



Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin

March 16, 1935 - June 6, 2026

Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin, 91, of Saline, Michigan, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 6, 2026, with his family by his side.

Ken was born on March 16, 1935, in Baxter, Tennessee, to Haskel and Bertha (Lollar) Martin. He spent his early years on the family farm before later moving to Detroit. In 1963, he met the love of his life, Karen Carlson, and they were married on August 21, 1965, at the Hazel Park Church of Christ. Together, they built a life centered on faith and family. All three of their daughters were born in Royal Oak, Michigan and the family moved to Saline in 1974, where they continued to raise their daughters.

Ken began his career working in retail selling men's suits at Somerset Mall and later Briarwood Mall before transitioning into the insurance field, where he sold life insurance and annuities. Ken was a natural born salesman.

He was a proud veteran of the United States Army, serving two years in Germany. During his time there, Ken developed a lifelong love of travel. Over the years, he and Karen explored much of the United States—including Alaska and Hawaii—as well as destinations around the world such as Australia, China, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, the Holy Lands, and many countries throughout Europe.

Ken's greatest passion, however, was his faith. He had a deep love for the Lord and took every opportunity to share that faith with others. He was devoted to one-on-one Bible studies, often welcoming others to his kitchen table with his Bible open and a cup of coffee in hand. A quiet mentor and servant leader, Ken faithfully served as an elder for many years and as Family Life Minister at the Dexter Church of Christ and officiated many weddings. He had a remarkable ability to connect with people and made lasting impressions on everyone he met.

In 2020, Ken endured a serious battle with COVID-19, spending 81 days in the hospital. During that time, people from around the world—many whose lives he had touched—reached out to his family and lifted him up in prayer. He was blessed with six more years, and even while facing dementia, he continued to form meaningful connections and friendships. Also after COVID, Ken spent many days sitting on the porch and talking to all the neighbors who happened by.

Above all, Ken cherished his family. He was devoted to his beloved wife, Karen; his three daughters, Dora (Adam) Corby, Beth (Shone) Brooks, and Becki (Ryan) McLaughlin; and his treasured grandchildren, Owen Brooks, Emma Brooks, Olivia McLaughlin, and Braeden McLaughlin who called him Papa. He delighted in spending time with them—whether golfing, sharing meals, having long conversations, or enjoying special one-on-one outings that often included a stop at Dairy Queen. He was always present with a listening ear, a warm hug, and unwavering love.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents and many other family members. Ken is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Karen; his three daughters and their spouses; and his four grandchildren, who were truly the lights of his life. Ken is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Friends may join the family for visitation at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home on Wednesday, June 10th, from 2:00 to 7:00 P.M. Visitation will continue on Thursday, June 11th beginning at 1:00 P.M. until the time of the Funeral Service at 2:00 P.M. A luncheon will follow at the Dexter Church of Christ, 8700 Jackson Road, Dexter.

The service will be live streamed and can be viewed by visiting <https://podiumvideo.biz/>

Burial and Military Honors will take place on Friday, June 12th at 11:00 A.M. at the Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200 Belford Road, Holly, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to Dexter Church of Christ, Dexter Michigan or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

Arrangements entrusted to Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home, Saline. To leave a memory you have of Ken or for directions, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Road
Holly, MI 48442
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/greatlakes.asp>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 10. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Visitation

JUN 11. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Funeral Service

JUN 11. 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Luncheon

JUN 11. 3:30 PM (ET)

Dexter Church of Christ
8700 Jackson Rd
Dexter, MI

Immediately following the completion of the Funeral Service, the family invites and encourages you to join for a meal prepared in Ken's honor.

Military Honors

JUN 12. 11:00 AM - 11:20 AM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
4200 Belford Road
Holly, MI 48442
<http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/greatlakes.asp>

Tribute Wall

LS

“ Laura, Jerry, Rob, Amber, Judy, Jerry Sr purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



Laura, Jerry, Rob, Amber, Judy, Jerry Sr - June 09 at 04:00 PM

LS

“ Laura, Jerry, Rob, Amber, Judy, Jerry Sr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.

Laura, Jerry, Rob, Amber, Judy, Jerry Sr - June 09 at 04:00 PM

FF

“ From the Noah Yoder family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



From the Noah Yoder family - June 09 at 02:24 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



June 09 at 10:24 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.

June 09 at 10:24 AM



“ Marlene J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.

Marlene J. - June 09 at 09:09 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



June 08 at 12:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.

June 08 at 12:42 PM

CK

“ Photo of happier times from Uncle Sandy, Aunt Karen and Dora’s last visit to see us in California. My Mom loved her baby brother with her whole heart. When he first returned from military service he lived with us for a while. I remember he brought us a cuckoo clock from Germany and as a child I thought that clock was fascinating! I know my Mom, Dad and sister were all there to greet him in Heaven. Sending love to Aunt Karen and all the family.



Carolyn Kory - June 07 at 01:39 PM

SU

Such a beautiful memory, thank you for telling us ❤️

Summer - June 11 at 01:20 AM

LF

“ Love, the Ash Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



Love, the Ash Family - June 07 at 10:13 AM

LF

“ Love, the Ash Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.

Love, the Ash Family - June 07 at 10:13 AM

TG

“ Our deepest love and sympathy go out to you Karen, Dora, Becky, Beth (all the husbands and grandchildren) in this most profound loss of Ken. Our families attended the Ann Arbor Church of Christ together for many years, and Ken was one of the most tireless and stalwart Christian soldiers we have ever known! He truly had the "gift of gab," but he also had the uncanny ability to make you feel like you were "right at home" as soon as you began to talk to him. He loved to be hospitable, and no one supported and encouraged that like you Karen! You were such a true Christian "team" - it was such a blessing to have shared in that many times. It seemed like life was a true adventure for Ken, and you Karen were always right there with him. Your loving care of Ken over all these years (first with his heart issues, and later with the memory-loss) was so admirable! Ken was right there for Dave (and us) when his Dad, Buster's leukemia returned; he was a true friend to the end. Many visits at the house, spending time together, relaxing and watching TV while I cleaned the house, after which I'd run up to KFC for some lunch for both, which he loved! Ken, first and always, was a man who tried to share the gospel and the love of Christ to all he met. God bless you all as you miss him. We pray for your comfort and peace and healing.

The Gailbreath Family/Dave-Mary & Girls - June 07 at 09:51 AM

VV

“ I have many wonderful memories of Ken and Karen over the years. We attended the Ann Arbor Church for so many years, and he was always friendly and encouraging. Our girls went to camp together except for Melissa who was younger. I will miss him. God bless you Karen, Dora, Beth and Becky. Lots of love and prayers. ❤️ 🙏

Virginia Visel - June 06 at 09:34 PM

LF

“ Love, The Hall Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



Love, The Hall Family - June 06 at 07:37 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.



June 06 at 06:15 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Harold "Ken" Kenneth Martin.

June 06 at 06:15 PM