderful Nebraska memories I have with all of you. God Bless and peace be with you all now and in the days ahead.

*Love from Florida - Barb & Bill Specht*

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**Barb Specht** - March 22, 2019 at 08:01 AM

NM

“ Ken was so kind to me in many ways. He welcomed me into the family with love. He was an engaging person to converse with I enjoyed every minute talking with him, it was always very interesting. I will miss him dearly and feel sad for all of us left with heavy hearts. All my love to Linda and the family.



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**Nanci Messner** - March 21, 2019 at 07:16 PM

FA

“ Linda and the all of Ken’s family,

*Ken & I often joked about being brothers when introduced to our Central NE senior golfers. Whichever of us had the first chance to speak would often introduce the other as “my younger & better looking brother”. I’m pretty sure Ken started it as he had a great sense of dry humor. He was dedicated to the Central Nebraska Senior Golf Association and did a great job as President of our group. I had the pleasure of working closely with Ken these last few years, and totally respected his opinions and ability. I will miss him dearly, as I know that you do as well. Dwell on the good times and memories. Life is short and must be enjoyed each day, none of us know how many we have left. Ken knew this well and did enjoy what ever he was doing.*

*On behalf of CNSGA and myself personally you have our deepest sympathy. I wish I could be in Nebraska to attend the services and to honor Ken. Know that he and you are in my thoughts.*

*Best wishes*

*FA “Andy” Anderson*

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**FA "Andy" Anderson** - March 21, 2019 at 06:28 PM

TS

“ *The Willa Cather Foundation Board and Staff purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kenneth E Anderson.*



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**The Willa Cather Foundation Board and Staff** - March 21, 2019 at 04:02 PM

EP

“ *Our hearts goes to the whole family. At WarmlyYours we always had such a great pleasure to meet Ken at every show we were attending. What a great heart and soul we just lost. Our condolences to the family. Much Love, Elodie Pasek and WarmlyYours family*

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**Elodie Pasek** - March 21, 2019 at 12:48 PM



“ *Full Heart was purchased for the family of Kenneth E Anderson.*



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March 21, 2019 at 11:18 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Kenneth E Anderson.*



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March 21, 2019 at 11:03 AM

KP

“ Dear Linda, Brad, Scott, and Michael,  
There are really no words.....sitting here in my wonderful kitchen that Ken designed, then he and Bob put together. Times spent sitting around the island counter, early packaging for TASK, the honor Linda and Ken gave us to be godparents for Michael-- memories flood my heart and soul.  
I am grateful that that man was part of our lives. Thank you for sharing him with so many of us.  
Sending so much love and prayer to all of you, dear ones.

Karen

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**Karen Park** - March 20, 2019 at 09:17 PM

MQ

Because Ken hired Bill Wilkins to work for him at Anderson Inc, in August 1968, I had 16 years of St Luke's and KPS and the making lifelong friends. My sympathies to Linda and family. With love Mary Quinn (Wilkins).

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**Mary Quinn** - March 21, 2019 at 04:50 PM

BW

Dear Linda, Brad, Scott, Mike and family,  
Ken... my friend, my high school class mate, my long time golfing partner... I will miss you!  
Until we meet again - Thankyou for the memories!

Ben Welch

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**Ben Welch** - March 23, 2019 at 12:45 AM