



## Edward Joseph Karmann

March 3, 1925 - March 2, 2014

Edward J. Karmann, 88 of Traverse City Michigan passed away March 2, 2014 at Cherry Hill Haven in Traverse City. Ed was born March 3, 1925, in Dearborn Michigan, the son of Edward and Eleanor Karmann. Ed graduated from Dearborn High School in 1943. In 1944, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps Officer school, and graduated with a commission as a 1st Lieutenant. Ed trained for single engine fighter planes, including the P 51 Mustang. After WW2, Ed remained in the Air Force Reserves for several years, and attended Syracuse and Michigan State Universities. In 1955, Ed married Bette Lynch from Wayne Michigan, settled in Lansing Mi, and raised a family. He was a District manager for Shell Oil Co. for several years. In 1961, Ed became an Insurance Agent for State Farm Insurance Co, and retired in 1994. He was active in Kiwanis for a number of years. Ed's favorite past times included spending time at their cottage at Glen Lake, with his family, and fishing when ever he had the chance. After his retirement from State Farm, he spent 10 years travelling to Alaska every summer in his motorhome. He also enjoyed golfing with his long time friend, Henry Bot. Ed is survived by his son Ed Karmann and wife Linda of Alanson Mi, and his Daughter Mary Barrett, and Husband Paul of Traverse City Mi. Funeral services for Ed will be held 2:30 PM Thursday, March 6 at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City., with visitation beginning at 1:30 p.m. A luncheon will immediately follow the services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimers Association, 921 W. 11th St, Suite 1W, Traverse City, MI 49684. Please share memories with the family by way of Ed's online guest book at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>. The family is being served by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

# Events

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**MAR** **Visitation** 01:30PM - 02:30PM

**6**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home  
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**MAR** **Memorial Service** 02:30PM

**6**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home  
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

# Comments

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“ Eleanor Nichols - Maurer lit a candle in memory of Edward Joseph Karmann



Eleanor Nichols - Maurer - July 26, 2014 at 03:38 PM

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“ Ed and Linda, Mary and Paul,  
It's Thursday, March 6th and I will be with you in spirit for Ed's funeral services this afternoon. Ed and I were very close friends for over 30 years and met as our offices were adjacent to each other in Okemos. We had so many good laughs pulling stunts on each other during those days (mainly me pulling stunts). Then around 1990 Ed said that we should take some golf lessons and thus our golf careers started. That resulted in our annual trip south to Myrtle Beach, Hilton Head, Gulf Shores, Jacksonville, Charleston and all our local Lansing courses. Our schedule in the south included a late morning tee time at the best courses available, followed by our relaxation with "gin and Sprite" (usually two as I remember) overlooking the course and a nice big meal at night. It worked well for us and was repeated often. I just smile when I think of our many experiences in the South. I even still have a "Spring Break 1999" tee shirt that we both bought and wore in Gulf Shores - just a couple of old dudes with the college kids.

Over the years we reverted to our boyhood names: Sonny for Ed and Henry for me. It was Sonny Bok and Dr. Henry Bot and the trophy we traded back and forth for golf contests had those names engraved on the base. Guess it shows that no matter how old you get to be, you're still just a kid at heart. I also remember betting heavily on the practice putting green prior to our tee off times. Often those bets approached \$100,000 but always there was a "double or nothing" resulting in a "wash bet".

So Sonny, my long time friend, I will miss our golf, our talks, our many dinners out and your warm heart and friendship. There will always be a smile on my face when I think of you.

Dr. Henry Bot a/k/a Tom Hendrickson

Tom Hendrickson - March 06, 2014 at 12:59 PM

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“ Mary and Paul,

So sorry and shocked to hear of your dad passing.

I can't even begin to imagine the many gut-wrenching losses and griefs that you have endured this year. (sigh). My heart goes out to you both.

Doris



**Doris Ziebart Hagedorn** - March 06, 2014 at 08:13 AM

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“ Rob And Barbara Bannan lit a candle in memory of Edward Joseph Karmann



**Rob and Barbara Bannan** - March 04, 2014 at 05:04 PM

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“ ta bron orainn dear friends, Rob and Barbara

**Rob and Barbara Bannan** - March 04, 2014 at 05:03 PM

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“ I'll try to be short, but don't know if I can. Your Dad was just the best. I have wished over the last several years that I could call him and tell him, what I'm about to tell you. But we didn't know how to find him. When my husband and I got married at 18 years old, your Dad was my In-laws insurance man. So there for we also went to him for ours. We took out a 10,000 dollar life insurance policy, that cost 162. a year. Because we were broke, we decided to drop it. Your Dad came over to our attic apartment, climbed two flights of stairs, carrying a heavy old fashioned movie projector, to show us why that would be a mistake. Well, we kept paying that 162.. We are still paying it 52 years later. BUT, my husband has had 4 heart attacks, three cancers and several other things go wrong. The State Farm people let us start buying more insurance with the dividens and interest and it is now worth about 75,000. Needness to say, with all of his health problems we would have never been able to but more any other way. God bless your dad for taking the time to show two teenagers the right thing to do. Then one day in 1963, we bought a new car and a few months later I was in an accident in the Frandor shopping center. In tears, I ran to your dads office. He was so kind to me. He filled out all of the papers for me and came down to look at the car and tell me what I needed to do. Then when our son turned 16 and was ready to insure his car, your dad called him (alone) into his office and had a nice talk to him about what he needed to do to drive and be safe. My son is 43 this year and has a great driving record. That day in 1988, was the last time we saw your dad, but have talked about him many times and wondered what he was up to. It sounds like he had a good life and we are so happy for that. He will always be one of our favorite people. Now I have to call my son in El Paso and tell him about our good friend and I know he will tell me the story about his talk with Ed, when he was 16. Thank you so much for the State Journal ad....now we know where he is and that he is in peace. Robert (Bill) and Judi Pierson and son Kyle

**Bill and Judi Pierson** - March 04, 2014 at 01:24 PM

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“ Our sincerest condolences to Ed and his sister, as well as Linda. This has been a very tough winter for your whole family and Audie and I are thinking of you and wish we could be there for you.

**Bill Lynch** - March 03, 2014 at 07:16 PM