



Kenneth Bakanec

January 15, 1951 - April 20, 2025

Kenneth Michael Bakanec, also known as “Big Ken, The Big Guy, The Large One, and Captain Corvette,” to all family and friends, sadly, passed away, Sunday, April 20, 2025, after a brave fight against a long illness.

Born to Bernie and Loretta Bakanec, January 15, 1951 in Waukegan, IL, Ken, as they say, lived the life! As a real estate broker/owner, classic car collector, story teller and a devoted husband to his wife, Margaret, for the past 35 years in Lake Villa, IL. After retiring from real estate in the mid-1990’s, Ken really stepped on the gas, accelerating his enjoyment as a fan of NASCAR, Indycar, and Formula 1, often attending races, and winning local, regional, and national trophies for the meticulous way he kept up his armada of muscle cars. Ken also rounded out his life spending summers at the Little Red Cabin, where he loved, fishing, hunting, and the mouth-watering super club cuisine of Villas County, Wisconsin.

Ken is survived by his wife, Margaret (Nee Andrules), step daughter, Jackie Banks, brother

Ronnie (Marni) of Las Vegas, NV, cousins, nieces and nephews He was preceded in death by

his parents, Bernard and Loretta Bakanec, and brother, Lawrence Bakanec.

No services are being held.

Tribute Wall

DM

“ I miss Ken very much and always will. He was a true friend.

Dory Miller - March 23 at 03:41 PM

JM

“ To my cousin Kenny, I am so sorry to hear of your passing. What can I say, a lot from your great stories and funny jokes, the car shows and letting me drive the Indy pace car home, to throwing me all the time off the doc at the island. You will be missed, say hi to Mom and Dad and Auntie Loretta. Rest in peace cuz, till we met again. The Beebster. My condolences to My cousin Ronnie and Margaret.

Joan Masotas-Hoel - May 01, 2025 at 11:41 AM

JM

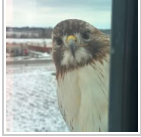
“ I am so Sorry to hear of the passing of my cousin Kenny, He was one of a kind, fun to be around and had awesome stories to tell, Say Hi to mom and Dad and Aunt Loretta for me. Condolences to my cousin Ronnie and to Margaret if there is anything I can do please reach out. The Beebster

Joan Masotas-Hoel - May 01, 2025 at 10:07 AM

CJ

“ Marge, So very sorry to see this... He was a great guy! I have some great, funny memories of him. Chris and Don Jackson

Chris Jackson - April 28, 2025 at 07:09 PM



“ *Uncle Kenny, aka, KB was the leader of our KB club! My sister and I are also KB's! He was the best Uncle and godfather when we were growing up. Taking me to car shows, fairs, Great America, and out to great restaurants and adventures! He was a great storyteller of the old days growing up with our Dad at the house on Rogers court! He was one of a kind!*

Kathy Bakanec Krueger

Kathy Krueger - April 26, 2025 at 02:01 PM

PB

“ *So sorry for your loss/our loss of Ken. Will miss the car shows we traveled to, went to in the area and many, many, many stories!! Come and see us when you're able. Sending much love. 💕*



Pat. & Joe Bakanec - April 24, 2025 at 04:12 PM

RO

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you Marge. May he rest in God's perpetual peace.*
Rose

Rose - April 24, 2025 at 03:04 PM