



Kenneth E. Vannier

April 7, 1928 - January 29, 2019

Kenneth E. Vannier
Kearney Resident

Kenneth E. Vannier, 90, of Kearney passed away on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at Hillcrest Firethorn Rehabilitation Facility in Lincoln. Memorial services will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, February 4, 2019 at First Lutheran Church in Kearney. Pastors Rick and Michelle Carlson will officiate. Inurnment will take place following the service at the church columbarium with military honors provided by American Legion Post #52 and VFW Post #759 in conjunction with Nebraska National Guard Honors Team.

Memorials are suggested to the First Lutheran Church of Kearney and the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Kenneth Edward Vannier was born on April 7, 1928 in Hildreth, Nebraska to Louis J. and Mary (Koehn) Vannier. He grew up in the Hildreth area, until moving to Kearney in 1941 and he has lived in Kearney ever since. Kenneth graduated from Longfellow High School with the class of 1946. Kenneth proudly served his country in the National Guard from 1947 and was a full-time employee until his retirement in 1988. Kenneth also worked for the

Highway Department for over 8 years.

Kenneth was united in marriage to Elnor Kiehl on June 19, 1948 in Kearney and to this union four children were born: Mary Lou, David, Denise and Jolene.

Kenneth was a member of the First Lutheran Church in Kearney where he was a former council member and volunteered for the church in many different areas. He was also a member of Fort Kearney Area 2822 Eagles Club, the American Legion and the Color Guard. Kenneth was a past fire chief for the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department where he served for 27 years. He enjoyed woodworking, fishing and camping.

Left to cherish his memory are his son, David Vannier and spouse Kevin Marion of Plano, Texas; daughters, Denise D. Scott and her husband, Dennis of Kearney and Jolene A. Jelinek and her husband, Jay of Omaha; son-in-law, Donald Roth and wife, Jean of Lincoln; grandsons, Tim Roth and wife Sharleen of Lincoln, Nick Roth and wife Nicole of Lincoln, and Abraham Jelinek of Omaha; granddaughters, Amber Thygesen and husband Paul of Lincoln, Anndee Jelinek and Abbie Jelinek both of Omaha; four great grandchildren, Sarah, Jonathan, and Alivia Thygesen and Emma Lou Roth; along with many other relatives and many friends.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Elnor Vannier; daughter, Mary Lou Roth; his parents; sister, Ann Clark and brother, Robert Vannier.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 4. 10:30 AM (CT)

First Lutheran Church
3315 Ave G
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth E. Vannier*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Prayers & Blessings of Peace to Denise & all of Kenny's family. We only knew Kenny for 2 1/2 years. Yet as his neighbors, we will miss sharing a wave & hello over the backyard fence. I will miss stopping to chat about the weather, the Huskers and about how hard it was for Kenny to slow down. He still wanted to do it all and he particularly always mentioned how much he missed being part of the Color Guard. A life well lived by a man of integrity Kenny will be missed by many. Rest in Peace neighbor. Todd & Teresa*

Todd & Teresa Kirchner - February 05, 2019 at 09:53 PM



“ *Blessings to the whole family & friends of Ken. Such a dear man, who loved Christ & showed it in his faithful attendance in worship & his solid belief in the power of prayer.*

*Ken was one of the first people I met at First Lutheran when I started serving there, and now he is safely home with God.
Peace, Sylvia High Karlsson*

Sylvia Karlsson - February 02, 2019 at 07:17 PM

BH

“ Jackie and I send our deepest condolences to the Vannier family. Ken was one of a kind and a positive mentor to many. His dedication and commitment to family, community and to country was matched by few. Rest in peace, Ken.

Bob and Jackie Harpst

Bob Harpst - February 02, 2019 at 07:50 AM

MR

“ Marianne & Dave Wilson, Art, Barb & Jessica Romero purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Kenneth E. Vannier.



Marianne & Dave Wilson, Art, Barb & Jessica Romero -
January 31, 2019 at 05:00 PM

PP

“ God bless one of the good guys. May you Rest In Peace.

Pat Pennington - January 30, 2019 at 08:03 AM

FH

Our heartfelt condolences to Kenny's daughter Denise and family members. His memory and legacy will live in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

Kenny was and always will be remembered for his kindness, generosity and availability to help those in need. We were blessed to have he and his daughter Denise as neighbors for more than 20 years!

He always had a warm smile, hug and firm handshake whenever we greeted him.

May God envelop his family with His love, comfort, and grace throughout this very difficult time!

Love,

Ford and Theresa Harris

Ford Harris - February 02, 2019 at 03:14 PM

LH

Thoughts and prayers to Denise and family. Spent a lot of time when younger at the Vannier home and your Dad and Mom always made me feel like part of the family. Thinking of you during this time.

Mark & Lori Hasty (Wiles)

Lori Hasty - February 02, 2019 at 07:49 PM

DR

My father, Edward Reese, was in the National Guard with Kenny. I met Kenny at my father's funeral. It was great hearing the stories and chatting with him. Dad & Kenny drove back from Camp McCoy, Wisconsin in a jeep after Kenny's father had a heart attack. I have scanned a number of items from Dad's military collection featuring Kenny. Contact me if you would like to see them.

<https://www.facebook.com/dan.reese.735>

Dan Reese - February 17, 2019 at 08:25 PM