



Kenneth Ackerman

March 5, 1935 - January 4, 2022

Kenneth Ackerman, age 86 of Carbondale, passed away on January 4, 2022 in his home. He was born March 5, 1935 in Lansing, MI to Vernon and Virginia (Cutler) Ackerman.

On June 5, 1954 he married Barbara Jaynes. Over these past 67 years they created a wonderful life together. Barbie and Ken jokes are welcome! Their beautiful marriage was truly something to behold.

Ken graduated from Michigan State. He first worked as a professor at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA from 1959 to 1969. He then transferred to Southern Illinois University and taught there until he retired in 1996, specializing in Exercise Physiology. He was known as being an engaging professor who administered challenging exams.

Ken enjoyed fitness, running, sports, golfing and tending to his rose garden. He was an avid Michigan State Spartan fan. He loved to listen to jazz music, Dave Brubeck especially.

Ken was a devoted member of the St. Andrews Episcopal Church of Carbondale, dutifully serving as Chalice Bearer, Crucifer and Thurifer. He also served on the vestry.

Kenneth is survived by his loving wife, Barbara Ackerman of Carbondale; a daughter, Michele (Kurt) Reetz and a son, Mark Ackerman, all of Woodridge; a granddaughter, Natalie Ackerman of Chicago; a sister, Karen VanAtta of Lansing, MI; nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends. Ken loved his family dearly.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Nancy Kiebler and a daughter-in-law, Alene Ackerman.

Funeral Services for Kenneth Ackerman will be Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 1:00 pm in St. Andrews Episcopal Church with Rev. Dale Coleman officiating. Interment will follow in Dillinger Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 11:00 am until the hour of the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the St. Andrews Episcopal Church and will be accepted at the services.

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Dillinger Cemetery

Murphysboro, IL 62966

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
402 W Mill St.
Carbondale, IL 62901

Funeral Service

JAN 8. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
402 W Mill St.
Carbondale, IL 62901

Interment

JAN 8. 1:45 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Dillinger Cemetery
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth Ackerman*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *I enjoyed playing golf with Ken with the seniors at Hickory Ridge. He could sure hit them long and straight! And he always was sure to let us know how hard he rooted for his beloved Spartans. Condolences to Barb and family. May he rest in peace.*

Bill Vicars, Meridian, MS

Bill Vicars - January 16, 2022 at 09:17 PM



“ *Barbara- i just read Ken's Obituary in the Southern; I have fond memories of my time working with Ken in the Physical Education Department. Sorry for your loss.*

Claudia Blackman

Claudia Blackman - January 09, 2022 at 08:52 PM



“ *So saddened to hear of Ken's passing. He was a wonderful man with the nicest smile.*

Sue Zaitz - January 08, 2022 at 10:17 AM



“ *Kenny was coming into high school at DeWitt as I was leaving. We watched many a great basket ball game of the team he played on. At that time DeWitt was small enough that you New all the families in town. My prayer go out to Barbera and her family.*

Marilyn Brownlee Hiatt - January 08, 2022 at 08:22 AM

JH

“ Condolences to the Ackerman family on the passing on Ken. He was one of the best professors I had at SIU. Learning Orienteering from Ken has served me well for several decades.

Jim Hertz - January 07, 2022 at 02:52 PM

KB

“ I always felt part of the family when I was over at the Ackerman house hanging out with Barb and Ken and “the girls”! He was an awesome man!

Karen Biggs - January 07, 2022 at 12:29 PM

BW

“ Enjoyed the many years of friendship with Ken. Pancake mixing team won't be the same.
Bernie Weithorn

Bernie Weithorn - January 07, 2022 at 08:16 AM

BD

“ Our condolences to the Ackerman family. Mr. Ackerman was a wonderful man.
Bret and Sherry Dougherty

Bret Dougherty - January 07, 2022 at 07:03 AM

BD

“ Thinking of you all and remembering the fun times we had at Barb and Ken's house!
Love and prayers from Barb Dillow

Barb Dillow - January 06, 2022 at 06:22 PM



“ *Your Light Shines* was purchased for the family of *Kenneth Ackerman*.



January 06, 2022 at 01:56 PM