



Kenneth Orem

January 20, 1926 - June 28, 2018

Pratt, Kansas – Kenny Orem passed away in his home in Pratt, Kansas on June 28, 2018. Kenny was born January 20, 1926 in Liberal, Missouri to Carl Orem and Irene (Depue) Orem.

He married Doris Arlene (Thiesing) July 30, 1949 in Greenbush, Kansas at St. Aloysius Catholic Church. They made their home in McCune, Kansas. She preceded him in death on April 3, 2016.

As a member of the Greatest Generation, he served in the U.S. Army in World War II and the Korean War as an Infantry Scout. Kenny was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and Bronze Star among many other service ribbons and awards. He was especially proud of being able to “walk across Germany” during his service in Patton’s Third Army.

Kenny attended Parsons Community College in the early 1950’s. He worked on the KATY Railroad and at Parsons Ammunition Plant, Parsons, Kansas.

The family moved to Pratt in 1959 and Kenny worked for the Rock Island Railroad until his retirement in 1988. During his employment, he won an award and recognition for noticing a defective rail track.

Kenny was a passionate farmer and helped friends farm for many years around Pratt.

Upon retirement, he devoted his full time to planting, harvesting and raising cattle with his son, Terry on Orem Farms.

Kenny intensely enjoyed sports and politics and was proud of having coached Al and Dean Kelly in McCune who went on to the National Championship basketball team at KU and also played in the 1960 Olympics.

He was a member of the Pratt Elks where he recently received a 50 year member pin, and Pratt Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Pratt.

Survivors are children, Kenna (Paul) Cavanaugh of Wichita, Terry (Janene) Orem of Preston, Cheryl Orem of Dallas, Texas and Karla (Art) Wallace of Kansas City, Missouri; one sister, Elsie (Curtis) Wolgamott of McCune; 5 grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Kenny’s son, Gary, preceded him in death in 1981. Also preceded in death by parents and siblings, Viola Jean Orem, James “Jimmy” Orem, Josie Larcom, Leland Orem and Phyllis Osborne.

Visitation will be Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, July 2, 2018 at Larrison Mortuary with John Hamm presiding. Burial with military honors will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt.

Memorials may be made to Pratt County Circles of Hope Child's Care in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.

Events

JUN **Visitation** 09:00AM - 05:00PM

30

Larrison Mortuary

300 Country Club Rd, Pratt, KS, US, 67124

JUL **Visitation** 01:00PM - 08:00PM

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Larrison Mortuary

300 Country Club Rd, Pratt, KS, US, 67124

Comments



“ I hope you are happy Daddy...

Karla - May 10, 2020 at 09:43 PM



“ Karla is following this tribute.

Karla - December 08, 2019 at 02:03 AM



“ Well, almost one year since you left us...miss you.

private - June 25, 2019 at 01:22 AM



“ It's very strange now that you're gone too. It was extremely difficult losing mother, but now that both of you are gone it's very lonely feeling. It's like my roots have been ripped up... and will never be replanted.

private - March 05, 2019 at 08:17 PM



“ Well daddy, I hope you live forever and I never die. Another famous line you had was...see you up another tree. And I would say...I hope it's a willow.

I miss your stories; you always told such good ones. I miss some of your advice because at times you had great insight. I hope you're doing OK and just know that this kiddo loves you too. I'm sorry you struggled so. I hope you were still proud in the end.

private - March 05, 2019 at 08:13 PM



“ Terry and Janene, My apologies for posting so late. I don't always get the Pratt paper opened up sometimes, so I just learned of Kenny's death. I can easily visualize him with that infectious grin on his face, all ready to greet me with delight. It was just plain fun to be around him. He was a survivor and a go-getter!! Jim

James W Eubank - July 14, 2018 at 10:07 AM



“ My dad, Moe Pritchett, and Kenny were good friends and shared many great Rock Island memories. He will be sorely missed.

Damon Pritchett - July 03, 2018 at 03:42 PM



“ Terry and Janene,

Sorry for your loss.

Julie (Vratil) Eastlick



Julie Eastlick - July 03, 2018 at 02:12 PM



“ Prayers to your family during this difficult time. Kenny made our move to Pratt so welcoming! He was the best neighbor and we loved talking farm with him! He was an amazing man. Love from David, Lauren, Selah and Meryl Krehbiel

Lauren Krehbiel - July 01, 2018 at 09:52 PM



“ Cheryl and family, sending prayers and hugs to you all during this difficult time.ψ

Theresa Burrows Burns - June 30, 2018 at 03:31 PM



“ So many fond memories of the old neighborhood in Pratt! I'm so sorry for your loss. May a lifetime of memories give you comfort during this sad time. Cyndi Axline Renner

Cyndi Renner - June 30, 2018 at 02:09 PM



“ What an ornery, sweetheart of a man! Loved his smile — the kind that made u feel he was so glad to c u. We enjoyed our monthly visits with Kenny & DA & always looked forward to seeing them. Rest In Peace sweet smiling Kenny - we r so blessed to have crossed paths with u in this life. Until we meet again ... Laurie & Darrell Stroda

Laurie & Darrell Stroda - June 30, 2018 at 11:46 AM



“ Linda Broce lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Orem



Linda Broce - June 30, 2018 at 06:23 AM



“ Even though we were neighbors for just a few short years, Sheril and I were quite fond of both you and D.A. You will be missed, but know you are at peace and reunited with Gary and D.A. R.I.P. dear friend.

Brad and Sheril Hagler

Bradley Hagler - June 30, 2018 at 05:28 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Kenny



Karla Wallace - June 30, 2018 at 12:06 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Kenny



Karla Wallace - June 30, 2018 at 12:05 AM



“ Deanna Byers lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Orem



Deanna Byers - June 29, 2018 at 09:39 AM



“ I had opportunity to work with Kenny on several different occasions. I met quite a few in my years working on the Rock Island that made my life easier and Kenny was one of those. My prayers go out to his family

John Speake - June 29, 2018 at 08:46 AM



“ He spoke of you often...

Karla Orem Wallace - June 29, 2018 at 11:12 AM



“ Linda Broce lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Orem



Linda Broce - June 29, 2018 at 07:12 AM