

Kenneth M. Van Lanen

September 5, 1942 – July 28, 2023

Kenneth M. Van Lanen, 80, of Algoma, passed away on Friday, July 28, 2023, after a long struggle with diabetes. He was a tough guy, having survived many prior close calls. He was born on September 5, 1942, to the late Marvin and Marjorie (Sticka) Van Lanen. He married his high school sweetheart, Carolyn Rankin on September 7, 1963, celebrating over 59 years of life together.

Ken had a strong work ethic and took great pride in his work. He worked for Hamiltons, US Plywood/Hardwoods, Hamacheks, Emersons, and would often help his Uncle Ed Sticka with landscaping jobs. Ken's special times and favorite memories include the cruise he and Carolyn took, taking trips to Las Vegas, and spending time up north. He loved fishing, spending many hours casting off the Algoma pier. He enjoyed hunting with his father, brothers, and sons. Later in life he loved to reminisce about the crazy hunting escapades they experienced in the Black Ash and Slovan. He had a soft spot for and loved his pet cat.

Ken will be missed by his loving wife Carolyn; children, Chris (Karen) Van Lanen, De Pere, Jamie Van Lanen, Green Bay, Bridget (Dean) Johnson, Algoma, Tina (Kris) Schneider, Algoma, and Nick Van Lanen, Algoma; grandchildren, Matthew and Alex Van Lanen, Cassie Van Lanen, Brittany Johnson, Taylor (Johnson) Rosinsky, Michael, and Chad Schneider; great-grandchildren, Leo and Lincoln Van Lanen; brother, Larry Van Lanen.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Toni Sticka; parents, Marvin and Marjorie Van Lanen; brothers, David Van Lanen and William "Bill" Van Lanen; daughter Maria Van Lanen; mother-in-law, Fern Paul.

The family will celebrate a private memorial service to share memories and honor Ken at a later date. Kinnard Funeral and Cremation Services is assisting the family. Online condolence messages may be shared at KinnardFCS.com.

"If love would have saved you, you would still be here."

A special thank you to the staff at Bellin Health ICU (especially RN Paul L.) who comforted, gave dignity and peace to Ken and family in Ken's final hours.

