



Odell Kinion (Ken) Stephenson

October 25, 1940 - June 5, 2007

Odell Kinion (Ken) "OK" Stephenson, age 66, died at home on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, with his wife at his side.

Ken was born on October 25, 1940, in Corinth, Mississippi, to Vada Milligan Stephenson and Odell "Steve" Stephenson.

Two sisters and their husbands survive him, Nina and Matt Ferrante and Linda and Harry Alderson, all of Columbus, Mississippi.

He married Pat Cochran on September 24, 1995, in Titusville, Florida. They shared four sons and their families: Joey Stephenson, John Stephenson and his fiancée Robi, Keith and Sheila Stokes, and Scott and Becky Stokes. One daughter Liz Brown died in 2006.

Ken delighted in his grandchildren and he was blessed to have Cody, Danielle, Meredith, Kaylie, Kinion, Leah, Kyle, Jennifer, Zachary, Ashley, Drew, and Nick. The newest member of the clan is great grandson Skyler.

Ken was a Navy man, and proudly served from 1962 to 1969 and was discharged as a Master Sergeant. Several years in the Illinois National Guard included an opportunity to participate in maneuvers in Alaska dubbed "Brimfrost".

An electrician by trade, he worked at Lustour Corporation in Murphysboro, was self-employed for a time, and then migrated south to work at Cape Canaveral Air Station. He worked on the unmanned missile programs, which was a perfect fit for his love of space and flying. It was during that time that he lived aboard his boat, and thoroughly enjoyed the cruising lifestyle.

Ken loved working with wood and was a true craftsman. He would tackle most any woodworking project, many from his "honey do" list, which included several pieces of furniture for their home. Motorcycling was an activity that both he and Pat really enjoyed. They traveled on his bike at every opportunity. The "blue highways" were their favorites and he loved discovering out-of-the-way places.

The family would like to thank the nurses at the VA Medical Center, particularly the Oncology and Chemo nurses for their kindness and caring.

We call the nurses of TIP Hospice our "Band of Angels". Their compassion and love helped Ken and his family through this most difficult time. There are not enough words to thank them. We also thank everyone who offered prayers and caring words to us.

"Ken was well loved."

Tribute Wall



“ *Odell Kinion (Ken) Stephenson*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Linda and family,
I was so sorry to read about Kenny. You and your family are in my prayers.*

Brenda Lail Kemp - June 12, 2007 at 04:32 PM



“ *I'm sorry to hear about Ken. I grew up with all three of his kids. Liz was my best friend, I spent many of days & nights at their home. I know that he will be missed.*

Linda (Klink) Durham - June 10, 2007 at 10:30 PM



“ *Dear Mrs, Stephenson,
Please accept our condolences, We pray that God will help you in this time of your loss. I worked with Ken at Lustour, he was always ready to help me when I had electrical problems. We seemed to get along really well. Then later thru Church we met Keith & Shelia, they are special to us. Since we have gotten older, Zack and I have become good friends. He helps me walk, He helped me this morning, we will remember you and the family in our prayers.
Bill & Mary Baskin*

Bill & Mary Baskin - June 10, 2007 at 06:15 PM