



Kenneth James Pagel

March 2, 1938 - November 23, 2020

Kenneth (Kenny) Pagel was born on March 2nd, 1938 in North Dakota to Cora and Ralph Pagel. He was the youngest of four siblings and the last surviving. He was preceded in passing by Donald (Keith) Pagel, Ralph (Curt) Pagel, and Carol (Pagel) Kjelvik. He is survived by his beloved wife Sara, sister in law Marilyn, sister in law Raquel, sister in law Christina, brother in law Daniel, brother in law Raphaël, nieces Julie, Karen, Debbie, Barb, nephew David and many great nieces and nephews.

Ken graduated from Fargo Central High in 1956. During high school, he worked at Red Owl in the warehouse. This influenced him to go to college and joined the Army Reserves, serving his country for ten years. Ken attended North Dakota State University and graduated with an engineering degree. Having a brother and several relatives in Southern California, Ken packed his bags and began his career in the LA area. He and his brother rented a home together and enjoyed the single life. The two of them always welcomed family to sunny California.

Family was a big deal to Ken. He kept track of each and every one of them like it was his obligation and duty. A weekly phone call from him was the norm. If you ever wanted to know what the news or weather was, even though we all lived in different places, Kenny would tell you. Ken also loved to cook, and you never left his home hungry.

In his free time, he enjoyed playing cards, traveling, walking on Redondo Beach, as well as taking friends and family on the “.25 cent tour” of Palos Verde Point, San Pedro and Long Beach Harbor. Even though living in LA was busy, Ken enjoyed staying connected to his extended family. He would visit North Dakota and Strawberry Lake in Minnesota every summer he could. In the winter, Ken and Sara would often visit her family in Mexico.

Family loved Kenny from the lakes Minnesota to the beaches of Mexico.

Ken dedicated his career to the Aerospace industry and worked in LA for many years. Ken married Sara Pagel in 2000. During retirement, the two of them continued to enjoy cruises, traveling with friends and visiting family. Ken also loved reading a good magazine or newspaper and keeping up with the aerospace industry. On a good day, you would find him enjoying the sunshine in his backyard chair near the tangerine tree, listening to his music.

Ken's presence on this earth will be missed. His enduring love will always be in our hearts.

Rest in peace Kenny!

Comments



“ " Uncle Kenny was a kind, loving, and gentle spirit. He had a great love for family, especially Sara. Sara was his love and rock. He enjoyed spending time gathering and socializing with family and friends. He made it a point for everyone to feel welcomed, comfortable, and at ease. Uncle Kenny expressed and showed his love of family often. When spending time in Minnesota summers he enjoyed and shared strawberry lake with family and friends. All invited over to enjoy good food, drink, and fellowship.

Uncle Kenny was a great listener and interested in what you had to say or what was on your mind. He was easy to talk with one-on-one and was a true inspiration. He was supportive and helpful of others to pursue and achieve their ambitions and dreams. Uncle Kenny was a good example of determination and hard work. A life well lived. "

Uncle Kenny you will be missed by all.

Glenn Mann husband of Karen Jean Kjellvik and son-in-law of Carol Kjellvik (Pagel) Kenny's sister.

Glenn Mann - December 09, 2020 at 02:40 AM



“ I am so grateful for my Uncle's love. He not only played the dad role for me and my siblings, he gave generously to everyone in our extended family.

As a child, I looked up to all my uncle's but Kenny was a protector, adviser, a safe place in the good and hard times.

Kenny taught me how to drive in LA, how to feed a family, how to lose respectfully at cards and how to share with others. There wasn't a week that went by that he didn't check in and know what I was doing.

That is love!

We know where he is now and he is free from disease and illness and is always in the know now, always in our hearts, and never far away.

Barb Orson - December 07, 2020 at 04:36 PM



“ My name is David Pagel. I am the nephew of my Uncle Ken Pagel and the son of Keith Pagel. When I think of my Uncle Ken's passing my immediate thoughts are there is one hell of us skit game going on in heaven!

Grandma Cora, Grandpa Ralph, Uncle Curt, Keith, my dad, Aunt Carol, and last but not least Uncle Ken, or baby Huey as some of us knew him as are all seated at the table having their favorite beverage hoping for a 31, or a skit. That and gin rummy we're two of my favorites. They also played cribbage and pinnacle. I was not that skilled :-).

My first thoughts of my Uncle Ken and his brother Curtis were they were a couple of wild guys from California that would drive non-stop to North Dakota to visit us once or twice a year. I admired that in them. They drove cool cars and we're pretty slick dudes!

We had many family gatherings where good food and great fun was always on the list.

When my father Keith passed away when I was 15, Uncle Ken stepped in and helped us in so many ways to become a family unit again. I will never forget that. Growing up he was always there for me and my family.

As a young adult I looked forward to my trips to California to see the sites, spend time with my aunt, her family and the rest of the gang! There were times where too much fun was had and a big headache was a reward the following day.

As Uncle Ken aged He did so as gracefully as one can. His trips back to North Dakota became minimal but his daily conversations on the phone were a Godsend. I enjoyed so many conversations with him over the years and his wisdom got me through a lot of difficult days.

I will always cherish my times with my California family. Not only is the weather much nicer, it's beauty magnificent, and the wonderful meals I was subject to created so many great memories.

As our days get shorter here on God's Earth, it makes me think of the important things, and those are God, family, and friends. God's peace to you my dear Uncle Ken and we'll see you on the other side!

David Pagel - December 07, 2020 at 04:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kenneth James Pagel.



December 06, 2020 at 05:53 PM



“ Though Kenny was my son-in-law David's uncle, he was Uncle Kenny to me and my family. We shared many happy times at Strawberry Lake with Uncle Kenny and Aunt Sara in years past.

My heart goes out to David, Barb, and Julie as they mourn his passing. When they lost their dad, Uncle Kenny stepped in as a surrogate father for them. He was a wonderful man who will be missed by all who knew him.



Jeanne Alm - December 03, 2020 at 03:15 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Raquel Ojeda - December 02, 2020 at 10:19 PM



“ Raquel Ojeda lit a candle in memory of Kenneth James Pagel



Raquel Ojeda - December 02, 2020 at 09:12 PM



“ Our Uncle Kenny was my moms brother. The Pagel family loved family and friends. At our holiday gatherings there was always plenty of food card playing and smiles. That sence of family is been passed on to all of us. My uncles have brought the most beutiful loving people into my life. Strong women with lots of love and kindness. There family values live on in all of us. We are all connected because of them. You would be proud of all of us Uncle Kenny our love continues Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Love Karen

Karen Mann - December 02, 2020 at 01:25 PM