



Kenneth Rowe Sumner

May 29, 1943 - December 6, 2025

Kenneth Rowe Sumner, of Sterling Heights, Michigan, passed away on December 6, 2025, at the age of 82. Ken was born on May 29, 1943, in Allenton, Michigan, to Vincent and Frances (nee Mosher) Sumner. Ken is the cherished husband of 56 years to Bonnie; the loving father of James (Tara) Sumner and Kendra (Randy) Gosk; the adored grandfather of Luke, Kaleb, Carly, and Kennedy; and the dear brother of Kathie (Bill) Campbell and Nancy Griffiths (predeceased).

Ken grew up on a farm in Armada, Michigan, where his love for cars and numbers began. He loved classic muscle cars, but his true love was always the Chevy Corvette. He owned several and loved to drag race his favorite cars and clean them meticulously to display them at car shows from which he won numerous awards. Because of this passion for his Corvettes, he became an active member of the Corvette Club for over 25 years. His love of numbers brought him to Michigan State University where as a student he majored in Mathematics and earned a Masters plus degree at Wayne State University. He taught various Math classes at Centerline Public Schools for over 35 years. He was also an adjunct professor at Macomb Community College and Oakland Community College for over 20 years.

Ken was a super fan of his alma mater, MSU. You could always catch him watching them on TV. Go Green, Go White! His super fan role was magnified when his children and grandchildren were born, starting in 1970. There wasn't a game or activity that he would miss and he would arrive early enough to talk

to the coaches and spectators alike, sometimes even driving a "trial run" to check out the venue before the actual game. He was the biggest fan of their athletic pursuits and academic ones, as well. Ken was not only a fan, but liked to dabble in sports, especially with family. He enjoyed fishing and golfing and you could even catch him playing cornhole at a family birthday party with an Oreo in hand.

Most importantly, Ken was a faithful church attender. He was saved by Jesus Christ as a young man and baptized. He lived his life well for Christ. Even in his last days, it was important to him that the medical staff know that God was in control and that he was going "home."

Ken's family will receive friends for visitation on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blocks East of Van Dyke), Utica. Visitation will continue on Wednesday, December 17, from 10:30 a.m. until the time of Ken's service at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Entombment at Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township. Memorials are appreciated to Bethany Baptist Church, 19700 15 Mile Road, Clinton Township, MI 48035, or at <https://connect2bethany.churchcenter.com/giving>, or the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, 383 Main Avenue, 7th Floor, Norwalk, CT 06851, or at <https://themmrf.org/>. Please share a story of Ken or leave a tribute at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Visitation

DEC 17. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Funeral Service

DEC 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Utica
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317

Burial

DEC 17. 12:15 PM (ET)

Resurrection Cemetery
18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Tribute Wall

CD

“ My deepest condolences go out to the family of Ken Sumner at this most sorrowful time.

I had the pleasure of meeting Ken and enjoying events with him at the Corvette Club of Michigan, and he was always in good spirits, a fierce competitor and always willing to help out whenever needed!

Carl D. Dutch

Past President, Corvette Club of Michigan

Carl Douglas Dutch - December 18, 2025 at 01:44 PM

RW

“ I started becoming acquainted with Ken when I was around the age of 13 in the Corvette Club of Michigan. Around this time my grandfather, also named Ken, had passed away. Ken kind of reminded me of my grandfather at the time. I was helping my dad show my grandpa’s car at Les Stanford and Ken was there. I always thought his Z06 was one of the coolest ones around and my dad insisted I help him detail it before judging. That was the first of many little moments with Ken. From that day forward he was always excited to share the newest upgrade or addition to the car when I saw him. I’ll never forget how excited he was to surprise me with the Lambo doors he added to the car! When I saw it as a teenager I thought “man this dude is pretty cool for an old guy!” As I grew up and left Michigan, Ken was always one of the guys I looked forward to seeing when I came back for CCM events. One of the last times I saw him he let me take him for a couple of fun runs in his car - something I had dreamed of while detailing it years before. When I was tasked to pick the next recipient of the golden pylon it was an easy pick to select Ken! Ken always had a smile on his face, something positive to say, and every time I left a conversation with him I left feeling better than before. Although I only got to see the side of him at CCM events, he will be greatly missed. I am praying for him, his wife, and the rest of his family.
- Ryan Watson (Corvette Club of Michigan)

Ryan Watson - December 15, 2025 at 10:46 PM

BR

“ Betty Jill & Robyn purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.



Betty Jill & Robyn - December 15, 2025 at 09:16 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



December 15, 2025 at 07:56 PM



“ *Cadillac Products Pkg Co - Dallas, GA planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*

Cadillac Products Pkg Co - Dallas, GA - December 15, 2025 at 07:56 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



December 15, 2025 at 07:05 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



December 15, 2025 at 01:50 PM

CM

“ *Corvette Club of Michigan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*

Corvette Club of Michigan - December 15, 2025 at 01:50 PM

EW

“ *Evelyn Hulett Wegner purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



Evelyn Hulett Wegner - December 12, 2025 at 11:18 AM

KF

“ *Kathleen Sumner Campbell and Family purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



Kathleen Sumner Campbell and Family - December 11, 2025 at 01:01 PM

BM

“ *Four couples met for dinner, later on for lunch, since we were all getting older and didn't want to drive at night. The Storrs, Workman's, McIntyre's and Sumners made up our group for 18 years! One at a time, the men passed on and our group disbanded. Ken was the last to go to heaven. Bonnie, my heart is breaking for you and your children and grandchildren. I know too well, what you are experiencing now and my prayers are constant, that God will comfort you, as only he can. I love you, Betty*

Betty McIntyre - December 11, 2025 at 10:36 AM

DT

“ *Dream Centers of Michigan Team purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



Dream Centers of Michigan Team - December 10, 2025 at 06:34 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*



December 10, 2025 at 02:40 PM

HT

“ *HFH-Macomb-Volunteer Serv/Care Exp. Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth Rowe Sumner.*

HFH-Macomb-Volunteer Serv/Care Exp. Team - December 10, 2025 at 02:40 PM