



Kenneth "Kenny" Edward Laughlin

September 9, 2005 - November 19, 2023

Kenneth Edward Laughlin was born September 9, 2005, in Rolla, Missouri. He was adopted and raised by Ralph and Jessie (Leonard) Laughlin, along with his stepfather, Donald Key. Kenny grew up in Jadwin, Missouri and was a senior at Salem High School.

Kenny was an excellent student. He was always respectful, positive, and kind. He had a great sense of humor and was always quick to crack a joke in class. He was amazingly artistic, Art Class was his favorite, and he was a member of the Art Club. His talent was shown in the drawing of his dog, Tessa, and his Mustang.

Kenny had just started his first job with J.B. Malone's as a dishwasher. He was being introduced slowly as a line cook and enjoying the work experience. Kenny was learning how to be responsible and working on his future goals.

Kenny had a strong bond with his siblings. He was a ladies' man and loved to hang out with friends, especially his best friend, Jordan. He spent a lot of time at the Armory shooting hoops and enjoyed helping younger kids. He liked playing video games, listening to music, taking rides, going to the river, fishing, and hunting.

Kenny departed this life November 19, 2023, in Salem, Missouri, at the age of

eighteen years. Those left behind to cherish his memory include his siblings: Crystal Yandell and husband David of Jadwin, MO, Rachel Land and husband Anthony of Salem, MO, Jessica Carnell of Jadwin, MO, Tyrone Leonard and fiancé Katie Stacy of Salem, MO, Betty Shanika and husband Corey of Wentzville, MO; Novalee Laughlin and fiancé Bryan Heathman of Houston, MO, and Robin Johnson and husband David; grandparents: Scott and Jerrie Laughlin of Salem, MO; adopted grandmother: Linda Manley; best friend: Jordan Manley; uncle: Steven Key and family; extended family and dear friends.

Preceding him in death, adopted parents: Ralph and Jessie Laughlin; stepfather: Donald Key; and sister: Jennifer Leonard.

Kenny lived life to the fullest. He will be remembered for his strong ambition, positivity, and goofy personality. His zest for life will forever remain etched on the hearts of those who loved him most.

Funeral Services for Kenneth “Kenny” Edward Laughlin were held Saturday, December 2, 2023, in the Wilson Mortuary Salem Chapel with Jerrie Laughlin officiating. Song selections played were “Dancing in the Sky” and “Jealous of the Angels”. Serving as Pallbearers were David Yandell, Jordan Manley, Tyrone Leonard, James Grossenbacher, Joshua Laughlin, Ralph Laughlin, Travis Radford, Kevin Ockerhausen, and Alex Laughlin. Honorary Pallbearers were Harold Brawly and Scott Laughlin. Burial was in the Dry Fork Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Wilson Mortuary of Salem, Missouri.

Memorial Contributions may be made in memory of Kenny Laughlin to Wilson Mortuary to help with final expenses. Memorial Envelopes will be available.

Online Condolences may be entered at www.wilsonmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Dry Fork Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 2. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-5555
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com/>

Funeral Service

DEC 2. 12:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Mortuary - Salem
1000 West Scenic Rivers Blvd.
Post Office Box 45
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-5555
<https://www.wilsonmortuary.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ 60 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Wilson Mortuary - December 02, 2023 at 08:51 AM

TB

“ *I didn't know this young man but he was my sons friend they rode dirt bikes together praying for his family & friends 🙏*

teresa busbey - November 29, 2023 at 02:38 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Kenny" Edward Laughlin.*



November 28, 2023 at 06:40 PM

KS

“ I didn't know Kenneth that well but he was in my gym class my freshman year. He was a genuinely funny person and always made sure to be a team person. My condolences to the family of Kenneth and his friends.



Kathryn Sweigard - November 27, 2023 at 11:01 AM

AP

“ As his mom, I have had a lot of wonderful memories with him. When God gave me a son, he gave me the best. I love you Kenny so much and I miss you more than you will ever know. If I could lay my life down so you could continue yours, I would do it with no questions ask. But I didn't get that option. Say hi to your grandpa and I pray son you will be at peace. We will never stop loving and we will never forget you. You are my baby boy. My youngest. I never told you how proud I am of the accomplishments you have conquered.



Angela Puhmann - November 25, 2023 at 07:09 AM

RD

I miss him, I'm sorry. I'm sorry, I'm miss him and want him back, he was the only one thing that I wanted ever in my life, I want him back

Ralph / his dad - August 14, 2025 at 01:58 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Kenneth "Kenny" Edward Laughlin.



November 21, 2023 at 09:13 AM

AM

“ I am so so sorry for the loss of Kenny, I only knew him a short time but he was one of the best kids I've ever met . Prayers for his family.

Ashley miller - November 21, 2023 at 05:18 AM

RD

Ty

Ralph / his dad - August 14, 2025 at 01:59 AM

ST

“ So sorry for your loss. Condolences for family and friends.

Sharon Tubbs - November 20, 2023 at 01:51 PM

RL

Sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

Ron and Beth Light - November 20, 2023 at 04:29 PM