



## Kenneth Michael Courey

November 24, 2023

Kenneth Michael Courey gracefully passed away on November 24, 2023 at the age of 86, leaving behind a legacy of innovation, compassion, and a life well-lived. As the youngest of seven siblings, Ken's journey was marked by an unwavering spirit, priority to family and God, and groundbreaking contributions to the healthcare field.

Ken was born in Joliet, IL and was raised in Streator, IL where he spent his childhood. He graduated from Saint Ambrose College in Davenport, IA and then proudly served in the United States Marine Corps, whose work ethic and values resonated throughout his career. He then earned a master's degree in hospital administration from the University of Iowa.

Ken dedicated his professional life to the service of others which brought him from the Mid-West to the East Coast, reaching the pinnacle as the esteemed President and CEO of St. Clare's-Riverside health care system in Denville, NJ. A true pioneer, he spearheaded novel initiatives, notably establishing the first Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) on the East Coast. Ken's visionary leadership transformed healthcare delivery, setting new standards of excellence that continue to impact lives today.

Beyond his professional achievements, Ken found his greatest joy in family. For 63 remarkable years, he was married to his college love, Mary Joyce

Barnes. Together, they weathered life's joys and challenges, creating a foundation of love and family that will endure through the ages.

As a devoted father, Ken leaves behind a legacy of strength and guidance through his four children: Robert (Thomas), James (Lisa), Linda (Kenneth), and Joseph (Bobbi). His impact extended through the generations with grandchildren Jessica, Colleen, Sarah, Michael, Nicole, Kevin, and Kelly. His joy was multiplied with the addition of great-grandchildren Avery and Bennett, who were a source of immeasurable happiness.

In addition to his immediate and extended family, Ken is survived by his devoted sisters, Elizabeth Brown and Phyllis Girard. He is preceded in death by his immigrant parents from Lebanon, George and Mabel, as well as his cherished siblings Mary Einhaus, Florence Nicholas, Lawrence Courey, and Eugene Courey.

Ken's zest for life extended to his hobbies, including golf, a love for music, and his self-taught prowess on the piano. His quick wit and talent for sharing jokes brought laughter to all who knew him. Winters in Florida became a cherished tradition, offering a reprieve and an opportunity to create lasting memories in a place he held dear. In his

retirement years, Ken also enjoyed serving the community through his volunteer and philanthropic efforts.

As we mourn the loss of Ken Courey, let us celebrate a life that blazed trails in healthcare, embraced family with boundless love, and found joy in the simple pleasures of life. May his legacy inspire us all, and may he rest in eternal peace, surrounded by the echoes of laughter, music, and the warmth of cherished memories.

The funeral will be held on Saturday, Dec 2 in the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia. The Reception of the Body will begin at 9am and the funeral mass at 10:30 am. The service will be live-streamed on: <https://vimeo.com/event/3913524>

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in memory of Ken Courey be directed to:

Princeton Child Development Institute, 300 Cold Soil Road, Princeton, NJ 08540. [www.pcdi.org](http://www.pcdi.org)

Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation  
<https://www.mc-lef.org/>

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Peter and Paul Philadelphia  
<https://cathedralphila.org/>

# Tribute Wall

GJ

“ I have been living in Louisville for 10 years, having retired from St Clare's Hospital after almost 40 years. I knew Ken when he came to St Clare's in 1970. He was great to work with. While I did not keep in contact, every time I saw the letter KMC --often on a license plate here in KY -- I remembered Ken and would say a prayer for him and his family. Yesterday I saw the letters on the hub wheels of a truck, not having seen that before, and of course, I said a prayer for him. Tonight I thought I would double-check to see if I saw anything. May he rest in peace. My sympathy to the family, though belated. Gloria Joseph

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**Gloria Joseph** - September 26, 2024 at 07:54 PM

GM

“ It is with a heavy heart that I remember all the wonderful holidays and family get togethers we all spent together. We send our deepest sympathy to the Courey family and you are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Gloria Melchionda and family*

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**Gloria Melchionda** - December 02, 2023 at 08:04 PM

LC

*Thank you Gloria! Fond holiday memories both ways ♡*

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**Linda Courey-Degnan** - December 16, 2023 at 06:02 PM

LE

“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Wall*



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**Larry Evans** - December 01, 2023 at 04:21 PM

DM

“ *Generosity was his cup runneth over. And always the best jokes.  
Take your rest Mr. Courey.  
The Meadows Family*

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**Dave Meadows** - November 29, 2023 at 06:56 PM

JJ

“ *Mr. Courey was a neighbor of mine in Randolph, New Jersey from my childhood years through my 20s. He was always someone who I looked up to and valued his opinions. A great neighbor and later, friend. He will be greatly missed. RIP*

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**Jeffrey Jancarek** - November 29, 2023 at 06:58 AM

AN

“ *Although I didn't know Mr. Kenneth Courey personally, I feel that I know something about the type of man he was, because I know his son. Please accept our most sincere condolences. Love, the Carro Family.*

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**Anthony** - November 28, 2023 at 10:08 AM

AC

“ *I am what I am today because of Ken's mentorship. Leaders like Ken are sorely lacking in our world today. Rest in Peace my friend-  
Annette Catino*

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**Annette Catino** - November 28, 2023 at 09:44 AM

MY

“ *Loved spending time at the Courey's as a kid. So many great memories. Remember how he use to call me The Uker*

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**Michael Yukas** - November 26, 2023 at 08:51 PM