



## Franklin "Frank" Davis

July 10, 1936 - August 23, 2022

Franklin Michael "Frank" Davis, 86, died peacefully at home Tuesday morning August 23, 2022. He was born July 10, 1936, in Parsons, Kansas, the son of Lynn Winter Davis and Ruth Frances Hoefling Davis. The family lived in Leavenworth, Kansas, Ashland, Kentucky and Tucson, Arizona where his father died when Frank was nine years old.

The family returned to Parsons, Kansas and Frank attended St. Patrick Catholic schools and graduated in 1954. He earned an Associate degree from Parsons Junior College in 1958, a Bachelor of Sociology from Washburn University in 1970 and a Master Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Wichita State University in 1976.

Frank worked many jobs beginning with a paper route to help support his mother and sister. He was always proud of purchasing the first TV set on the block; neighbors used to sit on the front porch and watch through the front door. He bought a series of motorcycles and then cars, all of which he drove too fast, often catching the eye of local police and resulting in exciting races through Parsons and vicinity.

He met Eileen Catherine Matzek in the summer of 1957 while she was working at Richard's Drive-in at the east end of Parsons. They married one year later on June 21, 1958, in St. Patrick Catholic Church in Chanute,

Kansas. He enlisted in the United States Army Reserve in October of that year and served six months active duty at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. In June of 1959, he began as a security guard at the State Office Building in Topeka, Kansas. He and Eileen stayed in Topeka until the present.

After more jobs than his wife can remember, Frank really liked police work and applied with the Topeka Police Department. Hired in May of 1962, he began in Traffic in the Accident Investigation unit. Soon he was in the motorcycle group where he and five other officers patrolled the downtown area, gave out parking tickets, ran radar, and caught occasional store and bank robbers. He was promoted to detective and with many other local and area law enforcement officers, formed the Major Case Squad working at solving homicides, most of them successfully. He was promoted to Lieutenant and later to Captain in the Patrol Division, finally to Major where he headed up the Detective Division. He concurrently served twenty-five years in the Army Reserve and six additional years with the 190th in the Kansas Air National Guard. He retired with the rank of Master Sergeant.

He retired from TPD in 1993 and found that he wasn't ready for retirement, and neither was his wife ready to have him home 24-7. He joined the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board as their first full-time Investigative Officer and set up a manual of investigative procedures for his successors and investigated complaints against social workers and psychologists. He worked there for three years and then he and Eileen worked at learning who was in charge of which areas of their home, yard and pool.

Over the years they managed to adopt eight children, legally foster eight more, and took in between forty and fifty "strays" as Eileen lovingly called them. While this kind of life was Eileen's idea, he never complained, took them all in, gave them love and fatherly advice, and taught them how to fix things, to work and treat others fairly and with respect. He was a tough cop, a good

father, grandfather and great-grandfather and he loved his wife and family with every fiber of his being.

He was lifelong Catholic and has been a member of the Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish since 1964. A life member of the Knights of Columbus Council #2608, Fourth Degree Knights, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 3. Following his career as a Mess Sergeant, Frank cooked for Sacred Heart's Germanfest, the Altar Society, Knights of Columbus and Let's Help. He loved cooking for crowds. He also loved camping, fishing, caring for his pool.

Surviving him are his wife of sixty-four years, Eileen; his sons, Michael Lynn Davis, Curtis Scott Davis and Michael Joseph O'Connell (Sharon Puddington); his daughters, Nancy Adrienne Roberts and Jessica Hensley (Randall Collins); seventeen grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Mary Elizabeth Hyde of Lenexa, Kansas; nieces and nephews; and a dear cousin, Pat Wilkerson (Neal) of Parsons, Kansas. He was preceded in death by his parents; and two sons, Christopher James Davis and Daniel Reed Davis.

Mass of Christian Burial will be Friday, August 26 at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church with visitation one hour prior to Mass. Burial will follow at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Topeka.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish, 227 SW Van Buren St, Topeka KS 66603. Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd  
Topeka, KS 66606

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 26. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
312 NE Freeman Ave  
Topeka, KS 66616

## Mass of Christian Burial

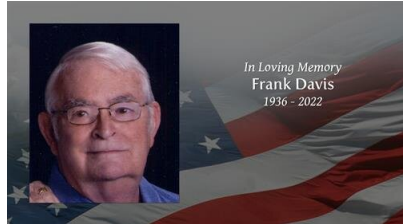
AUG 26. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
312 NE Freeman Ave  
Topeka, KS 66616

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Franklin "Frank" Davis*



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - August 25, 2022 at 05:38 PM

PH

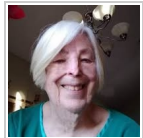
*Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Only learned of Frank passing today would have been there. Peg Henry. Shelly McMillan and Jack and Marilyn Downes. Please get in touch with Peg*

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**Peggy Henry** - August 30, 2022 at 03:31 PM



“ *Franklin "Frank" Davis*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Eileen and family--prayers for Frank and all of you at this time...  
Kathy Bovaird*

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**Kathy Bovaird** - August 27, 2022 at 10:07 PM

CM

“ *Thinking of you & your family, Eileen. May the love & kindness that you give to everyone come back to you tenfold as you go through this difficult time.*

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**Connie Mauer** - August 26, 2022 at 03:27 PM

JS

“ I often have a loss of words when I write these types of tributes. This is no exception. How can you put into adequate words how much someone touched your life? Frank is no exception. I was very lucky to get to know such a good man. Frank was wonderful. He always had a smile and a joke when I saw him. Frank inspired me to spend my career in law enforcement. I remember as a kid seeing him come home for lunch and thinking to myself, "That is the coolest thing I have ever seen. I want to be as cool as Frank!" I hope that I accomplished that. Frank- Thanks for all of the memories that I will always hold near and dear to my heart. In Heaven, you now know how much you meant to me. I will see you someday Uncle Frank.

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**Jack Sanders** - August 26, 2022 at 02:10 PM

ML

“ Eileen, I remember that Frank came to Holy Hour at St. Joseph's Chapel the hour following mine!  
Very pleasant and kind!!!  
You and the family are in my thoughts and prayers!  
His grave is close to my husband Bob's, so I'll be able to visit him sometime.  
You will still feel his Spirit with, because our Spirits never die, it's just our bodies that wear out!

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**Margaret Longstaff** - August 26, 2022 at 11:12 AM

CB

“ Eileen  
Sending my sympathy, prayers, hugs and love to you and the family.  
Frank was a great man. Lots of memories of him from the 70's  
playing softball and partying at the Pizza Parlor!! He was our best  
cheerleader!! RIP Frank!!!  
With Love and Friendship!!  
Cheryl Burkhart

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**Cheryl Burkhart** - August 26, 2022 at 10:11 AM

RS

“ Eileen and Family,  
Frank was a gentleman and a good friend. My thoughts and prayers  
are with you.

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**Rick Strecker** - August 25, 2022 at 02:03 PM

MK

“ Eileen and family,  
I am so sorry to hear about Frank's passing. He was a great man  
and person to know. May the Good Lord be with you at this time.  
Mary Ellen Kilgore (Jack)

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**mary Kilgore** - August 25, 2022 at 10:07 AM

FG

“ I was on the the 3rd degree team with Frank and looked forward to  
the Sundays that sent the team to many towns in eastern Kansas.  
He always a was good listener and adviser. Great man all around.

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**Fredrick L Gilliland** - August 25, 2022 at 06:36 AM

JW

“ Eileen

*I am so sorry to learn of Frank's passing. What an incredible life you and he have shared. Veryl has been gone ten years and I moved to Arizona in 2020.*

*Blessings to you and your beautiful family 🙏🙏💕*

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**Judy Whisler** - August 25, 2022 at 02:10 AM

JJ

“ *I have known Frank for a long time with the Knights of Columbus Council 2608. Frank and my Dad were very involved with the Knights and the many fund raisers and also the pancake breakfasts. I will keep Frank and his family in my prayers.*

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**John Reb Jr.** - August 24, 2022 at 10:34 PM

MW

“ *When there is not something I can say or do to express my thoughts and help to comfort you. Perhaps, just knowing that I am someone who cares and prays the Lord God will be with you and comfort you will help in some small way to ease your loss. From MSgt Margaret Wescott, 190th ARW, retired.*

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**Margaret L Wescott** - August 24, 2022 at 09:53 PM

CW

*Its always tough to lose someone in our Coyote family. I didn't know him well but he seemed like a great guy. Rest in peace fellow airman!*

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**CMSgt (Ret) Roger Wilson** - August 25, 2022 at 12:11 PM

DM

*Eileen - it is with sadness to learn of Frank's journeys end here, but thru faith and a strong belief, he begins his eternal journey with all the might and GLORY!! You and Frank were the first persons to welcome me into the parish, you both guided me on continuing serving the church and our faith - for that i will always be THANKFUL for both of you - you are wonderful, giving, generous, loving and strong couple, we need more Frank Eileen's - love and prayers for you and your family - Frank enjoy your heavenly journey, u have earned it many times over! Dwight and Diane Menke*

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**Dwight Menke** - August 25, 2022 at 02:22 PM

PO

*Eileen and family, so sorry for your loss, I was fortunate to have worked with Frank on Topeka P.D. and the 190th ARW , what a great guy, he will be missed, it will be especially tough on Sheryl who worked with Frank in the 190th Services Sqdn. Rest In Peace, Msgt Paul Owens (ret) and TSgt Sheryl Fields*

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**Paul Owens** - August 25, 2022 at 06:21 PM



*Eileen -- I was so sorry to hear of Frank's passing but know that he is now walking with God through the heavens above. May God comfort you and your family through this difficult time. The two of you were a loving couple and had a number of years together. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Donna Harrington** - August 25, 2022 at 06:39 PM

RB

*Major Davis was a good commander with TPD. I worked with him for many years and always found him to be supportive and helpful. I am grateful for his service in the military and dedication to out nation.*

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**Ron Brown** - August 25, 2022 at 07:53 PM

GS

*Eileen, I am so sorry for your loss. You are both in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Ginger Simon*

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**Ginger Simon** - August 26, 2022 at 09:06 AM



*Eileen, Family,*

*So sorry for the loss of Frank. I remember him way back at Hayden. I think it was when we worked bingo. My prayers and thoughts are with you all.*

*Keith & Lorraine Eggen*

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**Lorraine eggen** - August 26, 2022 at 07:32 PM