



Horst Kwech

November 28, 1937 - December 28, 2019

Horst Kwech's remarkable life came to an end on Saturday, December 28. He died at home, peacefully in his sleep.

Horst was born to Rudolf and Kamilla Kwech, in Vienna, Austria in 1937. He, his mother, and older sister, fled to Australia during World War II. He went to university in Australia and is a veteran of the Malaysian War.

The Outback suited his adventurous spirit. He was a champion in the motocross circuit and earned the name "Quick Kwech", which foreshadowed his later accomplishments within the race car driving industry. Horst moved to the United States in the early 60's and went on to achieve a legendary status within the driving industry. He won countless medals and set many records. Upon retiring as a driver he went on to be a brilliant engineer and created more than 20 original patents. In his partial retirement, he developed an interest in airplanes.

Horst is preceded in death by his first wife Dorothy Levitt, sister Helga and step son Bret O'Brien.

Horst leaves behind his loving and extended family, wife Linda O'Brien Kwech; his son Horst "Bluey" Kwech, his former wife Jenn and their children Taylor, Mia and Sloane; his step son Blake (Rebekah) O'Brien and their children Maeve and Blake and step daughter Caitlin O'Brien .

There will be an open house and celebration of his life on Thursday January 9, 2020 at 4:00 pm at Force Manufacturing 266 Park Ave. Lake Villa, IL 60046. 847-265-6500

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 9. 4:00 PM (CT)

Force Manufacturing
266 Park Ave
Lake Villa, IL 60046

Tribute Wall



“ *Horst Kwech*

October 04, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Horst Kwech*

December 31, 2022 at 11:36 AM



“ *Worked with Horst and Ron Neal as a crew member back in the early '70 at AUSCA Engineering. Horst gave me a hot lap ride-along in the Alfa GTV at Brainerd. It was the thrill of my life up to that point. They were fun times working with Horst, Ron, and Ian Grinter. My condolences to the family. Rest in Peace, mate. John Schueneman*

John E Schueneman - January 09, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ *I was very sad to hear of Horst's passing. I didn't know him long, but hung-out / worked with him and the crew at AUSCA in Libertyville when they ran the Capris when I could during my college years. At first he let me tag along so I could take photos for a college project, and then later on I worked full time as the resident dummy and helper-bee briefly before I returned to grad school. He was a great guy to work for and learn from and such a good driver. RIP, HK. Gary Nichols, Tampa, FL*

Gary Nichols - January 09, 2020 at 01:08 PM

TF

“ *The Vectra Family purchased the Sentimental Dreams for the family of Horst Kwech.*



The Vectra Family - January 08, 2020 at 07:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Horst Kwech.*



January 08, 2020 at 12:19 PM

BM

“ *My thoughts are with Horst's family. I worked with/for Horst at PCI in the 1980's. I always enjoyed doing welding projects for him in the Engineering Department and on occasion his race cars. I always admired his great skills in the machine shop and the fantastic tooling he designed. He was a great guy.*

Bob Miller - January 06, 2020 at 08:27 PM

TL

My Uncle, married to my late Dad's Sister, my late Auntie Dot. Sad that we had so little time together over the years but the time we did was very special. Sleep well reunited with Dorothy xxxx

Terry Levitt - December 22, 2021 at 06:00 AM

GR

“ *Linda, Blake, and dear Caitlin, I am so sad to hear this. Have been reading up on Horst, what a remarkable life he led and how blessed he was to spend the last with you!! Not a great way to end a decade but wishing you new beginnings and many blessing this year. My sincerest condolences. Gretchen (and Charlie) Ricker*

Gretchen Ricker - January 05, 2020 at 07:36 PM