



Kenneth Elias

November 9, 1934 - November 27, 2013

Obituary of Kenneth Elias

Kenneth L. Elias, 79, passed away peacefully on a sunny afternoon on Nov. 28, 2013 in Leesburg, Fla., after a brief illness. His beloved wife, Marie, and two cherished children, Greg and Karen, were by his side. Ken was born Nov. 9, 1934, in Detroit, Mich., the son of Abraham Elias and Nellie (Jones) Elias. He married Marie Kathleen Graham in April 1961.

In his early career, Ken was an engineer and metallurgist at General Motors in Warren, Mich. He and his family moved to Vermont in 1965 when Ken was hired by IBM. He worked as a chemical engineer at the plant in Essex Junction for more than 30 years. In the 1980s, Ken, along with co-workers, invented a unique process for microchip manufacturing that was awarded U.S. and European patents. In subsequent years, Ken and his wife Marie settled in Warrenton, Va., where he started a second career at Dominion Semiconductor. After residing in Virginia for nine years, he and his wife retired to Leesburg, where they enjoyed an active life that included world travel, golfing and ballroom dancing every Saturday night. Ken was an excellent conversationalist who loved to talk about virtually any topic. He had an irreverent sense of humor and a knack for well-reasoned arguments. Ken also had a gift for languages. He was fluent in German and could speak some

Norwegian and Japanese. Despite his many accomplishments, Ken was down-to-earth guy who made friendships with people from all walks of life. He happily struck up conversations with anyone he met, and was as comfortable chatting with a store clerk as he was talking to his fellow engineers.

He is survived by his wife, Marie Kathleen Graham Elias of Leesburg.; his sister, Carolyn Elias Brown of Westland, Mich.; his son, Greg Elias and his wife Patricia McManus Elias of Huntington, Vt.; his daughter Karen Elias Ager and her husband, Donald R. Ager Jr. of Concord, N.H.; his grandchildren, Wayne, Shania and Ian; and his nieces and nephews, Michael, Deborah, Kathleen, Lisa and Leslie.

An April 2014 memorial service is planned in Leesburg. Donations in Ken's memory may be made to the Leesburg Food Bank, 1305 Sunshine Ave., Leesburg, Fla. 34748.

Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth Elias*

October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Love you forever, Dad. All the wisdom you shared will be thought of and used often. Thank you for everything. Love, Karen*

Karen Elias Ager - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Karen and family, I am so sorry for your loss. You have my deepest sympathy.*

Lynne Halpin Costen - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thank you for sharing this wonderful story and tribute that was lovingly written I predict by his talented daughter, Karen. I feel like I got to know him and his influence on Karen and her family. Blessed be.*

Mary Vallier-Kaplan - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ken was a remarkable man and I am grateful for having had the honor of being his son-in-law. I will always remember his good nature, his generosity, and his wonderful sense of humor. I treasure the memory of our many conversations about sports, music, politics, history, geography, his grandchildren, and so much more. He was a great guy who I will always remember with great fondness.*

Donald R. Ager, Jr. - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Warm hugs to you Karen, and the rest of your family. It's so hard to lose a Daddy, He'll never truly go away, and when he "visits" give him a smile and a friendly "hi Dad" for he is forever a part of you. Be on the lookout for his presence for his love of family will keep the connection. Hopefully we can deliver a hug in person one day soon.

Tom & Betty Halpin - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ To all of you my thoughts and prayers. Kenneth was a good man. God bless you all

Karl Dawson - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ To Greg Tricia Shania and Wayne, So sorry to hear of the death of your father. We are thinking of you at this difficult time.

mary mc manus - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Karen, I am so sorry for the passing of you dad. He sounds like a wonderful human being. Best wishes to you and all of your family members. Sue

Sue Chollet - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ We wish to express our deepest sympathy on the death of Kenneth. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis (may his soul be always on the right hand side of God)

Jean and Michael - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ Sorry to hear of Ken's passing. I met him early in my career at IBM in Burlington and I always enjoyed the lively conversations. Being Lebanese, Ken and I had some cultural affinity as well and I am sure he will be missed by all. May God bless him and the whole family.

Geoffrey Akiki - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ I am truly saddened by Ken's death. Ken was more than just a friend; he was an amazing person. He was always so kind and considerate to me that I always welcomed seeing him at every opportunity. His passing will not only leave a void in my life, but in the hearts of everyone who knew him. Ken's memory will always remain deep within my heart. I will always be thankful that I had the opportunity to get to know him better and to call him a friend. I will cherish his memory for years to come. Marie, if there is anything that I can do to help you in anyway, please do not hesitate to call me at any time. I am always here for you at a moment's notice. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you and your children With deepest sympathy, Ken Lynch

Ken Lynch - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM