



## Curt Berkey

January 13, 1943 - June 11, 2020

Curtis Deane Berkey, 77, Rossville, Kansas, passed away at his home, surrounded by his family, Thursday, June 11, 2020, following an heroic battle against pancreatic cancer.

Curt was born January 13, 1943, to the late Don and Mary Jane Nicholson Berkey. A life-long resident of Rossville, Curt graduated from Rossville High School in 1961 and attended Kansas State University. He was drafted by the LA Dodgers farm team as a pitcher, but a combine accident put an end to those dreams.

On October 25, 1989, Curt and JoAnne (Conway) McDonnell were married, enjoying more than 30 years together. For the last 13 years they were pleased to leave Kansas winters behind for the warmth of Mesa, Arizona.

Curt was very proud of farming for almost 58 years. A life-long educator in the farming community, Curt mentored many young farmers. He was old school and proud that his rows were straighter than those being put in by GPS. A very honorable man, Curt loved his family and friends and his presence will be greatly missed.

Curt was a member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Nation.

Grateful to have shared Curt's life are his wife, JoAnne; children, Keith Berkey (Kim) Rossville, Angela Shriner (Kevin) Cape Coral, Florida, Shannon Frodge, Mobile, Alabama, Brad McDonnell, Denver, Colorado; grandchildren, Kalli Shriner (Jav Palomo) Boca Raton, Florida, Kohen Shriner (Lilly Sheridan) Las Cruces, New Mexico, Skyler McDonnell, Florida; great-granddaughter, Molly and her mother, Harlie Nemechek, Rossville; sister, PJ Berkey, Kansas City, Kansas; brother-in-law, Jamie Conway (Gayle) Topeka; and nieces and nephews.

Curt's family will greet friends from 5 until 7 p.m. Thursday, June 18, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. A Celebration of Curt's Life will be Friday at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Inurnment will be private at Rossville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to Shawnee County Fire District #3, Rossville, or to Midland Care Hospice, sent in care of the funeral home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

## A Celebration of Life

JUN 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Curt Berkey*



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - June 18, 2020 at 07:03 PM



“ *Curt Berkey*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *JoAnne, Keith, Brad & Family,  
We were so sorry to hear of Curt's passing.  
We were on our way to Texas to see Mick &  
family when we found out. Otherwise we  
would have been there to express our  
heartfelt sympathies. May your memories help comfort you in this  
sad time. We have such great memories of Curt & you all. May You  
Rest In Peace & God Speed Our Ole' Friend.....*



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**Sis & Wilbur Stum, Jr.** - June 25, 2020 at 04:29 PM

DL

“ We are saddened to learn of Curt's passing. There are so many delightful memories of Curt through twelve years of school as a classmate and those memories continue to bring a smile to me. After high school and marriage Curt and Pat along with other high school couples had good times playing cards together. Curt and Patty were great friends...children born...more memories shared. Once when a flood threatened us...Curt insisted we come stay at their home. I always smile when I recall him preparing eggplant for us and saying it tasted just like steak. Due to a present health issue I regret I will not be able to attend Curt's services. I had so looked forward to visiting with you Angela and Keith. our heartfelt sympathy to you both and Joanne and Pam. May God's loving embrace comfort you all.

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**Dorothy Lloyd** - June 18, 2020 at 03:43 PM

DH

“ JoAnne, we are really sorry for your loss and feeling bad about not being able to be there supporting you through this sad time. I'm not up to traveling with my surgery and the pandemic. Please rest assured we would be without doubt if possible. We have you and family in our thoughts and prayers. Dennis and Diane

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**Dennis Hatfield** - June 18, 2020 at 10:35 AM

DV

“ JoAnne,  
*The McCoy family sends it's sympathy and prayers to you and your family in the wake of Curt's passing. We were so sorry to hear that he's gone. He was a great man and he fought a very hard battle. May the memories of your lives together remain in your heart and give you strength through the days ahead. Please know we are thinking of you!*

*Love and prayers,  
Larry, Donna, Neldeene, Diana and Bill*

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**Diana (McCoy) Vollbeer** - June 18, 2020 at 10:01 AM

JD

“ *Joanne and family So sorry for your loss you are in our thoughts and prayers and may God bring comfort and healing in this difficult time Jim and Jan Dodge*

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**jim and Jan Dodge** - June 16, 2020 at 06:29 PM

JS

“ *It is with great sadness that Curtis has passed away. We went through all 12 grades of schools together and then went separate ways after High School. Though we never stayed in close contact over the years, we at times crossed paths and enjoyed our visits. Last time we came together was a year ago at Larry Ross' barber shop in Rossville. Curtis was a mighty fine baseball player and I am proud to have known him and to have been a friend. God Bless him and his family. - Jim Stadler*

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**James Stadler** - June 16, 2020 at 01:59 PM

PS

“ Pamela Smola purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Curt Berkey.



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**Pamela Smola** - June 15, 2020 at 06:44 PM

TM

“ Joanne and family,  
We're so sorry to hear off Curt's passing.  
You're in our thoughts.  
Tom and Marsha Madl

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**Tom Madl** - June 15, 2020 at 08:41 AM

DR

“ Curt was a good friend we started in the 1st Grade and went through High school. Spent many hours playing sports both Grade, High school and summer baseball, he was a good athlete always competitive wanting to win. While in FFA he was an officer and knew his part perfectly. I am sure he will be missed by many.  
Don Rogers

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**Don Rogers** - June 13, 2020 at 09:35 PM

BS

“ Curt was a great guy. We always had a laugh and interesting conversations. He told me once he could sit in his tractor in the middle of a field and he never felt so serene and at peace. That was his happy place. I know he is at peace now and in his really happy place. God love him. We was a very special person and I miss him.  
Barbara Sheridan

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**Barbara Sheridan** - June 12, 2020 at 09:17 PM