



Kenneth Willis

January 3, 1929 - May 19, 2007

Private services will be held for Kenneth Warren Willis, 78, of Roswell who passed away Saturday, May 19, 2007, at Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque.

Kenneth was born on January 3, 1929 in Morton, Texas to Boyd and Iva Ann Willis. He and Betty Jane Eaton were married on February 4, 1951 in Raton; she survives him at the family home. For the most of Kenneth's life he worked with young people, Colonel Willis taught at New Mexico Military Institute from 1973 until 1992 when he retired.

He served as Division Chairman for Humanities and was head of the English Department. Another of Kenneth's duties was driver's education teacher, he spent many hours teaching young people the joy and responsibility of operating a vehicle.

Kenneth loved sports (especially football) coaching almost every sport. He was an avid reader, his favorites were Zane Grey and Louis L'Amour; an avid reader of Southwestern Literature; an avid fisherman, content to sit for hours on the riverbank waiting for a bite; and was a connoisseur of old western movies. He was a joy to be around, he had a wonderful sense of humor. Kenneth was a wonderful loving, husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, who will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

In addition to his wife, Betty, Kenneth is survived by two daughters, Sandy Buie and her husband, Harry, and Lynn Townsend and her husband, Hank; a son, Kenneth Eaton Willis and his wife, Susie; seven grandchildren, Jeffrey

and Garrett Barajas, Valarie Stiles and her husband, Jacob, Jacquelyn Townsend, and Alexandria, Chelsey, and Parker Willis; three great-grandchildren; one sister, Martha Joyce Wall of Clovis; a dear friends, Fern Zimmerman; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of friends and former students.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, Boyd and Iva Willis, and a brother, James B. Willis.

To sign the online register book go to [Anderson Bethany.com](http://AndersonBethany.com)

Services are under the direction of Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory

Tribute Wall

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“ Our hearts go out to you at this time and in the days ahead as you all try to cope with such a great loss. With each new day may Almighty God (John 11:25) give you strength and comfort. Mr. Willis will be missed.

The Kindred Family - June 19, 2007 at 06:16 PM

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“ I was so sorry to hear of Ken's passing. As a member of the NMMI English department during Ken's tenure as teacher/department chair/division chair, I valued his mentorship and caring attitude, not only for the faculty under his supervision, but also for the thousands of cadets upon whom he had a significant impact. whether in the classroom or on the playing field with his coach's hat on, Ken was a caring, involved and empathic individual. I valued his advice, his counsel and his friendship. He will be sorely missed. Suzanne

Suzanne Stafki Steil - June 03, 2007 at 07:19 PM