



## Kenneth M. Dingman

November 22, 1935 - March 9, 2022

Kenny Dingman, 86, a lifelong resident and local business owner in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, completed the journey to his heavenly mansion on March 9, 2022, while spending his last earthly week at THE JOURNEY HOME, Dewey Oklahoma.

Kenny was born November 22, 1935 in Chautauqua, Kansas, to Elmer Woodrow Dingman and Virginia Bell Rector Dingman. As an only child, Kenny lost both of his parents at a young age. At the age of 17, Cecil and Oleta Brooks who owned Brooks Drive-in between Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and Dewey, Oklahoma, adopted Kenny.

On June 28, 1960 Kenny opened "Kenny's Cafe" at 500 S. E. Comanche, Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and was in the same location for 32 years until he retired in 1992.

In 1984, Kenny married Arva Smith Dingman on November 23rd in Las Vegas, Nevada. After retirement, Kenny and Arva purchased a fifth wheel RV and as Kenny always said, "We traveled the world!"

Kenny was dedicated to his family, especially his three children. He would say, "I have always tried to be the parent I wish I always had!"

According to his children, "He was the best dad in the whole world!"

Kenny spent weekends of many years traveling with his family and friends participating in rodeos as a calf roper. After retirement, he taught himself a hobby of making stained glass windows and figurines. You will find a glimpse of his beautiful artistry in the Ochelata First Baptist Church windows. His passion for stained glass craftsmanship can also be found in other churches throughout the Bartlesville/Dewey community.

In his latter years, Kenny became very passionate about his faith. He dedicated his life to God on October 12, 2002 and was baptized on October 13, 2002 at the First Baptist Church in Ochelata, Oklahoma. From that day forward, Kenny hit the ground running getting involved in the church. At the age of 69, he volunteered to be the chef at the Falls Creek youth camp. It was his first time ever to go to a church camp. Kenny spent his last 20 years serving the Lord with all his heart.

Kenny is survived by his loving wife of 38 years, Arva Dingman; children: Susan E. Powers, and husband Dar, Donna J. Metcalf and husband Lewis, daughter-in-law Lee Ann Dingman, step-daughter Rhonda Nodine and husband Mike, step-son Bobby Smith and wife Serena, and step-son Dale Smith and wife Brenda; 15 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and a host of other family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; adoptive parents, Cecil and Oleta Brooks; son, Cecil Dingman; and great-grandson, Kade Minor; and step-great-grandson, Alex Parrett.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation to THE JOURNEY HOME, 900 Washington Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006, [www.thejourneyhomeok.org](http://www.thejourneyhomeok.org).

Services will be held 10 a.m. on Monday, at the Ochelata First Baptist Church, with Pastor Bill Spencer officiating. Interment will follow in the Ochelata Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Carter Davis and the Davis Family Funeral Home – Dewey Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at [www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com](http://www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Ochelata

West 2900 Road  
Ochelata, OK

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

MAR 14. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Ochelata  
290 N Ochelata St.  
Ochelata, OK 74051

# Tribute Wall

SM

“ KENNY AND I WORKED AT BROOKS DRIVE IN BARTLESVILLE..HE COOKED AND I (SHIRLEY MOODY) CARHOPPED..HAHA WE HAD LOTS OF FUN!!

WE WALKED AT WASHINGTON PARK MALL AT THE SAME TIME HOLLERED AT EACH ..MORE FUN!  
I THOUGHT HE Was a great guy

kenny is in HEAVEN ..GOD BLESS FAMILY..SHIRLEY MOODY

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**SHIRLEY MOODY** - March 13, 2022 at 08:24 PM

PF

“ Kenny was a great guy that I looked up to i will miss him dearly

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**Paul Fugate** - March 13, 2022 at 01:36 PM

RB

“ kenny made the very best bread pudding with his world famous sause...  
Prayers for his family

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**Rosanne Nikkel BECK** - March 12, 2022 at 04:16 PM

MS

“ Mark, Holli, and Alexandria Stevens purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Kenneth M. Dingman.

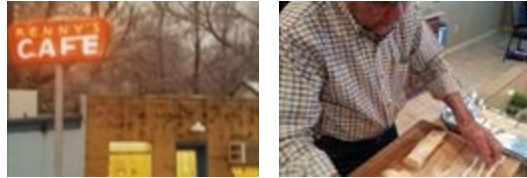


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**Mark, Holli, and Alexandria Stevens** - March 11, 2022 at 01:25 PM

DO

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Donna - March 11, 2022 at 11:00 AM

MP

*Appreciate the Café picture. I worked at Ward Electric next door to the café around 1981-82 and spent many breaks in Kenny's with the guys usually eating egg sandwiches. Kenny was always friendly and welcoming, and I especially remember him driving an old El Camino around.*

Mitch Petree - October 14, 2022 at 02:27 PM

SF

“ Sandy Whittenburg and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kenneth M. Dingman.



Sandy Whittenburg and Family - March 11, 2022 at 08:08 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kenneth M. Dingman.



March 10, 2022 at 07:04 PM

JS

“ *Jeanne Shepherd lit a candle in memory of  
Kenneth M. Dingman*



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**Jeanne Shepherd** - March 10, 2022 at 09:58 AM

LS

“ *We worked many days at Falls Creek with Kenny an Arva either  
cooking for the summer camp or remodeling the fcabin an us ladies  
feeding the guys. They were a very special couple an it was such a  
pleasure to work with them. Same thing in srerving besides them in  
the Ochelata Baptist Church.*

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**LINDA SMITH** - March 09, 2022 at 10:38 PM