



## Dr. Lornie G Kerr

January 7, 1932 - October 28, 2017

Those wishing to make a contribution to the Lornie G. and Midge A. Kerr Central Michigan University Endowment Scholarship Fund can donate online here: [Click Here][https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=LDCWAD4CKAGVE](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=LDCWAD4CKAGVE)

Lornie G. Kerr joined his beloved wife and best friend of 62 years, Margery Kerr, in heaven on Saturday, October 28, 2017.

Lornie was born in Port Huron, MI on Thursday, January 7, 1932 (The same exact day and year of his wife Margery). He attended Port Huron High School, where he excelled at football and basketball. Sports were his ticket to Central Michigan University.

Lornie attended CMU from 1950-1954 where he met the love of his life. He was an All-Conference quarterback for the Chippewas. While at CMU, Lornie was a member of the Varsity Club Phi Delta Kappa and Delta Sig Phi.

Sports again opened a door for Lornie to begin his career at Mt. Pleasant High School, where he coached football and basketball. He taught industrial arts and would later become Vice Principal and Athletic Director. Lornie is credited with starting the Michigan State Basketball Tournament.

Higher education was Lornie's calling and he went to work for Michigan State University where he earned his PhD. While at MSU, he was Assistant Director of Administrative Services from 1965-1970.

In 1970 Lornie continued his career in education and went to work for Northwestern Michigan College as Dean of Students. He would eventually retire as Vice President of Student and Administrative Services in 1989.

Lornie was a member of Morning Kiwanis Club, Traverse City Osteopathic Hospital Board

where he served as president, President of CMU Alumni Club, Port Huron Sports Hall of Fame, member of the Romeos. He also sat on the YMCA Board. Other accomplishments include member and past chair of American Association of Community Colleges on International Education, Chairman of National Council on Community Colleges, Chairman of Foreign Student Affairs and International Education consultant for the Bureau of Cultural Affairs (US State Department). His service took him to Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Iran, Kuwait, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Belize and Norway. Lornie was best known as the best Father, Grandpa and Great Grandpa. Lornie enjoyed outdoor activities including golf, fishing and hunting. "Deer camp" was one of his favorite annual events.

Lornie is survived by his four children, Patti (Gary) Lingaur, Kathy (John) Runft, Mike (JoAnne) Kerr and Dan (Cheryl) Kerr; 9 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife Margery "Midge" (Wright) Kerr and his parents Frederick and Evelyn (Craker) Kerr.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2017 at the Presbyterian Church from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. located at 701 Westminster Road, Traverse City, MI 49686. A funeral service will be held on Friday, November 3, 2017 at 11 a.m. at the Presbyterian Church, with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. Pastor Jose Lopez will officiate.

Those wishing an expression of sympathy are encouraged to either direct contributions to the Lornie G. and Midge A. Kerr Central Michigan University Endowment Scholarship Fund or flowers. Both can be sent c/o Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, 305 6th Street, Traverse City, MI 49684.

You can donate online via this link: [Click Here][https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=LDCWAD4CKAGVE](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=LDCWAD4CKAGVE)

# Events

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**NOV 2** **Visitation for friends and family** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

2

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Presbyterian Church

701 Westminster Road, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

**NOV 3** **Visitation for friends and family** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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Presbyterian Church

701 Westminster Road, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

**NOV 3** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

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Presbyterian Church

701 Westminster Road, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

# Comments

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“ Patti, Kathy, Mike & Dan,  
Mrs. Hensen, Deb, Mark and I are sorry to hear about your dad.  
He and I played football for Central at the same time.  
He was a senior when I was a freshman or sophomore.  
I did a semester of practice teaching at Mt. Pleasant High School while he was teaching there.  
We started at MSU the same day.  
When he went to Northwestern, I saw him often when I made my visits to the states community colleges.  
Mike may recall river fishing and stepping on a hornets nest.  
Mark reminded me about the ice fishing on the West Bay and catching all the Coho with Mike and Dan.  
Lynn saw Kathy and caught up, when she came to Central Elementary in Okemos for a while.  
Your dad came to Coral Gables, once, for a together, with Wentworth.  
I saw him again at CMU several times in the last twenty years.  
So we stayed somewhat in touch over the years.  
Again, I and my family want to express our sympathy to all of you.

Dick Hensen

Dick Hensen - November 21, 2017 at 05:35 PM

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“ Very sorry to learn about Lornie's passing. I hope he is enjoying his heavenly reunion with Midge. With love from Aunt Hilda's granddaughter and the Burks' family. Lisa Burks, White Lake, MI



Lisa Burks - November 06, 2017 at 06:07 PM

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“ Your Dad was a very special good man and always supportive, intelligent, and kind - he noticed things about people. After Patti & Gary's wedding, he gave my husband \$20 for gas - always wanted to help out where he could even after a fabulous wedding and reception :) I will remember your father fondly.

**Nora Green** - November 05, 2017 at 02:04 PM



“ I was very sorry to hear about the passing of your Dad and mother , we had great fun as neighbours watching college football games together! They were so very kind, I'll never forget them bring in exchange students and opening up their house to me was so very cool. And of course I'll never forget your dad putting a good word in for me to get me a job at the college!! Sorry for the late post!!

**Alan** - December 18, 2017 at 09:58 PM

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“ The Villages miss them both. We loved playing cards (Samba) with them and sharing stories! Midge twisted my arm to help bring the Frogs and Flakes back to life and we wound up enjoying it and it is still going strong! We think of them every time we go by their home!

Art & Charlotte Mattsson

**Art** - November 04, 2017 at 09:19 AM

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“ Lorne, Tell Midge I said hi and we are going to miss you. My prayers for the entire Kerr Clan today and on. Reedski.



**Jeff Reed** - November 02, 2017 at 01:27 PM

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“ 5 files added to the album New Album Name



**Ted Geddis & Eliza Renz** - November 02, 2017 at 09:58 AM



“ Nancy, Lornie's sister, shared so many beautiful stories of Lornie, their time in Traverse City as children, and how passing the football in the back yard was a tradition for them. She shared how much she loved Midge and Lornie often when I talked to her. We had the gift of seeing Lornie, Patti, and Gary, in Haliburton, Ontario at her Memorial Service. Lornie shared so many great stories of their lives and important details with us. Things he loved about his sister, and his favorite butter tart recipe she made. We are so sad to lose such a special Uncle. We are sending all our love.

**Eliza** - November 02, 2017 at 12:06 PM



“ Port Huron....

**Eliza** - November 02, 2017 at 12:39 PM



“ Patti,

I was so sorry to hear about your Dads passing. I remember coming to your house back in the woods off of Peninsula Drive here in T.C. Both your parents were very nice to me. I was in an accident on North Long Lake road one morning on my way to work. I had stopped for a school bus and the car in back of me didn't stop. As I was getting my wits back to me, a very nice gentleman that was in back of her made sure I was okay. It was your Dad and I was very thankful. Have I ever told you of this event?

I won't be able to visit with you and your family at the Funeral home. My thoughts and prayers are with you though.

-Lani Bathje

**Lani Bathje** - November 01, 2017 at 04:22 PM



“ Thanks for sharing this story Lani. I had not heard it before. Dad always spoke kindly of you. Hope all is well.

**Patti and Gary Lingaur** - November 02, 2017 at 06:59 AM



“ Our condolences to all of Lornie and Midge's family. They were truly the greatest neighbors any of us in The Villages could have had. We feel truly blessed to have known them and through them all of you who came down to visit. I know they are together again and happy. Our thoughts are with you at this sad time, but our fond and fun memories of them will always be a part of our lives. Pete & Sharyn Quinlan

**Sharyn Quinlan** - November 01, 2017 at 03:49 PM



“ Mom and dad loved the time that they spent in the Villages, especially time spent with neighbors. Thanks for your kind thoughts.

**Patti and Gary Lingaur** - November 02, 2017 at 07:01 AM

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“ I write with a tear in my eye. It won't go away.

Lornie was both my first friend and my best friend at CMU. A few days before I re-entered CMU in September 1952, I was discharged from the Navy. I had been away for four years and knew only a couple of students from Cadillac. In Dr. Gerald Poor's Ed. class, Lornie and I happened to feel the same way about issue that few others in the class embraced. I soon learned that he was a Delt Sig, and the rest is history.

I learned much from him through our hunting and fishing experiences, class and fraternity gatherings, and international travel (we co-authored a College Board book on the educational system of Norway.) Our beautiful wives provided each of us with two girls and two boys all of whom made us proud.

He was a special guy and I am deeply saddened that he has left us.

Top Sjogren

**Cliff Sjogren** - November 01, 2017 at 02:15 PM



“ So many memories of great times that our families spent together flood my mind. Thanks for being such a good friend to dad and all of us.

**Patti and Gary Lingaur** - November 02, 2017 at 07:03 AM

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“ My deepest sympathies,  
May the Lord repose his soul in the Paradise of Joy, and give Peace and comfort to the family.  
George Khalil  
Micca Paint

George Khalil - November 01, 2017 at 10:39 AM

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“ I am so blessed and honored to have this man as my father. He has always been there for all of us and he will be greatly missed. I love you more than the world is big!  
Going to miss you so much dad,

Kathy (Kerr) Runft - November 01, 2017 at 06:46 AM

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“ Patti, So sorry to hear of your fathers passing. It's been many many years since I have seen him (like when we were in high school, uh how many years ago was that?!). I remember him as a very intelligent and nice man. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.  
Steve Paxton

Steve Paxton - October 31, 2017 at 07:27 PM



“ Thank you Steve for your kind thoughts. He always thought you guys were good guys for me to be with.

Patti Lingaur - November 01, 2017 at 12:53 PM