



Railsplitter Obituary



Kenneth Carl Moe

September 8, 1939 - September 8, 2017

Born on September 8, 1939 in Milwaukee to Arthur and Antoinette (nee Potzner) Moe and reborn to Eternal Life on September 8, 2017. Ken was raised in Milwaukee and graduated from West Division High School in 1957. He went on to attend UW-Milwaukee where he joined the fraternity Delta Sigma Kappa, played basketball for 1 season, football for 4 seasons, and was co-captain his senior year. During this time, he was accepted into ROTC and after receiving his degree in English in 1962; he was commissioned in the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant and joined the 202nd Military Police Company. He was stationed in France where he was a platoon leader, company commander COM 2 Europe and attained the rank of Captain. He was honorably discharged in 1964. He married Alice Kay Swansby in 1960 and they were blessed with 3 children: Kurt, Bradley and Ronelle. They later divorced. In 1995 he married Diane (nee Somers) Lien, she survives.

Ken was an educator his entire life, including teaching at Shorewood High School, Principal at Silverbrook Middle School and Director of Elementary Education in West Bend, Superintendent of Schools in Des Plaines, IL and then in Brown Deer.

During his time at Brown Deer, he was the receivers and defensive backs football coach. While these teams were successful (winning the Packerland Conference in 1986), he was committed to the growth of each student athlete. After his retirement in 1996, he went on to teach educators at Alverno College and Concordia University in Milwaukee, participated in superintendent searches for Wisconsin school districts and served as interim superintendent at several districts. Further, he was president of Zion Lutheran Church congregation and provided much guidance for their school.

Ken enjoyed traveling the United States and other countries, including several trips to France to visit friends he made while in the Army, Ireland, the Caribbean, Canada and Mexico. Each year he enjoyed hunting and fishing with brothers-in-law, then sons, and finally grandsons. Treasured fishing trips were spent in Canada each year for decades.



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Ken had other interests including Harley motorcycles, Airstream campers and old cars. Thursdays were spent having lunch with his Kappa brothers. He was the most enthusiastic spectator at his grandchildren's sporting events: football, basketball, swimming and Little League. Saturdays in fall were dedicated to Badger football and Sunday afternoons would find him in his Green and Gold "coaching" the Packers to victory, and a loss meant they failed to heed his direction.

Always the educator, counselor, and problem solver, he was forever willing to guide his children with their struggles -- both professionally and in family relationships.

His advice and mentorship went beyond his biological family to most everyone he met. This continued until he was suddenly struck down on September 2nd, 2017.

Ken's most significant health struggle came in 2015 when he contracted a rare and atypical disease. He was ill for almost 2 months before Dr. Zacharias "saved his life" by referring him to Dr. Altmann, and with the help of Dr. Kappes, to finally diagnose and treat his disease. After spending 4 months in the hospital and rehabilitation, he returned home, regained his strength, and to return to all that he enjoyed.

Proceeding him in death include his parents and his sister Barbara Moe. He is survived by his wife, Diane, children: Kurt (Susan) of Plymouth, MN, Bradley (Christine) of Sturgeon Bay, and Ronelle (Dale) Rusch of Depere. Also surviving are his granddaughters Jordan and Kailee and grandsons Trevor and Payden. He is further survived by other relatives and many friends.

The family would like to thank the Brookfield Emergency Medical Responders and the physicians and nursing staff of Elmbrook Memorial Hospital for their best efforts and compassionate care.

Interment with military honors at Pinelawn Cemetery.