



Kent S. Smallcomb

July 4, 1940 - June 30, 2017

Kent S. Smallcomb, 76 of Kearney, died Friday, June 30, 2017 at his residence. Funeral services will be 10:30 AM, Thursday at First Lutheran Church in Kearney. The Rev. Sylvia Karlsson will officiate. Interment will be in the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-7PM, Wednesday at O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home in Kearney.

Kent Stan Smallcomb was born on July 4, 1940, in Chappell NE to Edward and Myrtle (Harris) Smallcomb. He grew up in Kearney and was a 1958 graduate of Kearney High School. After graduation he joined the Nebraska National Guard. He graduated from Kearney State College in 1964 where he was a member of the Phi Tau Gamma and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternities. Kent married Joan Casper on January 28, 1962 at St. Peters Lutheran Church in Hildreth. Four sons were born to this union: Jeffrey, Heath, Kenneth and David.

He became a Field Director for the American Heart Associations in Kansas, Northern California and Southern Illinois. In 1974 they returned to Kearney to operate and later own Hilltop Bowling Lanes. After retiring in 1997, Kent began his 20 year career working at Ace Hardware.

Kent was a member of First Lutheran Church, 1733 Barbershopper's Chorus, Patent Pending Quartet, Kearney Men's Bowling Association, Kearney Bowling Hall of Fame and Eagles Club. Kent and Jo were honored to be awarded the Kearney Hub Freedom award in 1998 and 2007 inducted into the Nebraska Bowling Proprietor's Hall of Fame. In May 2017, Kent participated in

his 32nd National Bowling Tournament. In 2004 Kent and his bowling partner Larry Harrington won the Classified Doubles Division of this tournament. Singing was a very special part of Kent's life. He shared his talent honoring friends at their wedding, funeral or special events. His quartet singing began in 1958.

Kent also enjoyed gardening. He took pride in his flower and gardening displays at the Buffalo County and Nebraska State fairs.

Kent was a regular participant in Cruise night and the Gibbon 4th of July parade. He enjoyed taking his grandkids for a ride in his 1951 ford convertible. Kent is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jo. Sons, Jeff and wife Jodi of Broken Bow, Heath and wife Amanda of Kearney, Kenny and wife Amber of Sioux City IA and David of Kearney. Grandchildren, Jake, Emily and fiancé Dillon Glause of Broken Bow, Emma and Beau of Sioux City IA and Jackson and wife Rachel, Cooper and Charleigh of Kearney. Brother Dale Smallcomb and wife Beverly of Tempe AZ, Sister-in-law Glenda Smallcomb of Ukiah CA, Brother-in-law Bob Vogt of Kearney, Brothers -in-law Larry Casper and wife Jane Hise, Dean Casper and wife Naomi Fritson and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, five brothers , Delwyn, Donald, David Dee, Oren and Darol and his twin sister Karen Vogt.

Memorials are suggested to First Lutheran Church, Jubilee Center or Donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 233-3244

Tribute Wall



“ *Kent S. Smallcomb*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *Jo and boys-Jerry and I were so sorry to hear about Kent's passing. We wanted you to know we are thinking of you and your families. We will keep you all in our prayers. Jerry and Jane Searcey*

Jane Searcey - July 14, 2017 at 01:01 PM



“ *I don't recall a time I ever saw Kent without a smile. And certainly he was one of the best basses in the CSD. He will be sadly missed. Best wishes to all his family and friends. We have lost a true gentlemen, a leader and a friend. Rest in peace, my barbershop brother.*

jim bagby

jim bagby - July 12, 2017 at 01:05 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of Kent's passing--always missed him when I quit bowling, but did get to see him at Ace Hardware from time to time. He left behind a lot of great memories from all of his friends. He was ALWAYS smiling. RIP Kent.*

Leona A Coons - July 06, 2017 at 11:07 AM

DS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. He was not only a great guy but he was my friend. We had a lot of great fun together. I watched the boys turn into terrific young men. We worked together in bowling and we got the first state tournament in Kearney.

dennis shultz - July 06, 2017 at 09:36 AM

MS

“ Sorry to hear of Kent's passing. Our condolences, Marji and Randy Shackleton

Marji Shackleton - July 05, 2017 at 10:26 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kent S. Smallcomb.



July 05, 2017 at 02:42 PM

CA

“ I became aware of Kent's singing talents when I accompanied him at various funerals. He had a wonderful voice, and it was such a joy to be around him. I last saw him before I left Kearney and moved to Colorado. He will be missed.
..... Christine Atkinson

Christine Atkinson - July 05, 2017 at 12:25 AM

JS

Thank you Chris. We were so blessed to listen to Kent's cd of *The Lord's Prayer and What a Wonderful World* at his service. The piano accompanist was wonderful. Thanks for helping Kent make the cd.

jo smallcomb - July 19, 2017 at 12:27 PM

M(

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Kent's passing. He was one of my favorite people when I worked at Ace and I loved seeing him when I popped in the store when I was in Kearney. Thoughts and prayers with his family and friends.

Mary Chada (Bendig) - July 04, 2017 at 09:22 AM

LG

“ Larry Giddings lit a candle in memory of Kent S. Smallcomb



Larry Giddings - July 03, 2017 at 06:57 PM

LG

“ Kent was the man I called, "Pops", He was the closest thing I had to a dad growing up. I remember blowing Jr League with Kent as our coach. He took 5 youth bowlers and turned them into one scary bowling team. We were the original young guns coming into The Kearney Men's Classic Bowling League. He always had a smile on his face and a song on his lips. He will be missed, but never forgotten! God got one heck of a singer and bowler this week. MISS YOU, POPS!!!

Larry Giddings - July 03, 2017 at 06:56 PM

JN

“ To my good friend, KENT. I will always remember when I first came up to Kearney from Republican City, as Ruth and I were both teaching there. When Fran found out we had moved to Rep City, he was on the phone inviting me to come up and sing. Besides Fran, who was the first one to come up to me and say hi, you guessed it, it was you Kent. And when we moved back to Syracuse, and returned to singing with the Lincoln Continentals, I came back to the Spring Shows of the 1733 Chorus, again Kent was the first one to shake my hand and welcome me. What a rich Bass voice, and a great quartet man he was. If my memory serves me right, I think you sang with Fran and the Shamrock quartet. You will be missed greatly as a friend and singer. God be with your family as they are going through this tragedy. I hope to make it back the service.

Jerry and Ruth Neeman

Jerry Neeman - July 03, 2017 at 02:12 PM

RM

“ God Just need a Good Bass for another Quartet ---Rest in peace good buddy . Ron Mays

Ron Mays - July 03, 2017 at 11:39 AM



“ Kent my friend I will miss you. I remember when I first met you. I was like 4 1/2 or 5. My Grandpa got me starting singing with the Barbershoppers. You were always genuinely interested in how I was doing, always had good words of advice for me even when I got older and quit singing with you all. I will never forget you. Your one of a kind. Love you my friend.

Shawn Krueger - July 02, 2017 at 09:00 PM

SE

“ *My deepest sympathy to you and your family on your loss. Kent was the nicest neighbor when you had the bowling alley. We'll miss him so much. God bless. Steve Engen.*

Steve Engen - July 01, 2017 at 09:37 AM

MW

“ *Kent was such a special man – hearing Kent sing was such a privilege – I have great memories of being in a league at the bowling alley – eating at the bowling alley – going to Glimmers at the bowling alley – I could always count on Kent's great smile – Jo – I am so sorry for your loss – I live in Arizona now and my back will not allow me to come to the funeral – love and hugs from Arizona*

Marci Walker - July 01, 2017 at 01:01 AM

VF

My thoughts and prayers are with you Jo and your family so very sorry for your loss.

Vickie Farrer - July 01, 2017 at 01:52 PM

BR

Kent was one,awesome person all the way from the bowling alley to Barbershop singing to Ace Hardware..he will be greatly missed

Bobbi Rasmussen - July 01, 2017 at 09:38 PM

DA

Sending my love, prayers and sympathy. I do wish I could be there with you but can not. I have many great memories of my cousin and will so miss him.

Donna Akeson - July 02, 2017 at 09:12 AM

GW

Some of the most fun I ever had was singing in Habitat for Harmony quartet with Kent. Sending my prayers and thoughts to Jo and family.

Gary Weddel - July 03, 2017 at 02:06 PM

JA

“ I will miss your smile and the songs in your heart.

Jimmi Ann Anderson - July 01, 2017 at 12:54 AM

CK

“ It was such a pleasure to sing with this gentleman and see the crowd laugh and enjoy our shows .. we had just as much fun as the crowd Patent Pending can never be replaced .. good job Mr Ghost Rider. We all have just a short time on this earth and Kent made that time so good for me and everyone else connected with him

Craig Knispel - June 30, 2017 at 11:57 PM

KS

“ I don't know where to start Kent has been apart of my life from bowling to singing when I got my habitat home he will be dearly missed! Love Kerstin Schroeder

Kerstin Schroeder - June 30, 2017 at 09:32 PM

BR

“ Prayers to the family. What a wonderful kind man always smiling. May he be at peace

Brenda Rainwater - June 30, 2017 at 07:56 PM