



Kenneth S. Mayer

November 3, 2022

Kenneth S. Mayer departed Homestead Village for that great railroad yard in the sky on November 3, 2022, after a brief illness. Ken was born in Binghamton, New York, on November 25, 1923, the oldest son of Albert Kenneth Mayer and Gertrude North Seward Mayer. His father died when he was just eight years old, and Ken subsequently grew up in the greater New York City area with his mother and two younger brothers, Dwight and Richard.

Following his high school graduation in 1941, Ken worked as a remittance clerk for Standard Oil in New York City for a year, followed by a semester at New York University. Meanwhile, the United States had entered World War II. Instead of waiting to be drafted, Ken enlisted in the Army in January of 1943, and proudly served as a combat medic and company clerk with the 78th Infantry Division in England, France, Belgium and Germany. During his time in the service, Ken was able to earn additional college credits at Fordham University and the University of Nancy, France.

Upon his discharge from the Army in 1946, Ken enrolled at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia, to complete his college degree. Soon after arriving at Roanoke, Ken met the love of his life, Lois Carol Huffman, from Luray, Virginia. They married shortly after their graduation in 1948 and shared sixty-nine wonderful years together before Carol passed away on November 5, 2017.

Ken was the devoted father of three daughters, Nancy Mayer Hughes, married to Kevin, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Wendy M. Roberts, married to Ralph, of Cornelius, North Carolina; and Julie Pedelini, married to Guy, of Lititz, Pennsylvania. He was the proud grandfather of Laura Roberts Bowen, married to Oliver, of Redwood City, California; Christina Meredith Roberts, of Charleston, South Carolina; John Kenneth Hughes, of Mason, Ohio; and Daniel Bruce Pedelini, of Lititz, Pennsylvania. In recent years, he was delighted to welcome three adorable great-grandsons, Alex, Patrick and Caleb Bowen, to the family.

Ken spent his career in banking, first with State Planters Bank in Richmond, Virginia, followed by thirty years with Equitable Trust Company in Baltimore, Maryland. He always had an interest in economics and followed the stock market on almost a daily basis until a week before his death.

In 2002, Ken and Carol moved to an apartment at Woodcrest Villa in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where they participated in a number of activities and clubs. They relocated to Mennonite Home shortly before Carol's death, and then Ken moved one last time in September of 2021 to an apartment at Homestead Village, which he described as the friendliest place he had ever lived.

In their retirement years, Ken and Carol enjoyed traveling to Europe, cruises to the Caribbean, Mediterranean, Panama Canal and Alaska, and tent camping throughout the United States and Canada. In 1998, Ken and Carol took their entire family on a memorable cruise to the Bahamas to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Throughout his entire life, Ken loved trains. He built a number of different model railroad layouts over the years, some only a few square feet in size and

others that filled half of the basement of the house in Baltimore. His daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren all have fond memories of being allowed to “play trains” with him. He relished his role as the patriarch of the family and will be deeply missed.

A Memorial Service celebrating Ken’s life will be held at The Groffs Family Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17603, on Sunday, November 27, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., followed by a reception for family and friends at the Groff Event Center, 234 W. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Tribute Wall



“ *The Groff's Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Kenneth S. Mayer*



The Groff's Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - November 23, 2022 at 12:10 PM



“ *Kenneth S. Mayer*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Life Tributes*



The Groff's Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - November 23, 2022 at 01:55 PM



“ 92 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc - November 22, 2022 at 05:01 PM

PM

Ken and Carol were two of the most wonderful people I met at Woodcrest Villa while working there as Mail Lady. The perfect couple. So happy to know Ken made the move to Homestead and was happy living there. My condolences to the family.

Penny Miller - December 01, 2022 at 09:08 PM

MF

“ *We met Ken & Carol when they joined St. Peter's Lutheran Church many years ago & had visited them at Woodcrest. It was a surprise to meet up with him at Homestead Village. Your parents were such pleasant people, so I knew he would be content here. What I didn't know was how VERY HAPPY he was here and I thank you, his family, for helping him with that. Rest assured that he spent his last days being as happy as he could be without Carol. I am glad to have known him and will try to attend his Memorial Service.*

Martha Fulmer - November 15, 2022 at 01:03 PM

CL

“ I have sweet memories of Ken following me around the kitchen (or sitting the table with Carol) while I prepared meals for them for the 2&1/2 years that they were my clients through Landis at Home. Ken was always eager to share and to ask questions. I liked him (and Carol) very much! I often think about our conversations. They introduced me to Luray, Virginia. We had lovely discussions about all sorts of topics. Laughter was a big part of them, but we sometimes got serious too. I share my condolences at your loss.

Christine Longenecker - November 15, 2022 at 08:48 AM

AT

“ We considered Ken a friend at Homestead Village. We sure will miss him. We often ate with him or visited him in the dining room. What a delightful man! We live in the Mews at Homestead and enjoyed talking to him whenever we saw him.
Allen and Nancy Tate

Allen and Nancy Tate - November 11, 2022 at 03:41 PM

SM

“ I was sorry to read about your loss. I always enjoyed caring for Mr. Mayer. Thinking of you as you grieve this profound loss
Stephanie Mackey MD

Stephanie Mackey - November 09, 2022 at 06:59 PM

GP

“ Ken, I was very fortunate to have you for a Father-In-Law for 25 years. You welcomed me into the family with open arms. .Although you were not really sure what exactly I did in my career, you always tried to have a HR or a sports question ready for me when we saw you, You were always a very positive guy and you loved to tell stories and jokes(you were a bad joke teller). I always enjoyed surprising you with a stupid joke just when you were drinking a beverage. Daniel was lucky to get to know you and learn from you. The family will tell and retell "Ken" stories for years to come. We will miss you every holiday and I know Julie will miss you every day. I hope you and Carol are Dancing in Heaven right now. Love Guy

Guy F Pedelini - November 09, 2022 at 04:59 PM

LP

“ To the family of Ken Mayer, My name is Linda Kay Pressley and my husband and I live at Homestead Village. A group of my exercise buddies (four lovely ladies!) met Ken frequently at breakfast in the dining room. He always stopped by our table and chatted - such a wonderful man! We even convinced him to have ice cream on his waffle on "Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast day". We will all miss him dearly. Our condolences.

Linda Kay Pressley - November 09, 2022 at 01:01 PM