



## Kenneth D. Dowden

November 2, 2020

Kenneth DeWayne Dowden, 90, of Huntington, passed away at 2:52 am Monday, November 2, 2020 at Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne, IN.

Kenneth was born on March 13, 1930 in Porter County, IN as Kenneth DeWayne Kleist, the son of Leona L. Kleist. In November 1934 his mother married Everett E. Dowden and from that time on Kenneth was known as Kenneth DeWayne Dowden.

He graduated from Union Center High School in 1948 and married his first wife, Wanda Lee Brewer. Kenneth then married Mary Catherine Selle Fowler on April 22, 1962 at Bethesda EUB Church in Huntington County. She preceded him in death on March 14, 2014.

Kenneth held several short time jobs before going to Kresge Warehouse in 1951. This was later known as the Kmart Distribution Center. He retired from there after 37 years of service on January 29, 1988 as Director of M.I.S. (Data Processing) for 13 Kmart Distribution Centers.

He was a former member of the Bippus Lions Club, Past President of Gideon's, Past President of the Huntington County Art Guild, Past President and current member of Cancer Services of Huntington County, past Treasurer of the Huntington County Historical Society, member of the Twin Bridges

Square Dance Club, Christmas City Square Dance Club, and the Faith Chapel United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his Three Sons, Steve E. (Lynette) Dowden of Huntington, IN, Rick Dowden of Crisfield, MD, and Dallas (Bonnie) Dowden of Hemet, CA; Three Daughters, Carole Blair of Galveston, IN, Joyce Fryman of Huntington, IN, Debra (Jerry Stewart) Campbell of Stockbridge, MI; Sixteen Grandchildren; Twenty Five Great Grandchildren; Two Brothers, Dale Dowden and Jerry Dowden; Sister, Doris Poling; Sister in Law, Becky Dowden; Sister in Law Jean Dowden; his Special Friend, Nancy Mercier of Huntington, IN; and close Cousin who was more like a brother, Don Peters. He is preceded in death by his Wife, Mary Catherine Dowden, Father, Everett Dowden, Mother, Leona Dowden, Daughter, Vicki Jo Chamberlain, Two Sisters, Mary Birkmire and Shirley Riedel; Brother, Marvin Dowden; and Two Sons in Law, Charles Campbell Jr. and Arthur Fryman Jr.

Graveside Services will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 10:00 am at Beech Grove Cemetery in Huntington, IN.

Please follow local recommendations for face coverings and social distancing during this event.

Preferred memorials may be made in memory of Kenneth to the Cancer Services of Huntington County or Faith Chapel United Methodist Church, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN, 46750.

Please sign the online guest book at [www.baileylove.com](http://www.baileylove.com).

Bailey-Love Mortuary is honored to serve the family of Kenneth D Dowden.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

NOV 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

Beech Grove Cemetery  
8800 N. 300 W.  
Huntington, IN 46750

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey-Love Mortuary created a Tribute Video in Memory of Kenneth D. Dowden*



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**Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary** - November 04, 2020 at 05:43 PM



“ *I worked for Kenny Dowden at the Kmart Corporation and it was a wonderful job because Ken made it so much more interesting than just work. He gave me opportunities to experience different jobs and to help me succeed at the Distribution Center. He was a great boss as well as a very awesome, kind and caring person! One of the most memorable things he did for me was introduce me to a great artist and painter who was teaching oil painting! I will never forget. Prayers to his family, He will be so missed by Steve and his family as well as Carol. Sharon Shumaker Meyers*

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**Sharon Meyers** - November 14, 2020 at 07:50 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy and prayers especially to Steve and Lynette, Joyce, Carole and Debra. Kenny was such a nice, kind and caring man. He will be missed. Prayers*  
*Patsy Bechtold*

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**Patsy Bechtold** - November 07, 2020 at 03:46 PM

RS

“ I first met Ken and Mary through square dancing and we became good friends. Then our churches merged so we went to church together. Ken was a wonderful person. My deepest sympathy to his family.

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**Rita Schroll** - November 06, 2020 at 07:03 PM

EW

“ Ken's family, you have my deepest sympathy. I got to know Ken when I joined Cancer Services for Huntington County. His family and helping others were of utmost importance. He was always eager to help in anyway possible and was always interested in everyone's life. I will miss him and his smile. Prayers and God Bless, Earlynn Worster

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**Earlynn Worster** - November 06, 2020 at 09:04 AM

DL

“ I met Kenneth at the Doctors office over 16 years ago and I thoroughly enjoyed every interaction. He had a gentle caring soul & will be missed by many 💙🙏

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**Debbie Little** - November 05, 2020 at 09:45 PM

JS

“ You all have our deepest sympathy and in our prayers. Dick and Jane Strobel



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**Jane Strobel** - November 04, 2020 at 07:43 PM

SS

“ *Scott & Angela Smyser lit a candle in memory of Kenneth D. Dowden*



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**Scott & Angela Smyser** - November 04, 2020 at 03:19 PM

DM

“ *Deanna Mills lit a candle in memory of Kenneth D. Dowden*



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**Deanna Mills** - November 04, 2020 at 03:16 PM

DM

“ *Kenny was such a nice man and I always looked forward to chatting with him when I stopped at The Party Shop. He was especially fond of my sweet pup Dexter and we always enjoyed seeing him in the mornings. He will be missed greatly. Sympathy to Steve, Lynette, and Corbin for their loss. Deanna*

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**Deanna Mills** - November 04, 2020 at 03:15 PM

JK

“ My condolences both to the family and to the Faith Chapel family. I first met Kenny at the Party Shop where we were both frequent visitors. I then worked with him at Faith Chapel when I was their administrative assistant. When I found out I had cancer, Kenny was the first to get me connected with Huntington County Cancer Services. I loved his sweet voice and spirit; he inspired me with his own faith and strength in the midst of cancer battles. He will be missed. What a glorious reunion we will have with Jesus and Kenny in Heaven!

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**Joni Killian** - November 04, 2020 at 03:02 PM

LM

“ Debra, My condolences for the loss of your father . Seems he loved art, dancing and service. My sympathies to your family

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**Laura Machida** - November 03, 2020 at 11:16 PM

DC

Thank you, Laura.

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**Debra Dowden Campbell** - November 05, 2020 at 10:06 AM

CB

“ Carole Blair lit a candle in memory of Kenneth D. Dowden



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**Carole Blair** - November 03, 2020 at 08:22 PM

SW

“ Spent lots of time with Kenny and Mary square dancing and at Twin Bridge camp outs. Fun times with awesome people. I also have one of Kenny's oil paintings, it always makes me think of those good ole days with some wonderful people.

Susan Worsham - November 03, 2020 at 08:01 PM

DL

“ Kenny became a member of our family when he and Mary Catherine were married in 1962. He was a great one to attend our gatherings and keep our family connected. To all who will miss him and especially Carole, Joyce. and Steven our condolences.  
David and Gloria Laird

David and Gloria Laird - November 03, 2020 at 01:56 PM

OP

“ Carole, you have our sympathy and continued prayers that your precious memories will be of comfort and your strong faith will be your source of healing and peace...



Ole and Pat - November 03, 2020 at 12:27 PM



“ Billie Garwood lit a candle in memory of Kenneth D. Dowden



Billie Garwood - November 03, 2020 at 10:28 AM



RD

“ *Randy Denton lit a candle in memory of  
Kenneth D. Dowden* ”



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**Randy Denton** - November 03, 2020 at 06:26 AM