



Kenneth T. Willis Jr.

March 4, 1956 - April 25, 2019

Kenneth T. Willis Jr., 63, a longtime Mentor resident, passed away April 25, 2019 at Hospice House in Cleveland surrounded by his family. He was born March 4, 1956 in Cleveland.

Ken was a Mentor Police Officer from 1989 until his retirement in 2016. A quote regarding Ken's service read, "During his 26 years with the Mentor Police Department, Sgt. Willis has reflected the department's core values of integrity, caring, fairness and professionalism, both on and off duty," the statement said. "The job of a supervisor is not always "flashy" and Sgt. Willis has been a supervisor that has not sought for recognition. He has been excellent at managing critical calls, including assisting at numerous fire scenes and power outages through the years." Ken was promoted to Sergeant in 2003 and was chosen as Officer of the Year by his peers in 2016.

After retiring from Mentor PD, Ken worked part time as a police officer for The Village of Grand River. His hobbies included photography, travelling to visit family and watching NASCAR and Cleveland sports teams in his spare time. He enjoyed keeping in close contact with family and friends who lived near and far, always watching out for them.

Survivors are his wife, Brigid (Mulcahy) Willis; children, Travis (Hannah), Patrick, and Jennifer Willis; sister, Jan (Fred) Stickle; and his brother, Keith

(Vanessa) Willis. Ken is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other loving family members, friends and colleagues.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth T. Willis Sr., and Anita Willis, along with his sister Judith Thompson.

The family will receive friends to celebrate Ken's life from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, May 18th, 2019 at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060. A memorial service to conclude the gathering will take place at 6 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions be made to the Mentor Police Athletic Association, 8500 Civic Center Blvd., Mentor, OH 44060 or to Hospice of the Western Reserve, P.O. Box 72101, Cleveland, OH 44192, donate online at www.hospicewr.org.

Please offer condolences at www.brunners.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 18. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Memorial Service

MAY 18. 6:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
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Tribute Wall

CR

“ Sending an abundance of love and light to Brigid, Travis, and Patrick during this incredibly difficult time. Ken was always a fun guy to talk to during your visits to Leelanau County. He always put family first, and was ready to help in any way possible. Our thoughts are with your family.

cheryl and billl robinson - May 16, 2019 at 08:38 AM

LD

“ Love you, Keith, Vanessa & Danielle purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Kenneth T. Willis Jr..



Love you, Keith, Vanessa & Danielle - May 14, 2019 at 12:54 PM

SD

“ We worked with him in Mentor and Kenny was always one of “the good guys”. Our pleasure to know you and work with you!

Scott and Robin Doran - May 03, 2019 at 05:16 PM

CN

“ Sooooo sorry to hear this I worked with him in highland heights; and mentor, and when my husband was shot in the line of duty in cleveland he was at the hospital for me, always the kindest person, may you Rest In Peace ken

candy nowacki - May 03, 2019 at 04:35 PM

EB

“ Kenny and I were rookies together at the Euclid Police Department. We survived Highway Patrol Academy and he moved on to have a stellar career with Mentor PD. He chose a life of service to others and for that I'm sure he positively impacted his community. Rest in God's great Glory Kenny.

Ed Bonchak - May 03, 2019 at 08:16 AM

 Maurice Manjiro

“ Dearest Cousin Kenny.
I regret we haven't met in years. May you rest in peace.
Condolences to your family. You have led a life of good service-well done.
John Maurice Willis

Maurice Manjiro - May 03, 2019 at 02:26 AM

 Beth Caplinger

“ Brigid & Family-So sorry for your loss. Ken was one of my favorite midnight officers to work with. Such a great guy.

Beth Caplinger
Mesquite, NV

Beth Caplinger - May 03, 2019 at 01:15 AM

JP

“ Always liked Willie. He was a genuine person and he understood the big picture. He was a good person to work with and work for. Condolences to his family.

joe primiano - May 02, 2019 at 03:07 PM

WK

“ *Condolences to Sgt Willis' family. A great boss to work for and an even better person!* ”

William F Kuret - May 02, 2019 at 02:56 PM