



Kenneth E. Dabelstein

June 8, 1943 - May 19, 2021

Kenneth “Kojak” Dabelstein, age 77 of Garden City died peacefully on May 19, 2021 with his wife Linda and family at his side. He owned Ken’s Country Produce in Westland since 1974 where he enjoyed selling the best flowers and garden needs. He started out selling vegetables on Detroit’s East side until settling in Westland. Ken felt that this was his calling in life and was proud of all he accomplished. Ken worked hard but still took a few months to enjoy his second home in Naples, Florida where he enjoyed the sunsets, fishing, boating and his annual swamp buggy races. He was especially grateful to get to know his oldest grandson, Jason Graham and his young family during the last few years of his life. Ken is survived by his wife Linda Torni together for 30 years. He leaves seven children, June (Ron) Lothamer, Wanda (Kevin) Graham, April (Steve) Shepler, Kevin (Carrie) Dabelstein, Dale and Erik Dabelstein. He will be reunited with his beloved daughter Anita. He was the stepfather of Tonya and Judy Whidden, the late Jimmy, the late Joanie and the late Tommy. Proud grandfather of 17. He is survived by siblings Leo (Sally) Dabelstein, Fred and Anne; sister-in-law and friend Patty (Mike) Camp. Ken lived in Garden City for the last 30 years. He enjoyed looking out his window, watching all the birds that came to visit at sunset. He lived by his motto, “Work smart, not hard”.

Visitation Tuesday, June 1st 2-8 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill) Westland.

Funeral Service Wednesday, June 2nd 11 AM at the funeral home.

Entombment Naples Memorial Gardens in North Naples, Florida. Memorial contributions may be made to Veterans Haven, Inc. 4924 S. Wayne Road, Wayne, MI 48184. To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this web page.

Cemetery Details

Naples Memorial Gardens

North Napels , FL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 1. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Westland
980 North Newburgh Road
Westland, MI 48185
(734) 326-1300
westland@vermeulenfh.com

Funeral Service

JUN 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Westland
980 North Newburgh Road
Westland, MI 48185
(734) 326-1300
westland@vermeulenfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth E. Dabelstein*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Our community has lost a great man who gave so much to others over his many years as the owner of Ken's Country Produce. Unknown to most, I'm sure, Ken was a really good man who was very generous to many causes. I reached out to him when Gail and I were the toy buyers for the Westland Goodfellows during much of the 80's and early 90's. I reached out to Ken and he offered me the keys to his large truck to pick up toy orders directly from some of the manufacturers. This became a partnership and each year he was always happy to provide the truck. Picking up little Barbie cars, little doll strollers and shopping carts as well as Poof footballs and toys would not have been so easy were it not for Ken's generosity. I'm sure there's hundreds of kids who are now adults that remember getting these from the Goodfellows, but Ken never looked for recognition for his part. We've lost a great man. Gail and I extend our deepest sympathy to Linda and the entire family. May God Bless his soul and give you all comfort at this time of loss. Thank you Ken.*

Glenn S Anderson - May 23, 2021 at 01:30 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Kenneth E. Dabelstein.*



May 22, 2021 at 11:59 PM

DC

“ My husband and I through the years have enjoyed the beautiful flowers that Ken had . Also his fall display. He was a man that was very proud of his work and rightly so he did a great job . He will be sadly missed by the community. Prayers to his family .

diane carroll - May 22, 2021 at 08:25 PM

JS

“ Jane and Leon Shepler purchased the Loved One Vertical Blanket for the family of Kenneth E. Dabelstein.



Jane and Leon Shepler - May 22, 2021 at 05:58 PM

LL

“ I will miss you Ken , more than anyone will ever know, I will miss our little chats, our reminiscing about the old ways & days and all the people that we knew, all the years that we knew each other from when I used to babysit for the kids to the days of you telling me the hottest new plant you got in..... my heart and my garden will never be the same rest in peace my friend❤️🌹

laura J. Loviska - May 22, 2021 at 12:47 PM

EJ

“ Erika James lit a candle in memory of Kenneth E. Dabelstein



Erika James - May 22, 2021 at 12:25 PM

EJ

“ HELLO... MY NAME IS ERIKA JAMES,

Even though I had just met Ken in Florida a couple of years ago, he took me in and treated me like FAMILY.... Telling me what to do and how to do it.... All though he came off with a tough exterior, he had a HEART of gold... I'll miss you, and THANKS for your company... !!! SO GLAD I GOT TO KNOW HIM... He'll always have a special place in my heart... THANK FOR ALL THE LAUGHS... Love ERIKA XOXO

Erika James - May 22, 2021 at 12:23 PM

KJ

“ *I grew up right down the street from Ken's Country Produce. Growing up were there every weekend with my Mom (for what seemed like hours) getting produce and looking at flowers and plants for her to plant in our yard and the garden. She loved getting her flowers and plants from Ken's, they were the best! After my Mom passed away, every year when the weather got nice I would remember all the time we spent up there and wishing we could do that again. Ken was so nice and always talked with us. Not sure if he knew my Mom's name, but he knew we were there a lot. RIH Ken, you will be missed by so many! Karen (Cavender) Johnson*

Karen Johnson - May 22, 2021 at 11:53 AM

PK

“ *Paul Sposite, Grand Knight purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Kenneth E. Dabelstein.*



Paul Sposite, Grand Knight - May 22, 2021 at 10:04 AM