



Kenneth Lynn Wilhite

July 11, 1948 - December 31, 2024

Kenneth Lynn Wilhite, current resident of Lindale, Texas, frequent visitor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, left this earth for his heavenly resting place on December 31, 2024. Ken was a loving father and grandfather, and he will be missed dearly by his family. He attended James Madison High School in Houston where he was on the rodeo team competing in saddle bronc and bareback. He served Honorably as a Sergeant in the United States Army in the Vietnam Campaign, and for his service and in exchange for his right leg, he was awarded a Purple Heart and earned a Combat Infantry Badge and Army Commendation Medal. After his military service he attended San Angelo State University. He had a successful career with Browning Ferris Industries in Houston, receiving top sales awards. He later began his last career, which was in the oil field, and was employed by Weatherford Lamb, Raymond Hedge and Mustang Drilling and then as an independent drilling consultant and was pulled all around the world, including all over Texas, Louisiana, the Republic of Georgia, Romania, and The Russian Federation, Ural and Siberia.

Over the course of his life, Ken was an avid team roper, horseman, scuba diver, sailor, boater, water skier (slalom, of course). He loved West Texas and was an avid hunter and outdoorsman traveling to Colorado and New Mexico to hunt elk on horseback. For many years he was a volunteer at First Baptist Church Henderson teaching Sunday school and taking youth on summer trips. He loved movies – any and all kinds; classic cars and hot rods, history, and

conspiracy theories (especially about aliens and pyramids).

“Kenny” was the youngest in his family and anyone who knew him could tell. He was independent, entertaining, stubborn and unique. He never wore his cowboy hat on his head straight, it was cocked, inevitably to one side.

Ken is survived by his three (3) children, John Travis Harris, Jennifer Wilhite Green, and Kanaan L. Wilhite, his five (5) grandchildren Allison Lewis, Mark Travis Harris, James Owen Watkins III, Kanaan S. Wilhite and Madison R. Wilhite, his brother, John Wilhite and wife Debbie Wilhite, as well as numerous nephews, nieces, and loving extended family, inherited family members and friends. Other surviving family members include his former wife of 37 years Pamela Heinze Wilhite Hanson and extended family Roger Callender, Richard Callender, Amy Callender McBee, Wayne and Ann Heinze, Michael Wilhite, Jr., Lee Ann and Andy Mills, Michael Wilhite, Chris Wilhite, Sidney Price, Kim Hale Harris, Cortney C. Wilhite, Wayne McGinnis, and a host of Texans and Virgin Islanders. He is preceded in death by his parents, Celia Rush Wilhite and LeRoy Wilhite, his oldest brother Michael Wilhite, Sr., and Jane Bryce Wilhite, his sister, Celia Darnell Price, and sister-in-law Sandra Callender.

Visitation will be held on Monday, January 13, 2025, from 4:00-6:00 pm at Stewart Family Funeral Home Tyler and graveside services will be held at Houston National Cemetery on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 2:15 pm. We love you Pop! This world isn't nearly as fun or interesting without you in it.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 13. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Graveside Service

JAN 14. 2:15 PM (CT)

Houston National Cemetery
10410 Veterans Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77038

Tribute Wall



“ *Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite*



Stewart Family Funeral Home - January 09, 2025 at 07:59 PM

WT

Ken

Wayland F Taylor - January 15, 2025 at 12:03 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.*



January 12, 2025 at 08:51 PM

JG

“ *Mr. Ken was a wonderful neighbor and it was a pleasure to know him. Praying for comfort for his family.*



Jennifer Greening - January 12, 2025 at 05:29 PM

WT

“ With love, the Landing Strategies Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



With love, the Landing Strategies Team - January 11, 2025 at 09:52 AM

WF

“ Wayne & Ann Heinze & Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



Wayne & Ann Heinze & Family - January 10, 2025 at 12:14 PM



“ 85 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - January 09, 2025 at 02:26 PM

MM

“ Michelle & Dexter McKey purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



Michelle & Dexter McKey - January 09, 2025 at 12:45 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



January 06, 2025 at 12:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.

January 06, 2025 at 12:42 PM

TC

“ Tony And Anita Cavaliere lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite



Tony and Anita Cavaliere - January 04, 2025 at 07:21 PM

FS

“ Fred & Leslie Spell lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite



Fred & Leslie Spell - January 03, 2025 at 11:52 PM

DB

“ Dana, Kasie, Adrienne and Bethany purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



Dana, Kasie, Adrienne and Bethany - January 03, 2025 at 07:58 PM

DB

“ Dana, Kasie, Adrienne and Bethany planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.

Dana, Kasie, Adrienne and Bethany - January 03, 2025 at 07:58 PM

PB

“ Pop's Cape Cod Bridesmaids purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



Pop's Cape Cod Bridesmaids - January 03, 2025 at 07:28 PM

PB

“ Pop’s Cape Cod Bridesmaids planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.

Pop’s Cape Cod Bridesmaids - January 03, 2025 at 07:28 PM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.



January 03, 2025 at 05:55 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth Lynn Wilhite.

January 03, 2025 at 05:55 PM