



Kenneth "Ken" P. Gillen

February 13, 1931 - August 1, 2019

Kenneth "Ken" P. Gillen, 88, of Toledo, passed away Thursday, August 1, 2019, at Heartland ProMedica. He was born February 13, 1931, in Assumption, OH and was the son of Arnold and Rosalie Gillen. Ken was a longtime member of St. Catherine of Siena Church and the Knights of Columbus, Assumption, OH. His hobbies included camping trips to Charlevoix, MI and out west, hiking, fishing, swimming, traveling on cruises, spending time outdoors and caring for his lawn.

Ken worked as a lab tech at Dolphin Paints for 30 years and retired from BASF, Whitehouse, OH, in 1997.

Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Marie Gillen; daughters, Karen (Rudy) Sanislo and Carol Gillen; grandchildren, Jason (Brandi) Gillen, Ben (Kara) Gillen, Amy (Brian) Gyuras, April (James) Hoffman and Angela (David) Rodriguez and great-grandchildren, Hayden, Kelsey, Christopher, Khloee, Bella, Raven and Liam. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, son, Michael Gillen and brother, Harvey Gillen.

Family and friends are invited to visit on Monday from 11 a.m. until the funeral service at 1 p.m., at the Ansberg-West Funeral Home, 3000 Sylvania Avenue, (between Secor and Douglas Roads). Interment will follow at Ottawa Hills Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's

Hospital or the donor's favorite charity.

Cemetery Details

Ottawa Hills Memorial Park

4210 Central Ave
Toledo, OH 43606

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 5. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Service

AUG 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Tribute Wall

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“Kenny was that "one of kind" person, unique, one of my favorite people. He always could make me laugh. I was fortunate in the fact that I had the experience of growing up with the Gillen family. So many great memories of camping, canoeing, campfire stories, or just visiting. No matter where we camped he undoubtedly would have to go the neighboring campers at some point in the evening to say "shhh, it's quiet time". It never mattered who they were: big gruffy looking motorcycle guys, a table full of hippies (yes, that's true!), he had no fear in running over to tell them. He was a bit skittish at times, when we travelled he had to tell Carol when she sneezed to give him a warning as there were times that sneeze would cause him to go off the road. Which of course would make us all laugh, which in turn would make him give us a bit of a lecture - poor guy those lectures always made us laugh harder. He always told us girls we were being silly with a smile on his face, although there were times he tried to be stern and say "this is a serious matter" - which again made us laugh harder. Poor guy never had a chance around all of us girls. He had a diary he kept, writing away on our camping trips. I'd love to spend time reading that diary, reminiscing. My Dad and Kenny were friends from high school - I know that they are together again. What a great reunion. My last visit with Kenny I gave him a cushion to use for his chair that was automated, push a button and it would lift him up out of the chair. Well that was an experience in itself it was like watching him blast off into space - we were all laughing so hard. He practiced several times when we were there which was quite entertaining. I will miss you Kenny, thank you for so many wonderful memories and leaving me with so many stories to share.

Linda Decker - August 03, 2019 at 09:22 AM

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“Where do I begin? So many memories of camping trips, picnics, ice fishing adventures and evenings at the Gillen household. His famous line:” It’s quiet time” to strangers in the dark! Hugs to all the family and friends during the difficult days ahead. Cherish the memories.

Denise Farley - August 02, 2019 at 01:17 PM