



## Michael G. Batenhorst

February 10, 1939 - July 6, 2024

Michael "Mike" G. Batenhorst, 85, of Kearney, died Saturday, July 6, 2024 at CHI Health Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Funeral Mass will be 10:30 a.m., Thursday, July 11, 2024 at St. James Catholic Church in Kearney with Father Joseph Hannappel as celebrant. Interment will follow at the Kearney Cemetery. Visitation will be 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 10th at St. James with a wake service following at 6:00 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the Kearney Catholic Foundation, the Stuart Nebraska Community Foundation, or the University of Nebraska Kearney Foundation for Cross Country and Track. Please visit [www.hlmkfuneral.com](http://www.hlmkfuneral.com) to leave a tribute or message of condolence. Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services in Kearney is in charge of arrangements.

Mike was born February 10, 1939 at the Stuart Hospital, Stuart, Nebraska to Robert and Mary (Hoffman) Batenhorst. He grew up on the family farm and attended school at Stuart, graduating with the class 1957. He attended Norfolk Community College to play football, graduated from Wayne State College in 1961. He taught school at Atkinson St. Joseph and Chambers, Nebraska where he had a championship Volleyball team. He then went back to Herman School of Physical Therapy in Houston, TX.

He worked in many facilities before coming to Kearney. Dodge County Community Hospital, Fremont, NE; Children's Hospital in Omaha, NE, Schyler Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, Kearney, Bethpage Mission, Axtell and Kearney Clinic. He was instrumental in beginning the Physical Therapy Department at Good Samaritan in 1969 and the founder of Family Physical Therapy in 1993 with two employees and big dreams. He married Elaine Maret on August 5, 1967 in Wood River, Nebraska. The two had met in Fremont, Nebraska. They had three children, Susan, Todd and Shannon.

His pride and joy were his six grandchildren. They were very special to him. He loved to visit, play games, attend their events and eat ice cream with them.

Surviving relatives include his wife, daughters Susan (Garret) Van Brocklin of Cortland, NE and Shannon (Bart) Eastwood of Blacksburg, VA, son Todd (Katherine) Batenhorst of St. Augustine, FL, grandchildren, Benjamin, Zachary, Anna, Eli Van Brocklin, Cole and Allie Eastwood; Sister, Maureen Flynn, Sioux Falls SD; Brother-in-laws Kenny (Sandy) Maret, Bob Maret, Sister-in-laws Margie Leonard, Nancy Packer, Ramona Raile, Brother-in-laws

Many, many nieces and nephews

He was preceded in death by his parents, in-law Frank and Alethia Maret, sister, Dolores Keathing, Brothers Eugene, James, Kenny

# Cemetery Details

## Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 10. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Wake Service

JUL 10. 6:00 PM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847

## Funeral Mass

JUL 11. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church  
3801 Avenue A  
Kearney, NE 68847

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ I just learned of Mike’s passing. I have fond memories of Mike. He was a mentor of mine when I moved to Lexington in the 80’s to start a physical therapy program. He was so kind, so supportive and helpful. He was so easy to talk to. Just thought you would like to know. May Mike rest now in peace.  
Jim Hain

Jim Hain - July 18, 2024 at 12:14 AM

RD

“ Cel and I were sad to read of Michael's passing and we send along prayers and our sympathy. Roger Davis

Roger Davis - July 12, 2024 at 08:26 AM

MK

“ Elaine and family, Just heard about your husband from the folks at BCBS. Please accept my sincere sympathy on this loss. May you be comforted by the kindness of so many that deeply care about you.---Mary Kommers

Mary S Kommers - July 11, 2024 at 05:26 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Michael G. Batenhorst.



July 10, 2024 at 05:02 PM

JR

“ Janet, Gerard, Alec, Arden & Reese planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael G. Batenhorst.

Janet, Gerard, Alec, Arden & Reese - July 10, 2024 at 05:02 PM

CB

“ Chris, Liz, Maggie & Sarah Batenhorst purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Michael G. Batenhorst.



Chris, Liz, Maggie & Sarah Batenhorst - July 10, 2024 at 08:31 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael G. Batenhorst.*



July 09, 2024 at 04:48 PM

TF

“ *The Good Samaritan Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael G. Batenhorst.*

**The Good Samaritan Family** - July 09, 2024 at 04:48 PM

DG

“ *So sorry to hear of the death of your loved one. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.*

**Dean and Lana Gosch** - July 09, 2024 at 12:16 AM

DF

“ *Donald (Sally) Schmaderer and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Michael G. Batenhorst.*



**Donald (Sally) Schmaderer and Family** - July 08, 2024 at 12:55 PM

TH

“ *Tony and Karen Hoffman purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Michael G. Batenhorst.*



**Tony and Karen Hoffman** - July 07, 2024 at 04:15 PM

TH

“ *Tony and Karen Hoffman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael G. Batenhorst.*

**Tony and Karen Hoffman** - July 07, 2024 at 04:15 PM