



Kenneth Ralph Kressler

November 30, 1927 - June 17, 2010

Kenneth Ralph Kressler, "Grandad", 82, of Fort Collins, Colorado, died peacefully in his sleep on June 16, 2010 at Centre Avenue Health & Rehab Facility. Ken was born in Quakertown, Pennsylvania on November 30, 1927; the youngest son of Herbert S. Kressler and Meda Balliet Kressler. He grew up in Applebachsville, PA, in a family that consisted of 4 boys and 3 girls. His family had a custom butcher shop and was famous in the area for specialty prepared meats and cold cuts. Ken enjoyed accompanying his dad on buying trips, but he didn't have a lot of time to spend with his father, because Herbert died of an infection when Ken was only 11 years old. As a teen, Ken went deep sea fishing with his brothers and developed a lifelong love of hunting, fishing, camping, and the great outdoors. Music was also a big part of his life. All his family were talented musicians and they enjoyed singing and playing in local churches. His love of woodworking was also developed at an early age when he studied with Clair Hershey, a family friend. When World War II broke out, Ken was still in high school; but after graduation, he enlisted in the Army and served during the occupation of Germany in 1947. After his honorable discharge, he returned to Pennsylvania and married his home-town sweetheart Helen Unangst. The couple welcomed 5 daughters into the world: Karen Lee, Vicki Lynn, Debbie Lou, Cindy Lynnette, and Cathy Leanne. Ken and Helen set up their own meat business, selling their products every weekend at the Allentown market. In 1956, Ken felt a call to the ministry, so he sold his meat business and packed up the family for 4 years of Bible College

at Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC. After graduation and ordination in 1960, he took a church in Aspen, Colorado, and the family moved west in October of that year. After two years at the pastorate, the family moved to Denver for a year and then to the Windsor area, where Ken started a church that met in a rented house. Later, Ken entered the construction trades in the Weld County area, becoming famous for custom remodeling. He was especially good at working with the quirks of older farmhouses. After he retired, he spent much of his time in the mountains and at the lakes, hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed traveling to visit family and friends. The family will remember Grandad Kressler as a man with a deep love for God and the great outdoors. His beautiful tenor voice and his many talents and skills will be greatly missed, as will his humor and the ability to see a bright side even in the darkest times. He crafted many beautiful pieces of furniture that his family will cherish for generations. Ken was a member of Gateway Baptist Church in Loveland, Colorado and much of his woodworking skills can be seen throughout the church. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Helen, 2 brothers, and 2 sisters; also by a daughter, Vicki Lynn Brent; and a grandson Aaron B. Brent. He is survived by his daughters Karen Dwayne Ledbetter and Cindy Greg Whitehead of Fort Collins, Colorado; Deb Alan Brunkow of Western, Nebraska; and Cathy Tony Benson of Entrican, Michigan. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Viewing will be on Monday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Bohlender Funeral Chapel. The Funeral Service will be at Bohlender Funeral Chapel on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Interment with Military Honors by the Fort Collins all Veteran Honor Guard at Roselawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to "The Alpha Center" in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524.

Tribute Wall

KB

“ Karen, Cindy, Deb, and Cathy and their families--we were so sorry to read your dad's obituary in a clipping that my sister sent to us from the Greeley paper where she lives. With our deepest sympathy, The Kimel Brent Family

Kimel and Wanda Brent - July 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ We are sorry for your loss, but join you in rejoicing that Kenneth is now part of the best choir ever! May God's loving arms embrace you all.

Steve and Pat Mecham - June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Dear Kressler Family, So sorry to read about your Dad, Granddad and Great Granddad leaving us----even though it is to a more desireable place!!! Knowing he is with the Lord and other family members is a true Blessing and assurance that you Will see him again!! I appreciated his Christian testimony and great tenor voice so much while he was at Front Range Baptist Church. He also did a wonderful job for us when remodeling our home on So. Douglas in Loveland----truly a talented wood-working skill. I know he will be greatly missed by everyone---but the Lord is faithful to give us peace, comfort, strength and encouragement at a time such as this. With our sympathy and prayers, Donna Findley & Family Psalm 116:15

Donna Findley - June 21, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HN

“ My, the memories started flying when we read of Ken's home-going. What a blessing your family has been to us through the years. We've missed your mom's sweet smile since she's been gone from this earth, and now your dad. You have a great heritage to follow. Allow the Spirit's comfort to fill your hearts and empower you to glorify the Lord as you go on in life's path now without the strong presence of godly parents. Their influence has been felt by the many who were blessed to know them.

Howard & Linda Norman - June 21, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Dear Kressler family, It is with heart felt sympathy that I send this message for the loss of your Dad, Grandfather, and Great Grandfather. We have a lot of fond memories of Kenneth, "Chub". Our hearts and prayers go out to all of you. There are still two surviving siblings. Montford Kressler, Sr. of Spring Hill, Fl. and his sister, Sylvia Mease of Kintnersville, PA

Montford & Barbara Kressler, Jr. - June 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ Dear Kressler Family, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. We thought a lot of Ken and appreciated his testimony over the years. We especially enjoyed our time with him while he was at Gateway Baptist Church. We're praying for you all. Bob and Debbie Kaltenberger

Bob Kaltenberger - June 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Karen, Debbie, Cindy, Cathy and families - It was with great sadness that we learned of Uncle Chub's passing. He was a wonderful man who had a great sense of humor and a love of life, family and God. I can still hear him singing with the rest of the family in church. We will always have warm memories of Uncle Chub and his many talents, especially when we were kids. We extend our deepest sympathies to you girls and your families. May you take comfort in knowing he will rest in peace with God. Love, Carol Ann and Bill

Carol and Bill Morse - June 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Our sympathy to the family at this time. We enjoyed the times we had the opportunity to spend with your loved one. Every time I bake rye rolls I think of him.

Richard & Shirley Brunkow - June 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Dear Kressler Family, You are in our thoughts and prayers

Christie Moore Brucher - June 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Karen, Debbie, Cindy, & Cathy & families, Many miles have separated us for many years but the fond memories of your dad will remain forever. We enjoyed the times we were able to spend with him. He will be missed here on earth but we know he is rejoicing with God, your mom, and Vicki & Aaron in heaven. We look forward to that day when we will all be together at Jesus' feet. Love and sympathy to all of you and your families.

Darlene & Randy Rehrig - June 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM