



## Kenneth G. "Ken" Chromy

February 19, 1947 - March 26, 2020

A Celebration of Life Service for Ken Chromy was held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020 at Farmer & Son Funeral Home in Geneva. Kim Dunker officiated the Memorial Service. Ken's ashes will be interred at a later date in the Bohemian National Cemetery in Milligan, Nebraska. Memorials are suggested to the family.

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Kenneth George Chromy was born to Joseph F. & Alice A. (Nesladek) Chromy at Iva Liles Nursing Home in North Bend, Nebraska on February 19, 1947. He passed away at Heritage Crossings Nursing Home in Geneva, Nebraska on Thursday, March 26, 2020 after a courageous battle with cancer at the age of 73 years, 1 month and 7 days.

Ken was baptized and confirmed at St. Charles Catholic Church in North Bend, Nebraska.

Ken grew up on two different farms north of North Bend. He did field work and milked cows.

Ken attended country school at District 13. He later attended North Bend High School graduating with the class of 1965. He lettered in football and won many medals in track. Ken was a member of the National Honor Society and received many honors for his achievements in math. Ken attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln for 2.5 years. He volunteered for the Army but was deferred due to high blood pressure.

Ken married Linda Halm on October 4, 1969 and they later divorced. They had two children: Jeffrey & Michelle.

Ken later married Kathryn Bernasek who was originally from Ohiowa, Nebraska, on June 13, 1981 at the United Methodist Church in Geneva, Nebraska. They made their home in Lincoln.

In 1968, Ken started working for Gooch Feed Mill in Lincoln, Nebraska. He worked in the Feed Division for 23 years. Gooch later changed to ADM Feeds & Ag Processing. His work included salesman, production manager, foreman, and plant manager. As a salesman, he worked on the road living in Humboldt and then later Syracuse. When Ken got tired of traveling, he took the position of plant manager in the Pet Foods Division. He retired in December of 1992.

Wanting a slower pace, In the winter of 1992, Ken & Kathy moved to Kathy's family farm northwest of Ohiowa that she inherited from her parents. For several years they bought and sold collectibles.

In 1994, Ken worked for a soil amendment company selling soil conditioners to farmers in Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Kansas. This work expanded into the golf course industry and lawn services which enabled Ken to work from home. He continued in this line of work for 10-11 years. Ken also worked for a swine facility near Daykin, Nebraska for 3-4 years raising purebred hogs. When hog prices crashed, Ken was laid off from this job. He then worked part time for the Geneva Home Center until health problems forced him to retire in October of 2017.

Ken was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and had many radiation and chemotherapy treatments. He received a stem cell transplant from his sister, Margaret, in May of 2018. During this time, Ken and Kathy had to live in Omaha for 100 days to be near the University of Nebraska Medical Center. In 2018 and 2019, the doctors said that Ken was in remission. In October of 2019, he was diagnosed with Myeloid Sarcoma.

Ken was a fun, hardworking, kind, and generous man, and he always had a big smile. He loved to cook and enjoyed gardening. Everyone who tried them, enjoyed his spicy dill pickles, horse radish, and jellies. He liked fishing at the lakes and deer hunting in the fall on the farm. For many years, his sister Bernice Blatny accompanied him deer hunting.

Ken was proud of his Czech heritage and was an avid genealogist. He also collected stamps, coins, and sports cards. Since 1988, Ken enjoyed Husker Women's Volleyball and he attended many games over the years including two national championships. He also enjoyed Nebraska Football and Nascar Winston Cup car racing. His favorite pro teams included the Kansas City Chiefs, Denver Broncos, and the Kansas City Royals. Ken also liked to sing 60's songs, dancing, doing puzzles and playing Sequence with friends, Barbara & Bill Hanson. Ken and the kids always played Monopoly and their games lasted for hours.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents; brother Joseph Chromy, Jr.; sisters Janice Stieren Boyd, Bernice Blatny; sisters-in-law Carol Raye Bernasek and Carolyn Erickson; brothers-in-law Hilburt Stieren, Don Nelson, Rod Bernasek and Jerry Erickson.

He leaves to mourn his wife Kathryn; son Jeffrey Chromy; daughter Michelle Herold and husband Tom; grandsons Collin Johnson and Andrew Johnson; sister Margaret Nelson and special friend Elmer Huffman; sister-in-law Jo Anne Bernasek; brother-in-law Scott Boyd; and many nieces and nephews.

# Previous Events

## Family Present for Visitation

OCT **29**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Farmer & Son Funeral Home

242 N 10th Street

Geneva, NE 68361

(402) 759-3617

<https://farmerandsonfuneralhome.com>

## Celebration of Life

OCT **30**. 11:00 AM (CT)

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# Tribute Wall

LP

“ I never met Ken and remember Kathy only as a little girl and one of my distant cousins when she was growing up near Ohiowa. But I am so sorry to hear of Ken's death and Kathy's loss. Like many others, I appreciated his generous sharing of genealogical information about my ancestors, the Schelbitzki and Krutas. He sounds like a lively and fun fellow - I'm sorry I didn't get to know him.  
*Linda Schelbitzki Pickle*

Linda Pickle - February 15, 2021 at 02:52 PM

DK

“ I am so sorry to hear about this. Ken was a wonderful genealogist and do so much to help me with my paternal line. My paternal grandfather Frank Kruta was born in Milligan.

Denise Kruta - December 29, 2020 at 09:50 PM



“ 11 files added to the album Flower Pictures



Farmer & Son Funeral Home - October 30, 2020 at 01:37 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kenneth G. "Ken" Chromy.



October 19, 2020 at 12:11 PM

MB

“ Kathy & family.

*We are so very sorry for your loss.  
God's Blessings to all of you.*

*Marvin & Bridgette Brummer*

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**Marvin & Bridgette Brummer** - October 16, 2020 at 10:28 PM

MB

“ Marvin & Bridgette Brummer lit a candle in memory of  
Kenneth G. "Ken" Chromy



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**Marvin & Bridgette Brummer** - October 16, 2020 at 10:26 PM

RS

“ Rhonda Schlick lit a candle in memory of Kenneth G. "Ken"  
Chromy



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**Rhonda Schlick** - April 11, 2020 at 03:43 PM

JB

“ I began writing the 'Beranek Family History' five years ago, after Ken shared his  
genealogy charts, some photos and his insight from his study of the family. I will  
finish by this summer's end, and hoped to share with Ken. His extensive research  
and insight are the backbone of my story, and I am saddened he will not read it.  
He was a generous and patient tutor, and our family will be grateful to him. Thank  
you, Ken, and I believe you are in the loving circle of your family and friends that  
went before you. Bless you and your lovely wife, Kathy, and your children.  
*Jo Beranek*

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**Jo Beranek** - April 04, 2020 at 04:50 PM

MS

“ Margaret Sieber lit a candle in memory of Kenneth G. "Ken" Chromy



Margaret Sieber - April 02, 2020 at 09:45 PM

TC

“ Ken Chromy family---You all have our thoughts and prayers at this sorrowful time. We will sure miss cousin Kenny. Bill and Teri Chromy

Teri Chromy - March 29, 2020 at 10:33 PM

LE

“ Dear Kathy and the Cromy family, Kathy's parents and mine were close neighborhood friends, our mothers stayed close all through their lives keeping their extension club going- what does that have to do with Ken?? He stood up and became a close neighbor and shared his time, energy, and caring wisdom with my parents and our family. No matter what job Ken held he always walked that extra mile to see that it was done the best it could be. Our family sends our deepest sympathy although separated for now know that we hold you in our hearts. The Dick and Doris Poch family/ Lorelei Edwards

Lorelei Edwards - March 29, 2020 at 11:27 AM

DH

“ So sorry for your loss Kathy. Ken was so generous with his research, time and talents, much to the benefit of our family history. Even though we can't be with you physically, we are with you in spirit.

God's Blessings, Larry and Diane Heath and family

Diane L Heath - March 27, 2020 at 04:01 PM

SS

“ Steve & Barb Sadd lit a candle in memory of Kenneth G. "Ken" Chromy



steve & barb sadd - March 27, 2020 at 02:15 PM

LS

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family of Ken Chromy. I was a fellow classmate to Ken during our years at NBHS. Ken was a great guy, Loren D. Rosenberry, Sr.*



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**Loren D. Rosenberry, Sr.** - March 27, 2020 at 05:53 AM