



## Ken Scarpino

August 1, 1926 - October 31, 2020

Born in Clearfield, Iowa on August 1st, 1926, to William Scarpino and Pearl L. House; Ken passed away peacefully on October 31st, 2020 at Veterans Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa. He was 94 years old.

Ken was a U.S. Navy Veteran of WWII and the Korean War. As a lifelong Des Moines resident, he touched many lives and had a variety of careers from Commercial Photographer with the Register and Tribune to night club and restaurant owner at his namesake "Scarpino's." He enjoyed his photography and produced many skyline photographs that still hang in many of Des Moines' most popular establishments. He was without a doubt a colorful thread in the fabric of Des Moines throughout his lifetime. More often than not, his parting words were a reminder to "be brave" - a sentiment he took with him as he reached his final days. He will be dearly missed by those who had the privilege of knowing and loving him.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents, William & Pearl; wife, Sally; brothers, Bill & Ed; and one step-great-grandchild.

He is survived by his eight children, Donna (Chuck) Ray, Ken Jr. (Brenda) Scarpino, Linda (Chuck) Miller, Gina (Tim) Duffy, Marty (Deena Edelstein) Scarpino, Dan (Sherry) Scarpino, Mike (Teri Byers-Spillman) Scarpino, Joe (Theresa) Scarpino; brother, Larry (Sue) Scarpino; seven grandchildren,

Michelle Johnson, Haley Scarpino, Natalie Scarpino, Angela Hughes, Amy Duffy, Matt Duffy, Emily Duffy; five step-grandchildren, Kerri Fitzgerald, Kady Duffy, Dustin Brown, Sara Brommel, Stephanie Larson; three great-grandchildren and eighteen step-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation services will be held on November 9th from 3:00pm to 5:00pm at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines, Iowa; recitation of the Rosary will follow at 5:00pm. A mass of Christian burial will be held on Tuesday, November 10th at 10:00am at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines, Iowa; and, a burial service will be held at the Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter on Friday, November 13th at 9:30am

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Des Moines Animal Rescue League, Des Moines Historical Society or St. Ambrose Cathedral.

We will be following the CDC guidelines. Please wear a mask and social distance accordingly. Thank you.

Flowers may be delivered to the church on Monday, November 9th

The 5pm Rosary Monday and 10am Mass on Tuesday will be live streamed on Dyamond Memorial's Facebook page.

# Cemetery Details

## Iowa Veterans Cemetery

34024 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Adel, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 9. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

St. Ambrose Cathedral  
607 High Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

## Rosary

NOV 9. 5:00 PM (CT)

St. Ambrose Cathedral  
607 High Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 10. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Ambrose Cathedral  
607 High Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

## Burial

NOV 13. 9:30 AM (CT)

Iowa Veterans Cemetery  
34024 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Adel, IA

# Tribute Wall

MC

“ Dear Donna and the Scarpino gang,  
So sorry. Dad was in my life from the days at St. Theresa's. I still have my 8th grade graduation pic he took. I would see him around town and at Dahls. He always was having fun. I know he will be missed.

Deepest sympathy,  
Dennis and Chris (Eoriatti) Christy

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Mary C Christy - November 14, 2020 at 01:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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Dyamond Memorial - \*Burials \*Cremations \*Monuments - November 13, 2020 at 02:34 PM

Jeff  
DuBay

“ Prayers to all of you and Ken, was a great man and a delight to be around. Wonderful family man, always had a smile. RIP.

Jeff DuBay

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Jeff DuBay - November 12, 2020 at 09:57 AM

TB

“ *Kenny, Marty and all,  
Sad to hear it! He was a great guy.  
See you tomorrow.  
Tom Brien.*

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**Tom Brien** - November 09, 2020 at 09:40 AM

LW

“ *Dear Linda and Family, We were sorry to hear of the loss of your  
Father, Ken.  
I too lost my father so know the pain you are going through.  
I will miss him, as he took several of our class reunions pictures.  
We will keep your family in our prayers.  
Your friend in Christ, Linda Wolf Wallace-- STS and SJA-'71  
From the DHS/SJA class of '71 Reunion Committee  
Nancy B, Diane F, Paula P and Linda W*

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**Linda Wolf Wallace** - November 08, 2020 at 05:10 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Ken Scarpino.*



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November 08, 2020 at 11:56 AM

MA

“ Ken and Sally Scarpino were my first employers at "Scarpino's Pizza" on 73rd St. I was a junior at Valley WDM and learned how to make pizza from the best. His father, Bill, would mix and cook the meatballs for the night while Sally would supervise the kitchen prep. Now husband, Mike, would be in the backroom sitting on a bench seat from a old pick-up, waiting to take me home. He usually ended up getting the mistakes. He and Bill would sit and watch TV.

*Fond farewell.*

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**Maggie** - November 08, 2020 at 08:32 AM

DE

*Ken Scarpino took our wedding pictures November 1953  
Many fond memories of the Scarpino family*

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**Daylene Ellis** - November 08, 2020 at 09:45 AM

KJ

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Ken Scarpino Jr.** - November 06, 2020 at 10:26 AM

KJ

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Ken Scarpino Jr.** - November 06, 2020 at 10:13 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Ken Scarpino.



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November 05, 2020 at 08:46 PM

MD

“ *I always remember Kenny taking our family pictures with the Gruber's/Scarpino's. He was a great photographer! He will be missed. Meredyth Dishman*

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**Meredyth Dishman** - November 04, 2020 at 04:19 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ken Scarpino.*



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November 04, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ *Larry and Cathee Lemke purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ken Scarpino.*



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**Larry and Cathee Lemke** - November 04, 2020 at 10:49 AM



“ *Ken often commented on my late nights online and how we should get a late night or early morning coffee and donut group together. He often met some of the others for coffee & donuts but I lived in Council Bluffs at the time. A great friend and father. Gina and family know I've been praying for you all.*

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**Vickie Shepherd** - November 03, 2020 at 08:22 PM



*A great guy. A Jack of all trades - who mastered them all. He made lots of friends along the way, and we will miss him. God bless Kenny. RIP.*

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**Molly Kurtz ConwY** - November 04, 2020 at 03:18 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Ken Scarpino.*



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November 03, 2020 at 10:26 AM



“ *Chuckie, Debbie, Pam, Karen and Marcia purchased the Garden Cross for the family of Ken Scarpino.*



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**Chuckie, Debbie, Pam, Karen and Marcia** - November 03, 2020 at 04:04 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ken Scarpino.*



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November 02, 2020 at 10:12 PM



“ *So very sorry to hear of Ken Scarpino, Sr. passing. He was a wonderful man who raised a bunch of fine children. He will long be remembered.*

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**Scott Berry** - November 02, 2020 at 07:20 PM