



Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf

August 28, 1943 - May 8, 2019

Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf

Age 75, of Glidden, died on Wednesday May 8, 2019 at Marshfield Medical Center in Marshfield. He was born on August 28, 1943 in Park Falls, the son of Frank and Dolores (Straetz) Kempf. After graduating from Glidden High School, Frank attended the Ashland County Teachers College and U.W. Eau Claire, earning his bachelor's degree in education. On June 27, 1964 he married the love of his life, Karen Bonney in Glidden, WI. The couples wedding was officiated by Fr. Dean Buttrick, who will also be officiating the funeral. Frank was a teacher for 3 years in Boyceville and 3 years in Chetek before teaching in Glidden. Through his life, Skip owned and operated many businesses such as Kempf's Transportation, Kempf's Sales and Service Auto Parts, Skip's Amoco, and Black Bear Roller Rink. In 1989 he became the Executive Director of the Ashland Area Development Corporation (AADC). After retiring from the AADC, he took the position of Executive Director of the newly formed Park Falls Area Development Corporation. Skip was named Person of the Year by the Ashland Chamber of Commerce, was a past Chairman of the Town of Jacobs, and a member of the Ashland County Board of Supervisors. He was a co-founder and coach of the Glidden Little and Pony Leagues, a member of the Glidden Athletic Association, president of the Glidden Area Historical Society, and was very involved in the restoration of the Glidden Area Historical Museum. He was a volunteer fireman and very active in his community in so many ways, including being active in the Most Precious

Blood Catholic Church in Glidden serving as a Parish Council member for many years. Skip was very athletic and enjoyed both playing and watching his children and grandchildren participate in sports. For those that knew him, he had a keen sense of humor and was well known for being able to fix anything especially with the right tools: duct tape, zip ties and tear grease. Skip also enjoyed family time at the lake and spending time with his brothers and family during hunting season. He will be sadly missed by many, but we will remember his favorite saying: "It'll be fine".

He is survived by:

His wife Karen of Glidden

His mother Dolores Kempf of Glidden

(4)children:

Dr. Roberta "Bobbi" (Charles) Damrow of Park Falls

Marty (Talitha) Kempf of Osseo

Ann (Timothy) Kief of Park Falls

Christian (Carol) Kempf of Ashland

(11)grandchildren:

Cayle & Riley Damrow

Abigail, Madeleine, & John "Jack" Frank Kempf

Grayson, Grant, & Frank John Kief and

Jennifer, Jessica, & Gina Kempf

(1)sister:

Dolores "Dolly" (Tom) Rein of Marshfield

(3)brothers:

Leonard (Barbara) Kempf of Glidden

Timothy (Sandy) Kempf of Sun Prairie

Jeffrey (Karen) Kempf also of Sun Prairie

(2)sisters-in-law:

Janice Kempf of Glen Ellyn, IL

Maxine (Clifford) Butler of Glidden

(1)brother-in-law:

Patrick (Rose) Bonney of Glidden

His good friend: Choppy Lenz

along with many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, his brother Robert Kempf and his sister Wendy Wilson.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2019 and will begin promptly at 11:00am at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church in Glidden.

A visitation will be held on Saturday at the church from 9:00am until the hour of the service.

Interment will take place at Most Precious Blood Catholic Cemetery in Glidden.

The Novitzke Funeral Home is assisting the family.

www.novitzkefuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Most Precious Blood Catholic Cemetery

Glidden, WI 54527

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 11. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Most Precious Blood Catholic Church
256 E. 2nd St
Glidden, WI 54527

Funeral Mass

MAY 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Most Precious Blood Catholic Cemetery
Glidden, WI 54527

Tribute Wall



“ Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf

October 05, 2023 at 02:07 PM



“ I'm just learning of Skips passing. My heart hurts. Skip was a kind, gentle man. I remember when I was little I used to call him "uncle Skip". He told me one time that he wasn't my uncle, but a cousin. My response was something like, "But you're so old! You can't be my cousin!" I'm so sorry precious family. Praying for peace in your hearts. Loving you... Mindy Straetz

Mindy Straetz - June 27, 2019 at 10:27 AM



“ Karen, I am so sad to hear about Skip's passing. You two always treated me like another daughter and I will always cherish all my memories of spending time with your family. Helping out at the roller rink was especially fun! Know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Love, Jess (Fresacher) Pratt

Jessica Pratt - May 27, 2019 at 11:02 PM

JH

“ Karen and Family...

My sincere condolences to you and your family for your loss. I only knew "Skip" when he was very young and after reading his "Obit" it sounds like he had a very good life. It is hard being the one left behind but as Jesus promised us all that there is a special place for all of us after we die and I am sure "Skip" is in that special place. Wishing you peace and comfort in the days ahead.

Jim Hennes

James Hennes - May 15, 2019 at 01:01 PM

KS

“ Karen and the entire Kempf family

We are so sorry for your tremendous loss. So many wonderful memories of our years in Glidden and so many included Skip and Karen. Whether it be a sporting or social event, they were always there supporting their own kids or the community!

Such a difficult thing to lose a husband and father but with such a strong family bond and successful children, he certainly did something right !!! He will live on in all of your wonderful memories of him. Again, our deepest sympathies are with all of you

Kevin & Kathy Sipple

Kathy Sipple - May 13, 2019 at 04:43 PM

KA

Thank you Kathy & Kevin, he is so missed. So nice to hear from you.

karen - May 14, 2019 at 07:19 AM

LD

“ *Condolences to the Kempf family. Skip was truly a good man, someone to look up to and follow his examples. His patients with all of us as kids growing up on the bus, in the roller rink, or just in day to day is admirable.*

Cherish your memories both good and bad, as the memories we make are who we are. Heads high, be proud of it all.

I can still see and hear that big ball of keys dangling by his side!

Respects,

Leo & Jill Dunlavy and Family.

Leo Dunlavy - May 11, 2019 at 07:28 AM

KA

Thank you Leo, skip loved you boys. He said we need people like you who go out to make Glidden strong. He loved Glidden, missing him so much. Thank you for all your generosity.💔

karen - May 14, 2019 at 07:24 AM

J(

“ *Lots of courage to Karen and the whole family! During my stay, whenever I visited his home, Skip and Karen made me feel at home; with few words, fine humor and a big smile he made me feel like one of the American boys.*

I'll always be grateful for that and I am sure he will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathy to all you guys!



Jan Cartuyvels (Belgium) - May 11, 2019 at 04:41 AM

KA

So good to hear from you, Skip would have been so proud. We sure have had some good times. You were here for some of the best. I miss him so much.💔 I hope all is well with all of you.

karen - May 14, 2019 at 07:40 AM

NP

“ A great leader and role model. As a teenager part of the Clam Lake residential Youth Conservation Corp Skip made a very strong impression on me. I went on to work 36 years with the US Forest Service in large part to Skip's example and guidance. He will surely be missed.

Neil Peterson - May 10, 2019 at 10:08 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.



May 10, 2019 at 08:29 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.



May 10, 2019 at 01:31 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.



May 10, 2019 at 01:07 PM

BS

“ *Deepest Sympathy to the Family of Skip. He certainly was an icon in his community, an icon because his community included everyone. He’s one of those special persons whose memory will live on because he touched so many. He didn’t have to use words to spread the Gospel, he lived it.*

*Prayers,
Deacon Bob Schienebeck*

Bob Schienebeck - May 10, 2019 at 11:46 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.*



May 10, 2019 at 10:37 AM

MM

“ *Karen and family - my deepest sympathy to all of you with the passing of Skip. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time.*

Missy McCorison - May 10, 2019 at 10:12 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.*



May 10, 2019 at 08:59 AM

SG

“ To me, Skip IS Glidden. He was always looking out for the town and the welfare of the area. He'll be sorely missed. Our deepest condolences to the family. Our daughter is graduating on Saturday, so we won't be able to make the funeral, but we'll be their in spirit.

Steve Gustafson - May 10, 2019 at 07:31 AM

TA

“ Troy Tyler Angie Alexis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.



Troy Tyler Angie Alexis - May 09, 2019 at 09:51 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.



May 09, 2019 at 09:44 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.



May 09, 2019 at 09:41 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.*



May 09, 2019 at 09:06 PM



“ *Skip and Karen were the class advisers for 4 yrs for the class of 1976. They put up with a lot! Skip always had time for us. He taught us more than school work. He taught by example. We learned integrity, work ethic, kindness and love. My heart is broken. The world has lost one of it's best. God bless his beautiful family.*

Lynn K Naiberg - May 09, 2019 at 08:19 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.*



May 09, 2019 at 05:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frank "Skip" Richard Kempf.*



May 09, 2019 at 05:09 PM