



Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD

July 19, 1942 - November 25, 2024

Kenneth M. Tewel Jr., M.D. (7/19/1942 -- 11/25/2024)

November 24, 2024 was setting up to be a great day for Kenny Tewel. The Colts and the Lions were playing, and it was a beautiful day for a jog. "I love you," he said, as he headed out the door. On the trail, he met some lovely, Good Samaritans. He received compassionate medical care that would have made him very proud. It was his final run after a lifetime of great ones. The only thing that wasn't perfect is how much we are all hurting — he never would have wanted us to hurt...ever.

On a blind date, he met Brenda Montgomery and proposed quickly -- it was the fastest and best decision he ever made. He loved her deeply and expressed his love and concern for her until the very end. "Bee," as he affectionately called her, brought out the best in him. He was funnier and more confident in her presence and absolutely loved to hold her hand. Together, they reared two daughters (Annie and Meg) and along the way welcomed two sons-in-law (Jade and Ben) and four grandchildren (Sam, Jake, Charlie, and Henry). Our shared memories of finding Lowly Worm, Halloween pranks and his loud ill-timed laugh, mini golf, long jogs and precious time spent on a trout stream, his love of "the perfect" card, and his hysterically horrible performance on family game nights burn brightly right now.

A smart, soft-spoken, humble, Hall of Fame athlete, he was a loyalist to Huntington High, Miami of Ohio, and the Indiana University School of Medicine. His parents (Ruth and Ken) and his alma maters built the foundation for a wonderful life spent in Huntington, Ludington, and Bloomington. He was an ophthalmologist who loved caring for patients and believed in the simple ideals of professionalism and altruism. That legacy endures in the patients he served and the people he taught and inspired. He was a loving son, brother-in-law, and uncle and a great big brother to Jim. The friendships he had were deep and meaningful -- "all substance, no flash."

We will see him in so many places -- in the kindness of others, in a good adventure, when monarch butterflies hatch and when trout rise, when the Tigers and Colts win, and on the shores of his favorite Michigan lakes and beautiful trout streams in Montana. If you wish to honor him, please give generously to a local organization that makes the world more beautiful.

Max Ehrmann's *Desiderata* captures so much of him. As we mourn and celebrate, remember "it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy."

Tribute Wall

TG

“ *Lynne and I are saddened by Ken's passing, but comforted in knowing he spent his final time in this life doing one of many things he enjoyed: just running.*

We knew Ken, Brenda, Annie and Meg in Indianapolis as residents at IU medical center, and became good friends. He was a thoughtful old school communicator to his patients and a very skilled surgeon.

Times spent with Ken and Brenda together in the evenings, and drives down to Bloomington to watch a game are great memories.

May Brenda, Annie and Meg and their families find peace in the memories of times spent together.

Tim and Lynne Goslee

Timothy Goslee,MD - May 10, 2025 at 05:52 PM

GD

“ *A belated sympathy Brenda. Many great memories with you and Kenny!*

My thoughts are with you.

Gary Dancz

Gary Dancz - December 20, 2024 at 08:33 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.*



December 09, 2024 at 02:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.

December 09, 2024 at 02:46 PM



“ *Greg Selke lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Tewel*



Greg Selke - December 05, 2024 at 12:33 PM

GS

“ Ken was a special person, really. So smart, relaxed, analytical, funny and caring. Knowing Ken through Brenda and Beth Selke for over 50 years, he was always steady and predictable. We exchanged 5 or so emails every week for the past few years discussing and exchanging barbs about all things sports from Hardin County, Montana to Petoskey to the fine schools listed in his obituary. And every week we laughed at something new. I will so miss his dry humor and delayed laugh and knowing I had a great friend an email away. My heart goes out to his dear family as we remember how Ken changed us all, for the better. With tons of fond memories, Greg Selke

Greg Selke - December 05, 2024 at 12:27 PM

CL

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Tryna Loos

Catryna Loos - December 04, 2024 at 10:14 PM

GR

“ Brenda, Annie, and Meg. I have such wonderful memories of Ken from time spent on Holly Lane. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers.

Gayle Garrett Robinson - December 03, 2024 at 07:55 PM

JO

“ One week after Annie and Brenda called with the shocking news about Kenny's death, I am still in a state of disbelief. I refuse to accept the new reality of existing in a world that no longer includes the presence, a phone call or email away, of my oldest and cherished friend. I'm flooded with the images of growing up with Kenny " Red" Tewel in Huntington, Indiana. But beyond our glorious sports- crazed youth, there was an enduring friendship with Kenny and his beautiful, loving Bren. There is no getting over or past his death, my life can never be the same without him not being there or somewhere. But I am forever blessed because of our friendship. RIP Red.

John Owen - December 02, 2024 at 07:04 AM

SW

“ My memories of Ken are spent with his brother Jim, who was a best friend on Lynwood Drive. I watched him play football, basketball and run the half mile and mile relay. Jim wasn't the same athlete as Ken but played baseball like his Dad, Ken Sr. Jim became the "Voice of the Vikings on WHHS" radio station. Our high school had a radio station. I didn't ever see Ken again except when he was home once just before basic training. He was excited to go. Please know he will be with you always forever in your minds and hearts. God bless all of you.

Steve Weber - November 30, 2024 at 03:43 PM

CP

“ I will always remember the wonderful tennis matches we played on the courts at Lincoln Hills in Ludington. He taught me how to play with class. Thankyou Ken. Much love and kindness. Chris Pontz

chris pontz - November 30, 2024 at 12:40 PM

AO

“ Dear famiy, I have not met any of you, but I share your tribute to him. You might say, I met Kenny in Kindergarten or Sunday School at the Presbyterian church, I still have photos of him at my 5th year old birthday Party...chuckle, the years have not changed him much. I only knew of him as Kenny. I knew his Mother and Dad through activities of the church.

I was also a good friend of John Owen who I had met before Kenny. Memories, memories, yes, there are many that are quite funny. You were blessed with him in your life. He was special. I wish all of you well.

*Ann Opal (Ware)
Love to all.*

Ann Opal - November 29, 2024 at 06:29 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.



November 29, 2024 at 07:36 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.

November 29, 2024 at 07:36 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.*



November 28, 2024 at 08:19 PM



“ *Ivan, Nikki, Averie, Eva and Ivan Porter purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.*



Ivan, Nikki, Averie, Eva and Ivan Porter - November 27, 2024 at 03:56 PM



“ *Ivan, Nikki, Averie, Eva and Ivan Porter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kenneth M. Tewel Jr. MD.*

Ivan, Nikki, Averie, Eva and Ivan Porter - November 27, 2024 at 03:56 PM