



## Kenneth and Mary Geurink

Kenneth Lee Geurink (July 14, 2017) & Mary Ann Nykamp Geurink (July 15, 2017) Ken, 71, and Mary, 70, unexpectedly went to be with their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, after their motorcycle was struck by vehicles involved in an accident that was occurring as they were riding by. Ken was born on August 21, 1945 as the middle of 5 children to Gradus and Hazel (Bonzelaar) Geurink in Holland, MI. Mary was born on October 4, 1945 as the youngest of 5 children to Peter and Mary (Zwagerman) Nykamp in Zeeland, MI. The two were high school sweethearts, who would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this fall. While officially retired, they were currently working for Brinks Farms and Dr. York respectively. They were active members of Gibson Christian Reformed Church while living in Holland, and later joined Mason County Reformed Church after moving to Walhalla, Michigan. The two were highly involved in church activities, with Ken serving as deacon and elder, while Mary played piano during services. Additionally they lead Cadets and Calvinettes, and taught Sunday School classes. Their zeal for the Lord was evident to everyone who knew them. Ken and Mary preferred to do everything together, and not even death could separate them. Ken especially enjoyed hunting, fishing, flying, watching NASCAR, and hanging out on the river with his dog Kody. Mary also took pleasure in flying and fishing, and was often found reading and solving Sudoku puzzles in front of the river. But they were happiest when surrounded by family, most especially their beloved grandchildren. Upon retirement, Ken and Mary turned their home into a

sanctuary for their family and friends to visit, adhering to the saying that "Heaven seems a little closer in a house beside the water."

Ken and Mary are survived by their 3 children and 7 grandchildren: Amy (Andy) Young of Battle Creek; Kristin (Rick) Hartman of Grand Rapids, and their daughters Paige and Kelly; and Bryan (Anita) Geurink of Zeeland and Lesotho, and their children Elijah, Faith, Mercy, Polita, and Nthabeleng. Also surviving are siblings: Terry (Kathy) Geurink of Marble Falls, TX; Sharon Rowder of Holland; Linda (Ron) Ludema of Holland; Vern (Mary) Geurink of Holland; Paul (Joan) Nykamp of Paradise Valley, Arizona; Dort (Joe) Czerkies of Douglas; two sisters-in-law: Norma (Edward) Postma of Grand Rapids and Loie (Dale) Hulst of Holland; and numerous nieces and nephews. Ken was preceded in death by his parents: Hazel & Grad Geurink. Mary was preceded in death by her parents Mary & Peter Nykamp, and two brothers Roger Nykamp and John Nykamp. A handful of years ago, Mary wrote about their life for a family heritage book. "As in the story book, I married my high school sweetheart who swept me off my feet literally. He was then and still is a pilot and we love to fly. His parents started Tulip City Airport in Holland. We are still life partners and best friends today. Ken taught this indoor bookworm to love the outdoors and the beauty of nature. I went to Calvin College and Blodgett Memorial Hospital School of Nursing and obtained My RN there. Ken and I were married at First Christian Reformed Church in Zeeland by Reverend Robert Nykamp on November 10, 1967. I worked mostly at Holland Hospital in Med/Surge, but later ended up in home care, retiring from Holland Home Care as director in 2001. Ken worked at West Shore Construction doing asphalt paving and retired as vice president of operations, also in 2001. The Lord blessed us so richly throughout the years so we decided to retire in 2001 at the age of 55 in order that we might return that blessing to others by working for Him. Since our retirement, we sold our home in Holland and moved to a little chalet in the middle of the Manistee National Forest along the Pere Marquette River, where we both love to go fly fishing. We spend most of our time volunteering, however, mostly for the Christian Reformed World Relief

Committee doing disaster relief work throughout the United States. We enjoy this work very much and have found that we are blessed much more than we are a blessing to others." Friends and family are invited to visit from 4-8 PM on Friday, July 21 at Langeland Sterenberg Funeral Home at 315 E. 16th Street in Holland. A celebration of life service will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, July 22 at Graafschap Christian Reformed Church at 5973 Church St. in Holland. Interment will immediately follow at Graafschap Cemetery, followed by a luncheon at the church. Condolences and favorite memories may be shared with the family at [www.langelandsterenberg.com](http://www.langelandsterenberg.com)

Memorial contributions may be made to Beautiful Gate, in memory of Ken and Mary, by visiting <http://www.beautifulgatelesotho.org>. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord!

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth and Mary Geurink*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"Dear Children and Grandchildren and the rest of the Geurink family:It is with sadness when we heard of Ken and Marys passing. Don graduated with Ken and Mary, and I graduated a year later.Our memories of Ken and Mary are of them being in love most of their lives. They were always so cute together.Best of all is that they were so in love with the Lord, and now they are in His presence enjoying Heaven. What a comfort!!But still thinking of you in your sadness and may you feel God's loving arms wrapped around you each day.Love and PrayersDon and Judy Michmerhuizen Hudsonville MI."*

A friend - July 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *"We would like to give our deepest sympathy. Our hearts are breaking for your family, friends and the community who lost such a remarkable and loved couple. We only knew them briefly but we could clearly see and feel the love they had for each other. Our world has lost an unbelievable and unique couple. Our biggest comfort is to know they had this extraordinary love for our heavenly Father... and met Him together. They were (and are) a true blessing to anyone who knew them.May God bless & comfort their family & friends during this difficult time, and heal their hearts.With our deepest sympathy."*

Sonya - July 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AF

“Our deepest sympathy to the family . You are in our thoughts and prayers. We had wonderful times on the river with Ken and Mary .,and their friends Tom and Mary . We were neighbors for many years . There are friends in your life that make you strive to be a better person, that was Ken and Mary . We felt blessed to have met them and became friends . They will be greatly missed . Don and Diana Brandvold”

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**A friend** - July 21, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WL

“Dear Amy, Kristin & Bryan and your spouses and your children, We were shocked and saddened when we heard what happened to your parents and we are sure that you were as well. As you walk through this time of loss and sorrow together, our thoughts and prayers go with you as a family. And may the Lord who has promised to be with us always be with each one of you. What a friend we have in Jesus . . .”

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**With love** - July 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BD

“So sorry to hear of your grief. We worked with Mary and Ken on the site of CRWRC. They were a wonderfully gifted couple and used their gifts to benefit others. Special condolences to cousins Joe and Dort.”

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**Ben and Char Dykema** - July 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DC

“So very sorry for your families loss , we have such good memories of your parents at Gibson Church. Praying for you all.”

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**Dean and Lorie Compagner** - July 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

VH

“I was lucky to have fished with Ken quite a few days this spring, 'hootin and hollerin' over nets too small, fish too strong, and as usual, kody's latest misadventure. He taught us a few tricks on the water, but the way they treated others was a lesson that was much more impactful. He and Mary were profoundly gracious and kind to us ever since we met them five years ago. They had such a positive attitude that it would rub off on you even if you only crossed paths for a few minutes. A rare couple - anyone they met could plainly see that. We will miss seeing Ken, Mary, and kody walking the river bank in the evening light. We were just thinking that, to us, their memory is as much a part of that river as the trees or rushing water. We were crushed to hear the news, and are eternally grateful to have known them. We are so sorry for your loss.”

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**Victor and Amanda Hurtig** - July 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JL

“Kristen and family. I'm so sorry to hear of your tragic loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Jen from HCH surgery.”

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**Jennifer Leslie** - July 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TC

“Amy, Andy, and Family - my deepest condolences to all. May your memories, your family, and your friends help you through this difficult time.”

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**Tammy Chapman** - July 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JM

“We are not known to this family personally. A fellow Chaplain at Pine Rest, Randy Meyers, who knows the family, asked for prayers for the family. This morning I was singing: "Near to the Heart of God" at a Team Meeting with the doctors and nurses and social workers I shared at opening devotions that we are at the center of God's Heart. God is Love. In His love He created the universe, center of galaxies is the earth, center of all beautiful creation is the human race, and at the very center of His heart, His children. No wonder at the center of all history He sent His Son Jesus. Now Ken and Mary go to be at the center of God's heart to be with Jesus. Reading the obituary compelled me to write this. Our prayers are for all the family. - Chaplain Jai Mahtani, Grandville, MI, July 19, 2017”

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**Jai Mahtani** - July 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SB

“Tragedy and sadness were the first two thoughts that came to mind when we learned of the accident that involved Ken and Mary. Then the question "how could this happen to two such devoted people to God and to family and friends?" We are not to question but to hold fast to our Faith and the Love and Comfort of our God. Our memories will live on for ever that we share with the Geurink "clan". Ken and Mary were an inspiration to so many and touched so many lives and they are now "Shinning angels lighting up the Heavens". Our condolences to the entire family. RIP Ken and Mary!"

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**Steve and Pat Brunink** - July 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MS

“I was shocked and saddened to learn the news, my heart goes out to the family. Ken and Mary were high school classmates of mine, and Mary and I were roommates at Blodgett. They were such a cute, devoted couple. A couple of memories stand out, the night Mary revealed at a 'candle-light' ceremony at Blodgett that she and Ken were engaged. And a rather funny memory is the time we were both studying when a mouse squeezed under our dorm room door. We both jumped up on our beds and screamed until the poor thing probably left terrified! My thoughts and prayers to the entire family, cherish the good memories.”

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**Marilyn Schmidt** - July 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM