



## Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda

December 30, 1945 - September 14, 2023

Clay Center, NE resident Kenneth "Ken" J. Kalvoda, 77, passed away Thursday, September 14, 2023, at Mary Lanning Healthcare in Hastings, NE.

A Rosary will be prayed at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel (New Building, 204 W. Johnson Street) in Clay Center, NE. Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church in Deweese, NE with Father Denton Morris officiating. A time of fellowship will follow the service at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Clay Center, NE. The family will welcome guests on Tuesday, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel in Clay Center (New Building, 204 W. Johnson Street).

In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Harvard, NE., Clay Center Fire & Rescue, or the Clay Center Daycare.

"Keep it simple." That's all Ken ever wanted. And he did just that by leading a very simple life.

Kenneth Joseph Kalvoda was born in Hastings on December 30, 1945, to Adolph and Amelia (Hubl) Kalvoda. He was raised on a farm near Spring

Ranch attending Prairie Rose and Antioch Elementary Schools before attending Lawrence High school where he met his future bride Judy (Brockman) Kalvoda. Ken graduated high school in 1964 and immediately went to work for Werner Construction. Other than a stint with the National Guard in which he was enlisted from 1966-1971, he worked at Werner until retirement in 2018. Besides working for Werner, Ken was an active member of the Clay Center American Legion for over 50 years and St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Harvard, NE.

He was united in marriage to Judy on January 17, 1966, at St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Lawrence, NE, and settled in Clay Center, NE where they raised their children and resided until his death on September 14. Ken was known for his jolly nature and quick smile. He worked long hours but was always present at his kids' sporting events. NASCAR racing was his usual lazy Sunday activity. It was a really good Sunday when Bill Elliott claimed the checkered flag.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents, Adolph and Amelia Kalvoda; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Norbert and Evelyn (Menke) Brockman; and brother-in-law, Marvin Brockman.

Ken is survived by his wife of 57 years, Judy Kalvoda of Clay Center; children, Tammy Batterman of Clay Center; Kris Lewis of Lincoln; Mike and Stacey Kalvoda of Grand Island; Mark and Jen Kalvoda of Blair; son-in-law, Doug Lewis; grandchildren, Kyle and Amanda Knight; Cole Knight; Brandon Knight; Seth Lewis; Riley Lewis and Kylie DeBaets; Sam Lewis and Emma Schoepf; Olivia Kalvoda; Avery Kalvoda; Allison Kalvoda; Madison Kalvoda; Kennedy Kalvoda; and McKinley Kalvoda; great-grandchildren, Rhylan Knight; Skyler Knight; and Sutton Lewis; sisters and brothers-in-law, Norma and Dennis Mason of Marysville, KS; Irene and Arnie Mertens of Lincoln, NE; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. Virgil and Mary Lou Brockman; Pat and Rosie

Brockman; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Carolyn and Ray Mazour of Blue Hill, NE; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

# Previous Events

## Family Present At Book Signing

SEP **19**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

McLaughlin Funeral Chapel  
204 W. Johnson Street  
Clay Center, NE 68933  
(402) 762-3474  
suttonmemorial@windstream.net  
<http://www.mclaughlinchapel.com/>

## Rosary

SEP **19**. 7:00 PM (CT)

McLaughlin Funeral Chapel  
204 W. Johnson Street  
Clay Center, NE 68933  
(402) 762-3474  
suttonmemorial@windstream.net  
<http://www.mclaughlinchapel.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church  
506 Liberty  
Deweese, NE 68934

# Tribute Wall

KJ

“ I am saddened to find that Kenny has passed away. I met Kenny when I was a highway inspector for NDOR. We worked together on building the extra two lanes of hwy 81. I hadn't seen him since the early 2000's, but I often thought of him thru the years. He was so kind and always smiling. He always spoke so lovingly of Judy. He was a good friend. I will always remember him. My deepest sympathy to his family.

*Kimberly Jirkovsky*

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Kimberly Jirkovsky - August 09, 2024 at 10:59 PM

MI

“ I was so sad to hear of Ken's passing. A great guy and a treasured friend. We had so much fun when we got together. Ken, wherever you are save a spot for me. I couldn't be in better company.

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Marv Itzen - September 20, 2023 at 04:55 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



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September 19, 2023 at 04:00 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



September 19, 2023 at 03:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.

September 19, 2023 at 03:47 PM



“ Elkhorn South Math Department purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



**Elkhorn South Math Department** - September 19, 2023 at 02:19 PM



“ Our prayers are with Judy and the family. Ken and Judy were a big part of our Clay Center experience and were always present for Wildcat games when growing up. He will be missed! Thinking of you all. Jeremy & Gretchen Anderson

**Jeremy Anderson** - September 19, 2023 at 11:06 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



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September 18, 2023 at 10:54 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.

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September 18, 2023 at 10:54 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



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September 18, 2023 at 08:05 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



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September 18, 2023 at 06:01 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



September 18, 2023 at 03:20 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



September 18, 2023 at 10:00 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



September 18, 2023 at 09:29 AM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



September 17, 2023 at 06:52 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.

September 17, 2023 at 06:52 PM



“ Marv & Bobbie Itzen lit a candle in memory of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda



Marv & Bobbie Itzen - September 17, 2023 at 01:20 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Ken" Joseph Kalvoda.



September 16, 2023 at 01:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth "Ken" J. Kalvoda.

September 16, 2023 at 01:35 PM