



## Steven Gunder

December 30, 1946 - August 25, 2022

Steven Charles Gunder, 75, Topeka, Kansas, formerly of Polo, Illinois, passed away on Thursday, August 25, 2022.

Steven was born December 30, 1946, in Amboy, Illinois, the son of Charles and Katherine Steder Gunder. He graduated from Polo High School in 1965. Steven married Joyce Pyron; they later divorced. He married Janet ; they later divorced.

Steven started racing go karts and snowmobiles as a boy. He restored his first car, a Ford Model A, owned by his uncle at a young age. Steven started his first business, Gunder Restoration, in Sterling, Illinois, after High School. In the mid 70's, Steven moved his family and business to Topeka. Over the years, his business grew and he became known as one the most renowned antique car restoration specialists in the business. Some of his restorations won at events all over the country. Which includes Hershey and Prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. By the mid 90's, he started a new business, Showtime Trailers, building custom race trailers and toterhomes. By the mid 2000's, Steven started yet another business, Prestige Living. Partnering with Joyce Brown, they began building townhomes in South Topeka.

During his life and career some sort of racing was always close by; including

drag racing in Byron and Cordova, Illinois as well as stock car racing. In the mid 70's and early 80's , Steven raced his #29 late model at the fairgrounds in Topeka. In the late 80's, he started racing Sprint Cars for a time. In the late 90's and early 2000's, Steven started racing at the Knoxville Speedway. In which he collected a 2nd and 5th place in points championship as well as car owner of the year. In the mid 2000's, Steven started helping kids with racing at the TKQMA in Topeka. He also enjoyed and loved going for coffee at Burger King and Denny's with all his buddies and friends.

Steven is survived by his children, Steven S. Gunder (Michelle), Tracey Velez (Jerry); grandchildren, Tyler Horner, Emalie Gunder, Sydney Gunder, Colton Gunder, Brenden Velez, Britani Head and Braelyn Velez; eight great-grandchildren; and special friend, Joyce Brown. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother.

Visitation will be 9 to 10 a.m. Thursday, September 1, 2022, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, where funeral service will be at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to TKQMA (Topeka Kansas Quarter Midget Association) and sent in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 1. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

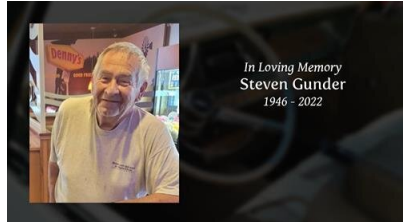
SEP 1. 10:00 AM (CT)

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 Steven Gunder



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Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 30, 2022 at 04:50 PM



“ Steven Gunder

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Sympathy is extended to Steve's family and friends. My late husband, Don DeGroff, worked for Steve many years ago at Gunder Restorations. We were part of the lucky crew that went to the Pebble Beach Concourse d'Elegance and won "best in class" in national/international (?) competition. Steve was very proud until a disgruntled competitor from the east coast loudly made the comment, "that if God was going to give the world an enema he would insert the tube in Kansas." I believe Steve cracked up like the rest of us and replied something to the effect of "sorry Charlie." Paths crossed occasionally over the years, and it was always good to visit briefly. Rest in peace now, Steve.

Sincerely,  
Carol DeGroff Sook

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Carol Sook - August 29, 2022 at 03:28 PM

RU

“ Rhonda Underwood lit a candle in memory of Steven Gunder



Rhonda Underwood - August 28, 2022 at 06:16 PM

RU

“ Joyce and family, I'm so very sorry to read about Steve's passing. He was adored and appreciated in our family. May he fly high and rest easy. Thinking about all if you at this time and praying the memories will bring you comfort.

Rhonda Underwood - August 28, 2022 at 06:15 PM

LP

“ Steve has been a friend of mine for over 50 years. Everything he ever did he accomplished well. I will miss him dearly. I'm so sorry for your loss. Larry Pontnack. MoPar City

Larry Pontnack - August 28, 2022 at 06:14 PM

“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Steven Gunder.



August 27, 2022 at 03:12 PM