



Kenneth W. Brancheau, Sr.

August 19, 1923 - March 27, 2012

Kenneth W. Brancheau, Sr., age 88, a resident of Royal Oak since 1951, died March 27, 2012 at his home. He was born August 19, 1923 in Detroit. Mr. Brancheau was a World War II U.S. Army veteran who served in the South Pacific Theater in the Signal Corps. He retired in 1986 from the Michigan Bell Telephone Company after 42 years of service as a cable splicer. He was the first van driver for the Royal Oak Senior Citizens and drove for more than 20 years. He was an Election Committee Chairman for Royal Oak, and a very active parishioner of St. Mary Catholic Church in Royal Oak since 1962. He is survived by his wife, Janavice Caren Brancheau; the couple married June 22, 1946 at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Park; children, Mary Lou O'Keefe of San Diego, CA, Peggy Mullenniex of Berkley, Patrick Joan Brancheau of Bloomfield, Jane Brancheau of Royal Oak, Jerry Brancheau of Royal Oak, Kenneth Mary Brancheau, Jr. of White Lake, Elaine Carlisle of Royal Oak, Charles Cindi Brancheau of Aurora, IL, Jon Ann Wayne MacKenzie of Royal Oak and Megan Cooley Smith of Waxhaw, NC; 23 grandchildren; and 13 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Kathleen Brancheau in 1965; and son, Michael Brancheau in 2008. The visitation will be Thursday 1-9 p.m. with a 7 p.m. scripture service at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W Eleven Mile Road 4 blks. E of Woodward, Royal Oak. Mr. Brancheau will lie in state Friday 11:30 a.m. until the time of Mass 12 noon at St. Mary Catholic Church in Royal Oak. The burial will take place at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorials to

the Capuchins or Michigan World War II Legacy Memorial appreciated. Share your memories at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Tribute Wall

MF

“ *you and your family are in my prayers.*

Michele Fournier - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *sorry ABOUT YOUR LOSS, YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS DAVE AND ADELE*

David M FOURNIER - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ *Dear Brancheau Family, I am so sorry and deeply saddened to hear about my Godfather, passing away. I have this wonderful picture of Mr and Mrs B. at my wedding, with bright happy smiles. I will always treasure every memory of growing up on Harrison Ave. because of Mr. B, and family, the friendships that were made. God Bless the newest Angel looking over us. Be at Peace Hero, you have earned it, God Bless the family....lot's of love*

Dawn Guida - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *Megan Carlisle & Family, I could tell by looking at the pictures and seeing the video that your grandfather was a special man. Mr. Raymond remembers him well from the day he came to the house. I know you'll miss him but take comfort in knowing he is there each day watching out for you. Love, Mrs. Raymond*

Susan Raymond - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CZ

“ Dear Brancheau Family, There must be a wonderful WWII Army Reunion in Heaven tonight! I knew Ken from St. Mary's, but I also had the privilege of escorting Kenneth to Washington, DC to see the World War II Memorial with Honor Flight Michigan. His service to our country will always be appreciated, and never forgotten. Thank you, Mr. Brancheau. Thank you to the Family for contributing to the Legacy Project to build the Michigan WWII Memorial right here in Ken's home town. His memory will live on..... You have my sincere sympathy in your loss, Cathy Zimmerman

Catherine Naas Zimmerman - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ If Heaven has a Senior Bus Driver, Ken must be singing "Jesus Take the Wheel". I met Michael on the other side of THE world in Viet Nam...now I'm looking forward to meeting Ken on the other side of THIS world. Please save us a seat on the bus. What a good, strong, solid, dependable Christian man. Our loss...heaven's gain. God Bless all the Brancheaus. Jerry & Nancy Ellison

Jerry Ellison - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Sharon and i are so sorry for your loss, Kenny was a great guy and a good friend, we were always glad to see him, because he was always glad to see us, his face was full of smiles and laughter, and i have alot of great memories with him, he always kept me laughing. He will be missed. Our prayers go out for the family and friends.

tom & sharon forti - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Rest in Peace Kenny.You were one of the best liked and most respected Telephone Employee that I knew in my 37 yrs.

Dale Patenaude - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ So sorry to hear about you loss... We will keep you in our prayers

Kitty Buiteweg Foss - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dearest Jonnie and family, Many prayers and thoughts to you all. Ken's kindness, love and genuine warmth touched all he met. We have been so blessed to have had him in our family's lives. Heaven has gained a saintly man , ready and able to help anyone else who needs him!!

Marcia and Buzz Miller - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Thoughts and prayers to the Brancheau family. Mr. B was one of the "Harrison" dads we all looked up to and respected dearly and who welcomed all into his home and heart.

George Schrein and Family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dear Aunt Jonnie and family, Words cannot express just how much Uncle Ken meant to so many, and how much better our lives have been because of him. His kindness, generosity and playful spirit brought joy and comfort to so many, and in return he was loved and admired deeply. There seems to be no better example of a life well-lived. May you all find peace and comfort in abundant fond memories, and strength in each others love and support.

John & Debbie Shank - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GO

“ Dear Jonny, I am so sorry for your loss. Kenny was one of the good guys. He will be missed greatly. My prayers are with you and your family. With Love, Gary

Gary O'Keefe - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Johnie our Prayers go out for you. Your Back Yard Neighbors on Hudson, and YMCA Friends for years. Ron and Marianne Peludat

Marianne and Ron Peludat - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Our payers go out to your family

David DeBastos - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I will NEVER forget Uncle Kenny and the kindness he had always shown towards me since I became a member of the Gaabo family! I am sure we will meet again at a pool in Heaven where he can continue to be the "big kid" he always was, goofing off and continue splashing me as he did at our last Family Reunion. You made everything so much fun! Thank You! I will miss you. Love, Stacie Gaabo

Stacie Gaabo - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ We are so sorry for your loss. My wife and I are very good friends of the Bernia family. We remember Kenny at many of the family reunions. May he rest in peace.

Bob & Judy Kavanagh - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ To the Brancheau Family, So sorry for your loss---knew Ken and Jannie from the South Oakland YMCA He will be missed by many members. Love and prayers , Earline Berndt

Earline Berndt - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ I did not have the pleasure of knowing Uncle Kenny a long time, but he was always very kind to me and always happy. RIP Uncle Kenny, you will be missed.

Mike Milligan - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Brancheau Family, so very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. You are in our prayers. With deepest sympathy, Lisa, Jessica, & Jake

Lisa Sarch & Family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Mr. Brancheau will be deeply misses. Great memories going way back. My condolences to Mrs. Brancheau and family

Tom Bell - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ Since 1962 Mr. and Mrs. Ken Brancheau have been a main fabric of the St. Mary Community, Ken was man's man. At the same time, he was a wonderful, helpful person with a great sense of humor.He was such a warm, welcoming person to all the kids, as his wife Janavice has been. He has been the ultimate example as a husband,father,and friend. "A Great Catholic Gentleman."

Chuck Nutt - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *Mr Brancheau, you will be missed. You always made me feel welcome and one of the family. What a great guy.*

Dawn Donnelly - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *JonAnn and Elaine - My deepest sympathy to you and your families. May the memories you have of good times you shared bring you peace in the days ahead. I will be out of town until Friday so am unable to be with you. Hugs to you both!*

Colleen Rozman - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Mr.Brancheau was a wonderful man.I have many fond memories of your family from years ago!He was a great Dad,husband,friend to many...I hope all of you find comfort knowing just how loved he was!*

Joan Malane Mason - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ *The world seems a little bit colder without Mr. Brancheau. I will never forget how nice he always was to my Mother.I wish his family peace.*

Karen Mac Kenzie King - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Ken Brancheau was a great man who was dedicated to his family, friends, and community. He was always the first to step forward to drive the elderly, set up for special events, promote independent living, answer phones, save a life, play Santa Claus, go above & beyond the call of duty...and that was ONLY for the Senior Center. All the lives Ken touched are much richer for having known him. I will remember him always.

Kathy Heikkila - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Dear Brancheau family; Your husband and dad touched so many lives he will be sorely missed. He is in Heaven now with the the God he so loved. His service to others began when he fought for our freedom in WW11 and he never stopped helping others for 70 years: God, family, friends, and anyone else who needed help.

Kevin & Jennie Sutherland - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Dear Brancheau Family - so sorry to hear of the passing of your beloved husband and father. Cliff and I admired Ken for his love of family and quiet sense of humor. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this very sad time.

Marie Howell - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ A well respected man and a well respected family in the St. Mary Royal Oak community. He will be missed. Prayers to the family for this sad event.

Francis T. Maher - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Good man and caretaker of those he knew. Now in the company of other rare men like himself. Probably arguing about which beer is best, but in good company nevertheless. Love you Uncle Kenny. To those who knew him, may you have the physical comfort and peace of mind within which to feel God's love as Uncle Kenny would wish.

John Caren - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MQ

“ Rest in peace Mr. Brancheau, rest in peace.

Murphy and Pam Quinn - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Murphy and Pam Quinn - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ The first verse that came to mind when thinking about you recently was 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. You are LOVE! We were blessed to have known you.

Jon and Shari Lee and family - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Rest in peace dearest uncle. The world has lost a giant of a man whose love knew no bounds.

Pat Shank - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ So many good memories growing up as neighbors in Royal Oak,, your whole family is in my thoughts and prayers! R.I.P. Mr Brancheau! you were loved, admired and respected!

carole calverley wilson - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Dad made life fun. He was always upbeat, positive, helpful, encouraging, and honest. He shared everything he had and asked for nothing in return. Dad was loved by everyone especially his family. Rest in Peace - take a break for a change! And, St. Peter, if you need any help, I'm POSITIVE dad would LOVE to help greet all the newcomers to Heaven! See you in the afterlife! Love always!

Mary Brancheau - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM