



## Frank Brentine

March 14, 1928 - January 10, 2021

Frank, 92, Topeka, Kansas, let go of this life on Sunday, January 10, 2021, at Stormont-Vail Hospital. He was born to George and Alice O'Connell Brentine, March 14, 1928, in the metropolitan community of Jersey City, New Jersey. Frank attended parochial elementary schools in that city and received his secondary education at St. Anthony's Minor Seminary in San Antonio, Texas. After spending a year at the Novitiate of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Mission, Texas, he pursued studies in philosophy and theology at the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio.

Frank was ordained to the Roman Catholic Priesthood on May 31, 1955, in the historic San Fernando Cathedral, San Antonio. As an associate pastor, he was stationed at parishes in Houston and San Antonio and was chaplain at Santa Rosa Medical Center, San Antonio.

After battling alcoholism for several years, Frank spent five months at a treatment center for priests and religious men in Rochester, Minnesota. After spending three years as associate pastor at Assumption Parish in Richfield, Minnesota, he applied for an indult from Rome to be laicized. On December 19, 1973, Frank and Ellen Joan Bakker were married in a private ceremony in St. Theresa Catholic Church, Perry, Kansas, with Father John Quinlan as witness.

Frank worked as a counselor in the field of alcoholism and other drug

addictions since 1973. After counseling for a year at the Topeka State Hospital, he joined the staff of the Menninger Clinic where he was an alcohol and drug counselor for 15 years. Frank received an MS degree in general counseling from Emporia State University in 1981. He was a member of the National and Kansas Association of Alcohol and Drug Counselors and edited newsletters for KAADC and the Menninger program and published three pamphlets on alcoholism and drug addictions.

Frank retired from Menninger Clinic in March 1990. He was an active member of Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, Topeka, enjoyed writing, attending classes at Washburn University, swimming, playing golf (achieving two hole-in-ones), flying kites, setting off aerial fireworks and giving away toys.

By the grace of God and help of others, Frank was able to maintain his sobriety for 51 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, younger sister, Mary Jane, and older brother, George, who was killed by flak over Normandy, France, while co-piloting a B-26 medium bomber on June 10, 1944, and is buried in the American Cemetery at Cambridge, England. Frank is survived by his wife, Ellen; nieces, Alice, Laureen, Mary Beth, and Diane; nephew, Walter; and first cousin, Jeanne.

Visitation will be 9 a.m. Saturday, January 16, 2021, at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 3601 SW 17th Street, Topeka KS 66604, with Rosary being prayed at 9:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Church. Private inurnment will be at a later date in St. Dionysius Cemetery in Tyler, Minnesota.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, masks and social distance are required. Memorial contributions may be made to Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, or donor's choice, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Frank's inurnment will be 3 p.m. Friday, July 2, 2021, in St. Dionysius Catholic Cemetery in Tyler, Minnesota.

Condolences may sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

Frank Brentine, Author.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 16. 9:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

## Rosary

JAN 16. 9:30 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 16. 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church  
3601 SW 17th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

# Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Frank Brentine



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - January 15, 2021 at 03:50 PM



“ Frank Brentine

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Frank and his wife Ellen have opened their home and hearts to those in need of love, support and care. Frank's kindness and warmth remains always with us who received his care and concern. Thank you Frank from the many.

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**Sharon Highberger** - January 25, 2021 at 09:39 AM



“ Ellen - Frank will be missed by everyone who knew him, & this earth is a sadder place without him. So many memories - the fireworks, the popcorn, our birthdays. Frank may have been the luckiest man in the world because he found you. I loved Frank, & I love you.

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**Terry Larson** - January 16, 2021 at 10:13 AM

SW

“ Dear Ellen,  
We wanted to express our sincere sympathy with the loss of Frank. You were such a lovely couple and it was evident to all who knew you both the incredible respect and kindness you displayed to each other. You always had a smile on your face when Frank was near. We will pray for you too as time moves forward without your best friend. You truly have another guardian angel in heaven. Love,  
Shirley, Tracy, and Cathy Willis.

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**Shirley, Tracy, and Cathy Willis** - January 15, 2021 at 06:46 PM

JG

“ Dear Cousin Ellen: It is with deep sorrow that we learned of Frank's passing. Our sympathy, thoughts, and prayers are with you. May he rest in peace, and may God bless and support you with special graces in your sorrow. Blessed be his memory and the goodness of his life.

*John and Dorothy Gockowski*

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**John & Dorothy Gockowski** - January 15, 2021 at 01:43 PM

MB

“ Dear sweet Ellen. So sorry to learn of Franks passing. May God wrap his arms around you and bring you comfort.

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**Marianne Baumchen** - January 15, 2021 at 12:50 PM

AL

“ I'm sorry for your loss, Ellen. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Amy Ledom** - January 14, 2021 at 04:56 PM

JT

“ Ellen: Elly and I are heartbroken about Frank's passing. We have thoroughly enjoyed knowing you two for 30+ years. You brought so much wisdom to our Couples Group. You both have helped us more than you could know. We are very grateful to have briefly chatted with Frank the Wednesday before he passed. We are comforted knowing Frank was at peace to be going home to Jesus. May he rest in eternal peace. We love you Ellen. Elly and Jerry

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**Jerry Tapee** - January 14, 2021 at 03:18 PM

CM

“ Ellen,  
So sorry to hear about Frank, heartbreaking for you. Your faith, friends & community will lift you up. Prayers for you.  
Hugs, Cheryl McCrite

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**Cheryl McCrite** - January 14, 2021 at 12:12 PM

SS

“ Ellen, I am so sorry to hear of Franks passing. He is in God's loving hands now. I love you and pray for you during this difficult time.

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**Susan Simmons** - January 14, 2021 at 07:56 AM

JC

“ Ed & I have so many wonderful memories of time with Frank, Fireworks, couples dinners, dancing monkeys, his songs, wit and so full of knowledge. We will miss Frank but we look forward to seeing him again. Ellen we love you and know you will miss him the most. May God Bless you both, Judy & Ed Clutchey

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**Judy Clutchey** - January 13, 2021 at 11:08 PM

AS

“ Our sweet Uncle Frank. How I loved you so and will be deeply missed by all of us. God has your special “spot” all arranged and now you can lead us with your heavenly wings.

Sweet Aunt Ellen my deepest love and sympathy, as you say goodbye to your soulmate and partner. God is so good and even though you/we shed tears, it's ok. My arms hold you tightly. Love to you. Arlene Schwerzler

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**Arlene Schwerzler** - January 13, 2021 at 11:03 PM

CL

“ Charles and Sharon Bakker Rod and Cecilia Lipp purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Frank Brentine.



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**Charles and Sharon Bakker Rod and Cecilia Lipp** - January 13, 2021 at 01:01 PM

MG

“ Dear Ellen, We are so sorry for your loss. His humor and joy will be greatly missed. We could always count on Frank to bring some form of fun to the party and reunions. Whether it was a piñata filled with slightly melting candy, kites, or his infamous fireworks, Frank was sure to make it memorable. We take comfort in knowing that he is now back with his Heavenly Father and will continue to influence our lives from there.

I'm a bit sketchy on details, since this happened so long ago, but one of my favorite memories of Frank was when he used a paper clip and piece of gum to dislodge a piece of paper that had jammed the copy machine at his office. He will be missed!!

Mark and Michele Griffin

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**Michele Griffin** - January 13, 2021 at 10:56 AM

JW

“ Ellen, our sincere condolences on the loss of Frank. He was a wonderfully kind and learned man and we enjoyed speaking with him after Sunday mass. His memory is a blessing to all who knew him. May the peace of Christ be with you and all of Frank's family and may his soul repose happily. Love you! Janelle & Rick Wenzl

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**Janelle Wenzl** - January 13, 2021 at 10:32 AM

CB

“ Ellen, so sad to hear about the loss of Frank. Heartbreaking. Such a great man. He will be missed greatly. What a friend you both were to my Mom, Jean Murphy & my Dad, Ed Wacker. Prayers said for peace for you & family & virtual hugs. Cathy (Wacker) Brake

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**Cathy Brake** - January 13, 2021 at 09:49 AM

SS

“ Ellen, I am deeply sorry for your loss.  
Sheila Stueve, MPH M Parish

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**Sheila Stueve** - January 13, 2021 at 09:15 AM

CB

“ Ellen  
Sending my prayers and sympathy to you my friend! Hugs!! RIP  
Frank 🙏🙏🙏  
Cheryl Burkhart

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**Cheryl Burkhart** - January 13, 2021 at 08:04 AM

JD

“ Jean Durling purchased the Strength & Solace S  
pray for the family of Frank Brentine.



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**Jean Durling** - January 12, 2021 at 09:36 PM

JD

“ Ellen & Family-My thoughts and prayers. Love Cousin Jeanie &  
Family

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**Jean Durling** - January 12, 2021 at 09:09 PM

JD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Jean Durling** - January 12, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for  
the family of Frank Brentine.



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January 12, 2021 at 07:51 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frank Brentine.*



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January 12, 2021 at 07:48 PM



“ *Ellen,  
I am so sorry for your loss of dear Frank! Frank always had a story and a smile. He made everyone laugh and feel better whenever in his presence. I am sure Tom and Frank are telling stories and laughing right now!  
Please accept my condolences and know I am here for you!  
Love, hugs, and prayers!  
Judy Conklin*

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**Judy Conklin** - January 12, 2021 at 09:55 AM



“ *I was so sad to hear of Frank's passing. I always enjoyed seeing him and working with him at/for the Relay For Life. My prayers of peace and comfort to the entire family.*

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**Amy Kralicek** - January 12, 2021 at 09:15 AM



“ *Candy Shaver-White lit a candle in memory of Frank Brentine*



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**Candy Shaver-White** - January 11, 2021 at 11:22 PM

 Candy  
Shaver-  
White

“ Ellen, I was so sad to hear of Frank’s passing. However, I was happy to think of where he is going and know that one day I will see him again. I will miss Frank’s smile and his friendly hug. Frank was always so welcoming to anyone he met. Frank might be gone, but his presence on earth will live on! He was an amazing man! He has left a legacy to be remembered by. Ellen, you and your family is in my prayers.

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**Candy Shaver-White** - January 11, 2021 at 11:22 PM

EH

“ All my love to you Ellen. I have enjoyed so many wonderful times with you and Frank. Simply being in Frank's presence brought me peace. Let me know if there is anything I can do. I try to focus on Frank's new walk with our Savior and rejoice. I love you.

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**Ed Horan** - January 11, 2021 at 09:17 PM

PL

“ Mrs. Brentine, we are so sorry to hear about Frank’s passing! Our thoughts & prayers are with you! Kenny & Pam and Brent Lierz

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**Pam Lierz** - January 11, 2021 at 09:02 PM

JR

“ Frank loved fireworks and Ellen loved the kid in Frank. Two very special people. Praying for God’s comfort. Love you. Jeff Rubottom

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**jeff Rubottom** - January 11, 2021 at 07:29 PM

GT

“ *EEven,*

*We are so sorry for your loss. My favorite memory of Frank was listening to him sing as you sat near us when Women of Grace sang together at 4pm Mass. He will be missed, and you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Kevin and Gwen Tucker*

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**Gwen Tucker** - January 11, 2021 at 05:18 PM