



Kenneth Earl O'Neil

October 7, 1942 - September 24, 2017

Kenneth 'Ken' Earl O'Neil, Jr., died Sunday, September 24, 2017 after a long tough battle with prostate cancer. He was born in Auburn, NY, October 7, 1942, to Kenneth Earl O'Neil, Sr., and Thelma McGaughey Martin O'Neil. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by a brother, James Donald O'Neil formerly of Sand Springs, OK. Left to grieve are his wife, Linda Quisenberry O'Neil of Mooresville, NC; son, Brian O'Neil of Charleston, SC; twin daughters, Kathryn O'Neil & Deborah Speaks (Steve) of Mooresville, NC; his sister, Jean O'Neil Martin (Jerry) of Tulsa, OK; grandchildren, Caroline O'Neil, Charlotte O'Neil, Edward O'Neil & Margaret O'Neil of Charleston, SC, Sam Speaks, Mary Speaks, Ailey Nelson & Laura Nelson of Mooresville, NC. and many nieces, nephews & cousins of OK, PA, MO, NM, CO & NY. Ken worked total of 44 years for Ingersoll-Rand Company, Davidson, NC, Ingersoll-Rand Company, Dallas, TX, South Western Division Ingersoll-Rand Company, Tulsa, OK & Ingersoll-Rand Dealership, Tulsa, OK. Ken & family moved to NC in 1974. He served as the Manager of the Service Department, Applications Engineer, Continue Education Instructor, QA Monitor and was otherwise known as 'the compressor whisperer'. Ken enjoyed the many friends & acquaintances that he met throughout the years with Ingersoll-Rand Co. Ken graduated from Sand Springs High School in 1960 and Oklahoma State University School of Mechanical Technology in 1965, where he earned his Doctor of Mechanics. He served as President of the Mechanical Technology organization at OSU. Ken possessed the ability to recall names.

He could meet a group of people & after each had introduced themselves Ken would call each one by their name. Ken was a 'cowboy', once working for the Flying G Ranch of Lotsee, OK. He worked the herds of Registered Hertford cattle, branding, medicating, vaccinating, feeding, watering & birthing calves, holding staffs for the weed exterminator planes, riding his horse daily, checking & fixing the fences, and helping with the yearly Flying G Ranch picnic & fishing contest where the smallest fish won a Registered Hertford calf. He met the love of his life in the spring of 1963 at the local neighborhood 'Gas Station' and they were married in 1966. Ken & Linda celebrated their 51st Anniversary this year. Ken served 6 years in the Oklahoma National Guard Thunderbird Division Bristol, OK Motor Pool as a Master Mechanic. He was awarded a letter of Commendation saving the lives of a young mother and her 2 children. Ken finished his National Guard career as an E6. Ken was born with Amblyopia & was legally blind in his left eye. During the induction physical, the exams were slowing and the Lt made a command that one line would get their eyes examined & the other line would get their ears examined. Ken's ears & hearing were excellent. Ken was a genius with anything mechanical & was truly gifted with human behavior & conflict resolution. These talents served him well in his frequent worldwide travels to China, Russia, Great Brittan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Singapore, Australia, Aubu Dhabi, South Korea, Manila, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Africa & all 50 states. Ken retired October 2010, never wanting to board another plane again or touch another computer! Ken was a generous man and he was most proud of his children. He provided each one a debt free college education. He loved his home in Mooresville and often said he would never live anywhere else in the world than the United States. He once owned 3 Harley Davidson Motorcycles & kept them all humming down the road. He traveled with his 'Gang' from NC to Canada & back and many local excursions, stopping to help a fellow motorcyclist who needs a little oil on the Blue Ridge. He rode the Tail of the Dragon and "thought" about Sturgis. He enjoyed summers at Oak Island with his cycle buddies. He sold the last cycle to his cousin, Howard O'Neil of PA.

Ken was full of life. He always had great stories to share. He always looked for the positive side and would always say that "tomorrow would be better day". Ken was a member of Central UMC, Mooresville, NC. A final request of his family is to have a gathering with his friends. Services will be held on Sunday, October 1 at 4:00 PM in the Heritage House of Cavin-Cook Funeral Home with Eddie Karriker officiating. Visitation for family and friends will be from 2:30 – 4:00 PM. Please join Ken's family to celebrate the life of Ken & share your favorite memories. Burial will be on Monday, October 2 at 10:00 AM at Glenwood Memorial Park, Mooresville, NC.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the O'Neil family. Condolences may be made to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth Earl O'Neil*

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ *Kenneth Earl O'Neil*

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ *Kenneth Earl O'Neil*

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ *Ken was fondly remembered as a kind, helpful support to our team here at APO. Our deepest sympathies, and prayers are with you. It was a pleasure having known him and the tremendous impact he made to our staff.*

Jonathan Chupp - October 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Linda, I was so sad to hear about your husband's passing. It sounds like he was a wonderful person who I would have enjoyed knowing. Thinking of you!*

Barbara Ruiz - September 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ Linda, Kathy, Debbie and Brian- I was so sad to hear of Dad O'Neils passing. My thoughts and prayers are for you and the entire family. If there is anything I can do or anything you need, please know that I am here for you. I love you! RIP Dad O' Neil.

Natalie and Greg Payne - September 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ Hugs and prayers.

Susan O'Neil - September 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Ken was a Awesome Man a Great Leader and a very pleasant person. Ken will be missed by more than you would ever think . RIP Mr. O'Neil we will take it from here you co work Chuck Bissinger.

Chuck Bissinger - September 28, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences. I pray in the midst of your sorrow you find comfort in all the joyful memories shared and will always cherish these beautiful memories . Romans 15:13 -D.W.

September 28, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ I met Ken in NC during a training class. I had spoken with him on the phone to solve many air compressor problems. He was always friendly and helpful. My thoughts are with his family during this time.

Larry Brown - September 28, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Mr. O'Neal was a great mentor and a friend. He and his family watched over me many times growing up. Mr. O'Neil always had little projects going on. He might be working on a boat, truck, motorcycle, mower, or even a vintage glass Coca-Cola bottle vending machine that was always stocked! I was a curious kid and he always welcomed me over to learn something and get involved. The last memory I have, he let me ride his Harley around the neighborhood. What a treat! I'll miss Mr. O'Neil. May the peace of Christ be him and his family.

Kyle C - September 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ Linda, Debbie and Kathy, I was so sorry to hear about your husband/father's passing and, as a DAR sister, wanted you to know that I am praying for your comfort and peace at this sad time.

Angela Hedgepeth - September 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ To Brian and all this great family, How fun it was growing up with Ken and your family! I vividly remember Ken giving our gang of boys/goons a hard time for trying to be "Cool." He always made us laugh! He WAS a cool guy that I enjoying knowing, even as a kid. I still hold your entire family dearly. My Deepest sympathies! Grace & Peace to you each, Winslow Rogers

September 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ I am deeply sorry for your loss. May he be remembered for the good and kindness he showed toward all those whose hearts were touched by his generous and giving spirit. God keep those who pass on in his memory because they are precious to him. Psalms 116:15.

AC - September 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ I am sorry for your loss. May you be in my prayers. The Bible gives us all comfort in a difficult time such as this. I want to send my condolences and this encouragement.

September 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

EH

“ I first met Ken in 1998 as an instructor for a Basic Rotary Compressor class. Had I never seen or spoken to him afterwards, I would still remember him. Fortunately, I did get to speak with him several times over the years, and he visited a couple of our customer sites a couple years before his retirement. Ken was one of a kind, and a great man.

Ernie Hughes - September 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ To Linda, Brian, Debby and Kathy, We are so very saddened to learn of your loss! We thought the world of Ken. He was always so kind, friendly...and always smiling. He loved his family and was so proud of each of you. We are blessed to have known Ken! You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Sue and Dean Freeman - September 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Love the O'Neil family. So sorry for the loss of your father and husband. I cherish many fond memories of your whole family. Mr. O'Neil will be missed but always loved. Praying for you all!!!

Jaynie Mercer Carswell - September 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ I worked with Ken at I-R for 11 years, and it is true that he was always able to make my day a "better day." I learned so much about Ken from his obituary ... what a guy! And what a pleasure it is to remember him as a friend. Best wishes to you and your family, Linda.

Grace Cooper - September 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I am so sorry for your loss Debby I know how hard it is to lose your dad especially when you're a daddys girl you are in my thoughts my prayers and especially my heart I love you and I will do whatever I can to make you feel better

Diane Sloop - September 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Our pal Ken was the greatest friend and colleague! At work he would resolve all our air compressor problems and as a friend he was always there for us. I have a zillion memories of Ken that make me smile and laugh. We had a great time on all of our motorcycle trips. The world has lost a great one! Rest in peace my friend, see you around the campfire again in a few years. Love you, Dave and Vickie

DAVID WELCH - September 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM