



Mr. Kenneth C. Demers

January 21, 1954 - June 3, 2017

Mr. Kenneth Charles Demers, 63, of Adams, died on Saturday, June 3, 2017 at his home.

He was born in Springfield on January 21, 1954, a son of Janice (Patrie) Demers and the late Albert Demers. He attended schools in Chicopee and Springfield and graduated from the Cathedral High School in Springfield. He then went on to receive his Bachelor's degree in Physical Education and Health from Springfield College and had attended the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

At the time of his death, Mr. Demers was the Executive Director for Berkshire Works in Pittsfield. Earlier he had worked for the Corporation for Public Management and the New England Farm Workers' Council, in Springfield, as well as the Berkshire Learning Center in Pittsfield.

He was a member and treasurer of the Friends of Renal Dialysis at Berkshire Medical Center.

Ken will be remembered by his family and friends as an extremely loving and giving person. He was dedicated to helping those in need not only in his work but in his everyday life; he believed everyone deserved an opportunity to succeed. He was a dedicated father and grandfather who supported his sons in many endeavors through their lives and encouraged them to pursue their passions as adults. He was a devoted husband to his wife Noreen and cherished quiet times spent with her at their home, as well as on adventures to Cape Cod and around New England. Ken always looked forward to visiting

with his siblings and mother, Janice. Ken was an avid golfer and loved his regular golf outings with longtime friends.

Besides his mother, of Chicopee, he is survived by his wife of 39 years, the former Noreen Bourassa, whom he married on April 21, 1978;

two sons, Ryan Demers and his wife Tara of Plattsburgh, NY and Daniel Demers. his wife Brooke, and their son, Teague, of Newmarket, NH;

two brothers, James Demers of New York City and Christopher Demers and his wife Kathy of West Willington, CT;

one sister, Charlotte Demers and her partner, Paige Garvey, of Newcomb, NY;

three nieces and one nephew, Alexandra Demers, Amy Pearson, Jenna Philbin and Nicholas Peperis; and by his mother-in-law Norma Berozsky and her husband Thomas of West Springfield.

A Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated on Friday, June 9th at 12:00 Noon in Notre Dame des Sept Douleurs Church, McKinley Square, Adams.

Burial will be at a later date at the convenience of the family.

Calling hours are Thursday from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the PACIOREK FUNERAL HOME, 13 Hoosac St., Adams, which is in charge of arrangements.

The family requests the omission of flowers and suggests memorial donations be made to the Friends of Renal Dialysis, 725 North St., Pittsfield, MA 01201.

Tribute Wall

CA

“ I have know Ken as a colleague and a friend from his days working at CPM in Springfield through his latest job at BerkshireWorks. (Actually was happy to have served as a reference for him for that job). Always a caring person, especially to those in most need (homeless, people in poverty, young people).But I also frequently caught a ride with Ken to Springfield while at CPM when my husband and I were traveling and didn't want two cars. Always shared great stories of family and work stuff.The pick-up location was downtown Pittsfield (not his normal route to Springfield). One time he forgot me -- drove all the way back from Cummington on Route 9 to get me! Just the kind of guy he was.My condolences to family, friends and co-workers... Christine Abramowitz

Christine Abramowitz - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

CB

“ Noreen and family, I am so deeply sorry for your loss. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love you

Carol Gehm Boissonnault - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

AD

“ So sorry to hear if his sudden passing...

Audrey & Sam D'Alessandro - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

DL

“ My deepest condolences and prayers are with Ken's family. Such a kind, generous and compassionate man! God sometimes calls the best of us home first, leaving such a void and emptiness in our hearts. I will pray for him and for your devastating loss. He will always be remembered for his "dash".

Deborah Leonczyk - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

ML

“ Noreen, Remember me with smiles and laughter, for that is how I will remember you all. If you can only remember me with tears, then don't remember me at all. In your time of sadness I hope this quote from Laura Ingalls Wilder will help you. My deepest condolences to you and your family at this time.

Michael Lenart - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

KS

“ Your father was one of the nicest people I know and I know that he was a great dad too. You have my deepest sympathy on your loss.

Kristy Samson - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

BH

“ Noreen and family - Ken was more than a boss to me - he was my mentor, my friend and inspiration. No matter the situation, he always had a smile and saw the good in everything. No matter how bad things would/could be Ken always knew how to see the bright side. I strive to do that every day. In the words of my niece, "go hit some balls at the range in honor of Ken!"

Betty Hakes - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

LP

“ Ken you will be dearly missed. I'm glad I was able to see you before you passed. You were the kindest person I have ever known. Noreen was a lucky lady to have had you for a husband. You took care of Noreen and your family like no one else I know. You were a special person Ken. Love yah

Linda Polidoro - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

YO

“ Ken's kindness and perpetual smile was something I always enjoyed seeing as we worked together years ago and when our paths would cross in more recent years. We always shared a laugh, an appreciation for the good things being done to help others and a commitment to ongoing support of those good things. I will miss those moments. Heartfelt condolences to the Demer family.

Yasmin Otero - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

DN

“ I was very sad when I was told the news about Ken this morning. We worked together when he worked at New England Farm Worker's Council. He was one of the kindest and compassionate men I have known and he loved his family very much. I enjoyed all of his stories and I especially loved hearing about the coffee shop that his son had opened. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Donna Nadeau
Department of Housing and Community development

Donna Nadeau - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

LW

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. He was an amazing man with a huge heart and he will be missed. God Bless

Lynn White - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

MG

“ We'll miss Ken. He always made us feel welcome and was a joy to be around.

Marty and Karen Glynn - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

DM

“ He's only gone on ahead of you, Not just left you behind. Although you can't be with him right now, He lives on in your heart and mind. The day will come when you'll meet again On Heaven's distant shore, And the two of you will walk hand in hand Together forever more. My sincerest condolences on the passing of Ken. We was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed.

Diana Mielowski - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

SM

“ I'm deeply saddened in hearing this news today, Ken was a wonderful man. My sympathies, thoughts and prayers are with you Noreen and family.

Susan Moore - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

GK

“ I worked with Ken on the FORD Foundation-I worked at BMC renal dialysis. A lovely man and I am so saddened by the loss of a great man. My thoughts and prayers are with the family

Gina Kelly - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

PS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all who were close to Ken, may they find that inner peace that is so needed at this very tough time.

Patrick Sheeran - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

AA

“ Dear Mr. Demers. Woaah... i am still in shock.. but i understand.. that you should do things as soon as possible and not put it till tomorrow. I was supposed to come and chat a little with you .. but .. God called you back. I am sure he got big plans for you there Mr. Ken. Thank You for the LOVE my Brother. the way you look at someone's heart... God bless you for everything you have done and helped on doing... until we meet my brother. May God give strength and comfort to your family and friends.. You will always be in our hearts and prayers brother Ken. until next time... Thank you again for the LOVE. #Angel on Earth... you got your wings now. RIP. Amin

Aziz Adjao - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

KH

“ My Deepest Condolences to Ken's Family. I worked with Ken over many years, he will be greatly missed. I send my thoughts and prayers.

Kim Harmon - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

MF

“ My deepest condolences to Ken's family and loved ones. I have had the pleasure of knowing Ken professionally for many years. He will be missed.

Maria Ferreira-Bedard - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

MF

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Maria Ferreira-Bedard - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

FB

“ Dear Noreen & Family, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Ken. I was hired by Ken at the Berkshire Learning Center fresh out of college in 1982. I admired his approach with the adolescents we educated and he was extremely supportive of me. My heart goes out to you all! Take Care & God Bless!

Fred Barschdorf - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

IM

“ My condolences to Ken's family. Met him in Young Parents Program- YPP. Excellent human being. Rest in Peace, Ken.

Iris Molina - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

PR

“ My deepest sympathy to Ken's family. I worked with Ken for years, both at CPM and NEFWC. His was always the gentle voice of reason (and a great sense of humor to go with it). The world has lost one of it's best.

Peggy Rishel - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

JW

“ Hi Ryan, I'm so sorry to hear that your father has died. This will be a hard season for you. When someone that important to us dies, our lives are never the same. I will be thinking of you and will ask the Lord to comfort you.

John Walker - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

JP

“ A sad surprise. Ken was a kind, sincere, and honest person.

Joseph Panzica - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

KS

“ Ken was the Principal of my high school and I really was lucky to have known him

Ken Springhetti - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

CC

“ Ken was the Residence Director and later the principal at my school. He was someone that students and staff all respected deeply. He even helped me when I needed information years later after the school closed. Now I wish that I kept those last emails. Whenever my wife and I choose to camp in the Berkshires, she gets an earful about Ken. My heart feels for the Demers family that is missing him.

Chris Chandonait - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

CB

“ Dearest Demers Family, I have never met Kenneth. His son, Dan, is one of my best friends. Dan is a reserved person yet he exudes compassion and kindness. Dan, like his own father, adores his son. I am deeply sorry for Kenneth's sudden passing. He lives on in his sons, grandchild and future grandchildren. With much love, Claudia Barrett

Claudia Barrett - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

LR

“ Dear Demers family: I just learned of the passing of my friend Ken in the Springfield College Alumni Magazine. Ken was my classmate at Springfield College, and my business partner when we were the chefs for two summers at Camp Woodstock YMCA camp in Woodstock Connecticut. Ken and I were a team and a tour-de-force in the kitchen. We had a psychic connection together. We could communicate with one another without speaking, and we entertained the entire camp, from the kids to the counselors with our comedy act. One of my most memorable times with him was when we went with friends to Newport Rhode Island to watch the 1976 America's Cup races. We sailed on a 60 foot sailboat, and went out for dinner at Custy's all-you-can eat lobster restaurant. We waited in line to get in to Custy's behind Bobo Brazil, a famous professional wrestler at the time. We competed with Bobo to see who could eat the most lobster. We lost, but I remember that Ken ate 14 lobsters. I remember that the losers had to get up on the table and sing to the diners in the restaurant. A memorable weekend. My other great memory of Ken was from the winter of our senior year at Springfield College, when we sponsored and cooked for our friends a massive pig roast on the east campus of Springfield College. It was our last hurrah as a comedy team. I lost track of Ken. I never talked to him again after that summer. But he was an amazing guy. I know that all of the success that I have had in my career started right there in the kitchen of Camp Woodstock. My condolences to you. Lorin Ranbom
LorinRanbom@yahoo.com

Lorin Ranbom - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM

DJ

“ Dear Demers Family: I too just read about Ken's passing in the Springfield College Alumni bulletin. My deepest sympathies to the entire Demers family for your loss. Ken was one of my best friends at Springfield College (Class of 1976) - we were roommates in International Hall during our sophomore year and we were teammates on the track and field team all four years at SC. Ken was a wonderful and loyal friend, a terrific teammate, an amazing athlete (triple jump and long jump were his specialties) and just an all-around good guy. My wife Mary Ellen and I will certainly keep Ken and his family in our thoughts and prayers. Respectfully -David Johnson davidlinnjohnson7276@gmail.com

David Johnson - June 07, 2018 at 11:06 AM