



Kenneth Edwin Beach

September 18, 1930 - April 29, 2020

Kenneth Edwin Beach, 89, of Grand Ledge, passed away on April 29, 2020 at home, surrounded by his loving family. Born September 18, 1930 in Amberg, Wisconsin to the late Edwin and Anna (Werner) Beach, he graduated from Stephenson (MI) High School in 1948. After volunteering for service in the United States Air Force, he served his country in the Korean War as an aircraft mechanic. Upon his return, he attended Michigan State University and was awarded a B.S. in Engineering in 1959, with a specialty in packaging. After graduation, Ken spent 30 years as a packaging engineer at GM in Lansing (MI), retiring in 1986.

In retirement, Ken and Caryl enjoyed summers in Michigan's U.P, close to Stephenson and near his boyhood home on the Menominee River. Still, he looked forward to wintering in Arizona. He enjoyed spending time with family, hunting, fishing, woodworking, gardening, and playing billiards. He was an avid learner and reader. Ken was a devoted MSU Spartan fan, as well as an ardent Green Bay Packer fan.

Ken is survived by his loving wife of nearly 64 years, Caryl; his five children, Kevin (Julie), David (Mary), Lisa (Tom) Stuecken, Nola (Greg) Cockroft, and Keene; 12 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; and his siblings, Karen (Chuck) Smeester and Norma (Mike) Nekhay. His mother and father and his stepmother, Edna (Krumrei) Beach, preceded him in death.

A private funeral mass will be celebrated at St. Michael Catholic Church in Grand Ledge on Friday, May 8. Burial to follow at Wacousta Cemetery. In place of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Ken's name to the Arbor Day Foundation at <https://50-million.everydayhero.com/us/kenneth-beach-memorial> or to the Grand Ledge Area Fire Department at 500 N Clinton Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837

You may watch the funeral mass for Ken at 11:00 am Friday on the St. Michael Church YouTube channel at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0cHJ0g9uMkkSu5m0qpg2OA>
(Scroll down until you see May 8, 2020 - Funeral Mass)

Arrangements by the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge.

Cemetery Details

Wacousta Cemetery

13500 Wacousta Road
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Tribute Wall

MG

“ So sorry for your loss. Ken was a great neighbor in wacousta and our kids and us have a lot of great memories of the whole family. We always had fun getting our Christmas tree from their land. Love, Madelyn, Greg and Diane. (Walter passed away last October).

Madelyn Gehring - May 09, 2020 at 01:19 PM

NC

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Nola Cockroft - May 08, 2020 at 09:23 AM

PB

“ Here are some memories of my Grandpa:

I remember whenever my siblings and I went over to Grandma and Grandpa Beach's together we always had so much fun! Grandpa always had oranges and we would sit on the couch downstairs with him peeling and eating oranges (I always think of him when I eat them).

I remember sitting on his lap and doing patty-cake to "peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in a pot, nine days old".

I remember picking raspberries and radishes, riding with him while he mowed the lawn, or just sitting with him out in the backyard in the summertime.

In 1st grade I got a tree from school on Arbor Day, (I think it was a white pine, or spruce). We planted in the back yard. Each time I went there afterwards we would go see how much it had grown, and Grandpa would send me pictures of "my tree" every so often.

I enjoyed every minute of time I got to spend with him (and Grandma). He always put a smile on my face and always made me feel loved. I am forever grateful that he was my grandpa.

Grandpa you will be deeply missed.

I cherish memory and will never forget how you'd always make me laugh.

I love you.

*Love,
Paige*

Paige Beach - May 08, 2020 at 12:27 AM

NC

Paige thank you for sharing this tribute to Grandpa Beach. He loved you and all of his grandchildren and great grandchildren so much! There are so many entries in his journal where he wrote "Have such a Great Family!" He loved trees so the story of your arbor day evergreen tree is so fitting. I remember he and Grandma talking about "Paige's tree" in the backyard. I absolutely love that you have so many memories of him and the house in Wacousta. Love you honey!

Nola Cockroft - May 09, 2020 at 04:58 PM



Dear Caryl, was so sorry to hear of Ken's passing. Loren called me, but I also did read it in The Journal. Our sympathy to you and your family.
Jim & Winifred Pelkey

James Pelkey - May 18, 2020 at 11:30 AM