



David Francis Kempf

February 11, 1947 - March 12, 2018

With his family by his side, David F. Kempf, 71, of Fond du Lac, passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with pulmonary fibrosis on Monday, March 12, 2018.

David was born February 11, 1947 in Fond du Lac to Francis “Corky” and Virginia “Ginny” (Immel) Kempf. Growing up David was an avid athlete and was involved in numerous sports including speed skating, high school track (hurdles), water skiing, baseball, and softball.

Shortly after his graduation from Goodrich High School in 1966, David was drafted by the United States Army to serve in Vietnam. Dave was a Combat Engineer (Explosives) in Vietnam from March of 1967 – March 1968. After returning from Vietnam, he spent the remainder of his service with the army as a water athletics instructor at West Point Military Academy in New York.

David started his employment at Mercury Marine in 1969 where he was a machinist for 39 years until his retirement. During this time he also worked part time at the Copper Kettle in Fond du Lac for 25 years.

He was an avid sportsman, liked hunting and fishing, playing cribbage, poker and hickory nut picking. He enjoyed watching the birds eat from his numerous feeders. David was a member of many clubs, including the Elks Club, Eagles Club, American Legion, Copper Kettle Snowmobile Club, and the Forrest Gun Club.

He is survived by the love of his life and best friend, Rose Cleveland; his children: Adam (Sada) Kempf and Sarah Davis; two grandsons: Joel and Owen Davis; his former wife, Mary (Olson) Alaniz; four siblings: Keith Amidon, Judy (Kempf) Hall, Susan Kempf, and Linda (Robert) Theyerl; and nine nieces and nephews. David loved to be surrounded by both family and friends. Jim Behnke, Miles Mertens, Joe Enders, Chris Buslee, the Copper Kettle gang, and the D&D gang will all miss his humor, wit and charm.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother and one brother, William Amidon.

VISITATION: Friends may call on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, from 3:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Kurki-Mach Funeral Chapel, 31 East Division Street, Fond du Lac.

FUNERAL: A tribute to David's life will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at Kurki-Mach Funeral Chapel. Trier-Puddy American Legion Post #75 will conduct military services at the chapel. Inurnment will be at a later date at Rienzi Cemetery.

The family asks that you make a toast to enduring life-long friendships with David in your thoughts. Memorials will be given to Agnesian Hospice.

Special thanks to Larry and the Agnesian Hospice staff for their care and concern shown to David and family.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 20. 3:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory
31 E. Division Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
(920) 921-4420
info@kurkifuneralchapel.com
<https://kurkifuneralchapel.com>

Service

MAR 20. 7:30 PM (CT)

Kurki Funeral Chapel & Crematory
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Tribute Wall

CP

“ My condolences to David's family. I have very fond memories of him. He was a frequent presence in our household when I was growing up, and I always smile when I think of him. He could always be counted on to say or do something funny. My most distinct memory of him is of watching him ride his bicycle backwards up Sylvan Bay Road. He was sitting on the handlebars, facing backwards and pedaling. And it was a gravel road at the time, which made it even harder! I had never seen anyone else even attempt to do such a thing, and he made it quite far until the road got too steep. What a guy! I'll never forget his big grin when he came in the door and heard that we had seen him.

Carol Hanson Pollnac

Carol H Pollnac - March 25, 2018 at 11:07 AM

RF

“ Thinking of Dave with only good thoughts. It was always good to see him. Rest easy Dave. RJ and Pat Flasch

Richard Flasch - March 16, 2018 at 12:31 PM



“ Comfort & Light 30" Sonnet was purchased for the family of David Francis Kempf.



March 15, 2018 at 12:15 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Francis Kempf.*



March 15, 2018 at 12:06 PM



“ *Lonnie & Joanne Dillon purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of David Francis Kempf.*



Lonnie & Joanne Dillon - March 15, 2018 at 07:25 AM



“ *Thinking of David at this time...meeting in Jamaica with Rose. Lonnie & I forged a bond with them and became good friends meeting in Fond du Lac & Parsons, Ks. He was a very warm and sincere person who we enjoyed spending time with. Our love to Rose & his extended family during this difficult time. Joanne & Lonnie Dillon*

Joanne M Dillon - March 15, 2018 at 07:19 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Francis Kempf.*



March 13, 2018 at 08:52 PM

PB

“ Dear Rose and Family , John and I are so sorry for your loss. We have had so many fun times with Dave over the years.. The Copper Kettle days were the best.. It was like one big family out there.. Unfortunately we got older and did not see as much of each other but we will always hold those wonderful memories in our hearts. Now Dave and Jimmy can share some good times together again.. Our Deepest Sympathy,
Peggy and John Berenz

Peggy Berenz - March 13, 2018 at 07:48 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Francis Kempf.



March 13, 2018 at 05:56 PM