



Kenneth Clauson

September 27, 1946 - August 15, 2013

The funeral service for Kenneth Clauson, 66, Kathryn, ND will be 11:00 AM, Monday, August 19, 2013 at Waldheim Lutheran Church, Kathryn. Rev. Bradley Edin will officiate and burial will be in the Waldheim Cemetery. He died at his home on August 15, 2013 while surrounded by his family and under the care of Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Visitation will be from 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM on Sunday at the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City, ND and will continue an hour prior to the service at the church on Monday.

Kenneth Elmer Clauson was born September 27, 1946 to Elmer and Myrtis (Mikkelson) Clauson. He was baptized and confirmed at Waldheim Lutheran Church of rural Kathryn, ND. He attended a one-room school, The Lindvold School, the first 5 grades and graduated in 1964 from Kathryn High School. Ken joined the Air Force in October 1964. He was stationed in Texas and Mississippi and then sent to Pakistan in 1966, Okinawa in 1967, and Viet Nam in 1968. While in Viet Nam, he was an intercept radio operator on a C-47 and flew 169 missions. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Force Commendation Medals. In 1966, he spent his leave touring Europe and especially visiting relatives in Sweden. It had been 60 years since his grandparents, Charley and Emily Clauson, had left their home land and come to the United States. Ken was the first relative from America to visit there.

On May 17, 1969, Ken married Sharon Hermanson from Litchville, ND. They made their home in Fargo, ND for the next several years. While there they were blessed with their children, Carla, Matthew and Kevin. Ken worked for Dakota Brick for two years before he started working for Eicholtz Masonry and formed lasting friendships with his co-workers. Also in 1969, he bought his first quarter of land and started farming. They bought a farm and moved to the Kathryn area in 1981. It was at this time that Ken decided he had to have a few cows. He dearly loved his animals and it was a sad day when he got sick and had to sell most of the herd.

Ken was proud to be Commander of the Nome Legion Post 83 for several years. He was also proud of the many men who marched with him every Memorial Day. He was a member of the VFW Post 2764 of Valley City, ND, the Kathryn Farmers Mutual Elevator where he served as president, vice president, and secretary, Barnes County Farmers Union where he served as president for 5 years, Plains Grain and Agronomy, and Waldheim Church where he served as president, vice president, trustee and sexton of the cemetery.

Ken was a loving, caring husband, father, grandfather and son. He was proud of his family and loved it when all could be together. He was proud of Carla and Darin and the life they had made for themselves and the kids. He was proud that Matt and Kim are the 4th and Weston the 5th generation Clauson farmers to live on his Grandpa Charley's farm. And he was proud that Kevin decided to follow in his footsteps and join the military. Austin, Anna and Weston were the light of his life. He enjoyed teaching Austin and Anna about farming and how to drive. He loved it when Weston called and said, "Hi Grandma, I want to talk to Grandpa," and they would talk about John Deere machinery. Ken enjoyed a good game of pinochle with very special friends, whist tournaments at Hermanson gatherings, and shaking dice and playing cards with his mother and Aunt Deloris. Visiting about farming or church related business with Pastor Brad and going for coffee with Warren were great days.

Ken and Sharon took many trips in the last few years and enjoyed all the visits with family and friends. The "bucket list" trips to the Englestad Arena, Grand Marais, and the Alaskan Cruise were more than we imagined.

Throughout Ken's battle with multiple myeloma his faith has been strong. He never lost his sense of humor or wit. He had wonderful care from the staff at Essentia Cancer Center and Essentia Hospital. Once he got home, the Hospice of the Red River Valley staff were a great comfort to us all, as well as the help and support from family, friends, and neighbors and especially Sheryl Hanson and Wayne and Isabell Elwell. Ken always said right here in this small community was the best place to live. He will be missed, but his memory will live on in all of us.

Ken is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughter, Carla (Darin) Jensen of Prior Lake, MN; sons, Matthew (Kim) of Kathryn and Kevin of El Paso, TX; grandchildren, Austin, Anna, and Weston; his mother, Myrtis Clauson of Kathryn; sisters, Janette (Harlan) Hanson and Joyce (Mark) Ertelt both of Kathryn; brother-in-law, James Cunningham of Thompson, ND; aunts, Deloris Ross of Kathryn, Rita Mikkelson of Mandan, ND and Jean Lenox of Seattle, WA; many nieces and nephews; a special great niece, Oaklyn Rae; several cousins; his

mother-in-law, Christine Hermanson of Valley City; and his Godchildren, Ryan Hanson, Lisa Lautt, Tammi Fauld, and Kirsten Just.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Charley and Emily Clauson and Severin and Turina Mikkelson; father, Elmer; sister, Marjean Cunningham, brothers, Myron and Donald; and his father-in-law, Arthur Hermanson.

In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorials be given to the Waldheim Building Fund or Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City, ND. An online guestbook is available at www.oliver-nathanchapel.com

Cemetery Details

Waldheim Cemetery

Kathryn, ND

Previous Events

Funeral Service

AUG 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Waldheim Cemetery
Kathryn, ND

Tribute Wall

D(

“ My sincere sympathy to all of Kenny's family. I attended Lindvold School, too. I remember Kenny and Leroy Thoreson as first graders. I, Dorothy (Nelson)Evers was perhaps an eighth grader at that time. He was such a pleasant, kind boy with those friendly blue eyes and magnetic personality. May God Bless you each day remembering His promise that one day we will be together in heaven. Dorothy

Dorothy (Nelson)Evers - August 20, 2013 at 09:37 PM

VH

“ God's Blessings to you at this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Vicky Justesen Hlubek - August 19, 2013 at 05:36 PM

IC

“ " Condolences to you all. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
From: Martha and Irene Coss in RAYMONDVILLE, TEXAS

IASBEL SISTER IRENE COSS - August 18, 2013 at 05:15 PM

KM

“ We want you to know that our thoughts have been on you as well as prayers. Ken was a very special friend, and will be so missed. Ken knew he was well loved by you as well as his Savior. Sending love, hugs, and prayers. See you Monday.

Kathy and Dave Meissner - August 18, 2013 at 12:10 AM

WE

“ Who else could make being stationed in Pakistan a pleasant experience.

Wayne Elwell - August 17, 2013 at 06:55 PM

LM

“ Love, Nick, Lorine, Davey and Evie Menzhuber purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Kenneth Clauson.



Love, Nick, Lorine, Davey and Evie Menzhuber - August 17, 2013 at 03:07 PM

LO

“ Your entire family is in our thoughts and prayers. Condolences to you all.
Love,
Nick, Lorine, Davey and Evie

Lorine - August 17, 2013 at 02:59 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Kenneth Clauson.



August 17, 2013 at 02:05 PM

JM

“ Sharon and family, You are in our thoughts and prayers. Judy and Harley Mathias

Judy Mathias - August 17, 2013 at 09:13 AM

IC

Condolences to you all. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
From: Martha and Irene Coss in Raymondville, Texas

Irene Coss - August 18, 2013 at 05:02 PM

RH

“ Carla, Darin, Anna and Austino

I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad (grandpa). We will be praying for you and you're family durning this difficult time.

Renee and Rick Hogen

Renee Hogen - August 17, 2013 at 08:24 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Kenneth Clauson.



August 16, 2013 at 05:25 PM

VK

“ Vicki, Tim, Anna, Trenton, & Julia Klasell purchased the American Beauty for the family of Kenneth Clauson.



Vicki, Tim, Anna, Trenton, & Julia Klasell - August 16, 2013 at 05:15 PM

LT

“ To the Families of Ken Clauson, I am so sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers to you all. He's up there in heaven with Mom and Dad having a beer and laughing about the old days. He will be deeply missed. Laurie Jo Tommeraus

Laurie Tommeraus - August 16, 2013 at 02:59 PM

KO

“ Sharon, Carla, Matt, Kevin and families. My sympathy goes out to all of you at this difficult time. Ken was an awesome man and I will miss his smile and kindness--he always took the time to chat for a bit when I would run into him somewhere. Remember Ken in your hearts every day and you have your memories forever. Hugs to you and prayers for strength in the coming days.

Kim Olson (Fossen)

Kim Olson - August 16, 2013 at 12:57 PM

DP

“ I extend my deepest sympathy, the family does not know me but his mother does. I stayed with Myrtis and Elmer when I was 15 and helped to take care of Ken and his sister. I remember him being such a cute, lovable child with a very keen ability to want to see and learn everything about his environment. I know he will live in the hearts of all those he touched. My sincere sympathy and Gods Blessing.

Donna Harland Potratz

Donna Harland Potratz - August 16, 2013 at 10:52 AM

DF

“ We extend our heartfelt sympathies.

Dennis & Liz Fick, Harold & Leone Fick - August 16, 2013 at 10:36 AM

JP

“ We are praying for you all. Doug and I never had the pleasure to actually even meet Ken, but have heard so many wonderful things about him through his adoring daughter Carla. We pray your hearts find peace.

Love Doug and Janeen Peterson

Janeen Peterson - August 16, 2013 at 10:06 AM

RJ

“ Condolences & prayers go out to the Clauson family. Ken was a good man & will be missed

Ryan Johnson - August 16, 2013 at 09:55 AM

PL

“ Many thoughts and prayers for you all during this difficult time.

Paul & Dana Lindemann - August 16, 2013 at 08:49 AM

MD

“ Much Love from Kim and Dennis purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kenneth Clauson.



Much Love from Kim and Dennis - August 16, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DL

“ Sharon & family, Sincere Sympathy is extended to you and all of Ken's family & friends. He was a good man & we had many hours of fun while preparing for the Kathryn School reunions. Our reunion committee will be at a loss when we plan for the next school reunion. God Bless his memory and may He send angels of comfort to watch over all of you. Duane Larson

Duane Larson - August 16, 2013 at 08:14 AM



“ Carole Sorenson Wheeler lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Clauson



Carole Sorenson Wheeler - August 16, 2013 at 03:17 AM



Sharon & Family, We are So Sorry for your loss. Our Thoughts are with you at this sad time. Ken was a wonderful man and will be missed by many.

Carole Sorenson Wheeler - August 16, 2013 at 03:22 AM

SJ

“ Sharon and Family,

I think it is kind of funny how individual lives intertwine. Kim being my cousin I had the opportunity to visit and interact with Ken and Sharon. Great people! Wouldn't find nicer! I am really sorry for your loss. Know he is in gods loving care and he will comfort you. You are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time! Thinking about you!

*God comfort you!
Sandy Schwab Johnson*

Sandy Johnson - August 15, 2013 at 10:22 PM

CN

“ Clauson Family,

While I only had the opportunity to meet Ken once, I so enjoyed our conversation and he instantly made me feel as though I knew him for many years. Carla speaks so fondly of her parents and her trips to the farm and I'm so happy that Ken was able to spend his final days surrounded by good friends and family at his favorite place on earth. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. God Bless!

*Sincerely, Carolyn, Kurt, Anthony & Madeline Niosi
(Prior Lake neighbors)*

Carolyn Niosi - August 15, 2013 at 09:02 PM

KJ

“ Sharon and family

Ken was such a wonderful neighbor to my parents. His thoughtfulness and kindness will always live on in our heart and he was a dear man to my granddaughter, Jessa. He will truly be missed by everyone.

My thoughts and prayers are with your family in your loss of a wonderful husband and father and grandfather.

Kathy Johnson

Kathy Johnson - August 15, 2013 at 05:19 PM

GF

“ So sorry to hear of Ken's death. I will always remember growing up as neighbors and going to school with him, especially when he shocked everyone with his Mohawk haircut.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. He will be missed by everyone whose life he has touched.

Gary & Gloria Fjeld

Gary Fjeld - August 15, 2013 at 05:11 PM