



Kenneth G. Kelley

September 1, 1940 - September 18, 2010

Kenneth G. Kelley, 70, Topeka, died September 15, 2010. He was born at home September 1, 1940 in Hartford KS, the son of J. Leo and Lelia Kelley. He graduated from Hartford High School, where he was a member of the undefeated football team his senior year. He attended College of Emporia on a football scholarship. He also attended Washburn University. He married Karen Owens, his high school sweetheart; they were married over 51 years. She survives along with daughter, Valerie, two sons, Vance and Jason; six grandchildren, Grant, Courtney, Hunter, Ford, Nicole and Adam; and one great grandson, Parker; also three brothers, Jerry, John, and Everette; three sisters, Carolyn, Joyce and Rita. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Darrell and Lawrence and one sister Colleen. Kenneth was an area manager at Goodyear where he worked 39 years. He was a member of Goodyear Top Ten Supervisors Club. He lived most of his life in Wabaunsee County. He farmed in the Maple Hill area and afterward he retired to Lake Wabaunsee, Alma area. He served one term on the Lake Wabaunsee Improvement board. He was a member of the Elmont United Methodist Church. Friends and neighbors will remember how he always helped everyone, his smile, his love of animals, playing golf with his son-in-law, Scott, his lifelong sense of humor and maintaining an upbeat positive attitude all the way to the end, and how during his last months courageous battle he demonstrated amazing inner strength. Funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at Elmont United Methodist Church, 6635 NW Church Lane, Topeka

KS. Burial will follow at the Old Swedish Cemetery in Wabaunsee County.
Memorial contributions may be made to Elmont United Methodist Church and
Alma United Methodist Church, Alma KS 66401.

Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth G. Kelley*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I did some of the scans on Ken at the Cancer Center, and he always had the best attitude through everything he had to endure. He once took the time to listen and share his experience with a young man who was newly diagnosed and scared about the future and what was to come. Ken was a "great guy" who was both tough and sensitive. It was an honor to get to know him. He will be missed by many I am sure. May God comfort you and your family. Jamia PET/CT*

Jamia Nelson - September 17, 2010 at 06:24 PM



“ *We just wanted to offer our condolences to all of Kens family. You are in our thoughts and prayers*
Ed and Joyce Daily

Ed Daily - September 16, 2010 at 10:53 PM



“ *Karen, we're keeping you in prayer. Ken fought a courageous fight and was such an inspiration to all of us. We will truly miss him, yet know he's in the arms of Jesus - where he deserves to be now. We are so honored to have been able to share time with you via the Elmont Church. May God's understanding console you as you go through this process. We're here for you anytime for anything. Judy & Ed Clutchey*

Judy Clutchey - September 16, 2010 at 07:25 PM

HF

“ Karen & Family, We were very sorry to hear about Kenneth, please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. May god bless you all and be with you thru this very trying time.

Gary, Sandie Houk & Family

Houk Family - September 16, 2010 at 03:06 PM

MC

“ Karen, I was saddened to read of Kenny's passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Sounds like he was the Kenny I remember until the last. Just take comfort in knowing that he is now at peace. May God be with you and your fammily in you time of sorrow. I love you, my friend. Marilyn

Marilyn Chrisman - September 16, 2010 at 03:05 PM

DP

“ Karen,It was great to know Kenney and work with him. He would do anything for any one that needed it. Your in my prayers. Don Purdum

Donald Purdum - September 16, 2010 at 12:52 PM

“ Our Quarterback

*He lived his life with much dignity and pride
Loving his family and friends with Karen by his side
He never complained, he said he was fine
Even when his days were down to the line.*

*He had courage, fortitude and true grit
He never gave up he persevered as he saw fit
He laughed and joked, even when he fell.
He was strong, hid his pain and wouldn't tell.*

*A talented, loving, generous and giving man
He loved carpentry and was good with his hands
He toiled the land for farming was his quest
After working at Goodyear with barely any rest.*

*He burned the candle at both ends, you could say
But he wouldn't have it any other way
He and Karen raised their family of three
He led by example and was the best he could be.*

*He was a quarterback throughout his life
Carrying the ball and running with all his might
Whatever the game, he was in it to win
He fought hard, and he wouldn't give in.*

*When they celebrated their 50th Anniversary Day
A man of few words had plenty to say
We all sat and listened to his stories he shared
As he thanked each one cause he truly had cared.*

*He was our inspiration, we loved him so much
We all miss him and selfishly want his touch
But he is at peace and finally at rest
For every single day he had given his best.*

*For now, he is laughing and joking and saying, "I'm fine."
Although life here has ended, for it was his time
So we say goodbye with a heavy heart and many tears
To our hero, Dad's quarterback, who lived for 70 short years.*

Joyce, Kenneth's sister - September 16, 2010 at 11:43 AM

RI

“*Karen, my heart goes out to you. It has been a long brave battle. I pray God's peace and strength for you. Even though we knew this day would come, it is still hard to accept. You have my sincere condolences.*”

Rachel Imthurn - September 16, 2010 at 08:27 AM