



Kenneth Franklin Close

April 11, 1941 - October 29, 2023

Kenneth Franklin Close, 82, of Copan, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family on Sunday, October 29, 2023.

Kenneth was born on April 11, 1941, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, to Warren and Leona (Moon) Close. Although he only attended school through elementary, his life taught him the wisdom of working hard and staying humble, values he passed on to his sons.

Kenneth met his soulmate, Carolyn Janet Riff, at a young age. Growing up, they were neighbors and Carolyn used to say Kenneth annoyed her in their younger years. It was not until he was serving his country overseas when Carolyn realized she missed him. Kenneth used to say he chased Carolyn until she caught him.

On March 31, 1959, Carolyn and Kenneth exchanged vows at the Church of the Nazarene in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. At that time, Kenneth was in the Navy, so the couple spent 4 years apart with only 15 leave days a year. They stayed connected to each other with love letters, keepsakes that the family now cherishes.

After Kenneth was discharged from the Navy and the two reunited in 1963, Carolyn stayed home as a housewife and began to try and have children.

After trying for 8 years to have a child, they adopted their first son Mark in 1966. Two years later they adopted their second son David. Carolyn and Kenneth loved their boys so deeply! To their surprise in 1970, Carolyn got a call from the doctor telling her she was pregnant. She couldn't believe it! On June 9, 1971, she gave birth to her third son Jason.

Kenneth was a good provider for his family, working three jobs so that Carolyn could stay home and care for their children. He was a humble servant and modeled his life after Jesus. He served his country and his community, including working as a Bartlesville Police Officer. Kenneth always kept a sense of humor and was a jokester. He enjoyed sharing stories and also taught his sons hunting, fishing, and woodworking. Kenneth loved doing carpentry work. He was a Class-A mechanic.

Carolyn passed on February 6, 2023, leaving a gaping hole in Kenneth's heart. He said Carolyn must have had to pass before him, so she could hold the gates of heaven open for him. The family rejoices in knowing they are now together once again.

Kenneth is survived by two sons, David Close, and Jason Close and his wife Robin; 10 grandchildren, Derek Close and his wife Sarah, Dalton Close, Dylan Close, John-Michael Cordova and his wife Lauren Cordova, who is a granddaughter of both Kenneth and Carolyn, Samuel Close, Jason Rylee Close and his wife Lilly, Sierra McElfresh and her husband Isaac, Chase Close, Andy Close and his wife Caitlin, and Hannah Close; 8 great-grandchildren; four siblings, Earl Close, Karan Bilyeu, Mary Thomas and Donna Jean; and numerous extended family and friends.

In addition to his beloved wife, Carolyn, Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, Warren and Leone Close; a son, Mark Franklin Close; a granddaughter, Richelle Alexandra (VanDyke) Strickland; three brothers,

Floyd Eugene Close, David Lee Close, and Warren Close; and a sister, Carol Ann Dunkle.

Kenneth's family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, November 3, 2023, at Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory – Walker Brown Chapel, 4201 Nowata Road, Bartlesville, OK 74006, 918-333-7665. Come and go visitation will also be held from 10-8 on Friday.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, November 4, 2023, at the Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory – Walker Brown Chapel with Pastor John Serio officiating. Interment will follow at White Rose Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Carter Davis and Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory – Walker Brown Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

White Rose

804 west 11th st
Bartlesville, OK 74003
<http://www.cityofbartlesville.org>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 3. 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory - Walker Brown Chapel
4201 Nowata Rd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
(918) 333-7665
davisfamilyfuneralhome@gmail.com

Family and Friends Gathering

NOV 3. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory - Walker Brown Chapel
4201 Nowata Rd
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Service

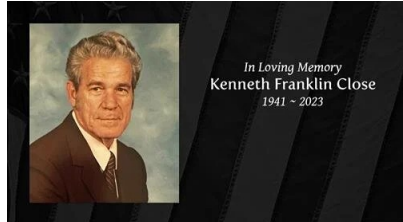
NOV 4. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Bartlesville, OK 74006
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Tribute Wall



“ *Davis Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Kenneth Franklin Close*



Davis Family Funeral Home - November 01, 2023 at 04:41 PM

KD

“ *Kimberly Dyer lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Franklin Close*



Kimberly Dyer - November 06, 2023 at 10:29 AM

RC

“ *Kenneth, you are loved and missed. We will carry on the funny stories and memories to our kids and grandkids.*



Robin Close - October 31, 2023 at 11:42 AM