



David W. Depew

December 25, 1950 - October 2, 2023

It is with great sadness the family of David W Depew PhD, AICP, LEED AP announce his passing on October 2, 2023 after a courageous two year battle with leukemia. David is lovingly remembered by Margaret, his adoring wife of 32 years, His brother, Kenneth, of Fort Myers, and by many other beloved family members and friends.

Before he established Depew Planning Services, David was the former Lee County Director of Community Development and the co-founder, principal and former President of Morris-Depew Associates. For more than 40 years, David was involved in numerous land planning, development permitting, zoning and comprehensive planning, as well as eminent domain-related planning issues and litigation assistance across the state of Florida. He was widely recognized as a leading expert in each field.

Accompanied at his side by his wife, Margaret, David had an adventurous life driven by his inquisitiveness and filled with a variety of interests, including worldwide travel, scuba, diving and boating. David was also a master chef and wine aficionado. The dinner parties for family and friends were legendary. He will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Per David's wishes, funeral service will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in David's name may be made to Mayo Clinic, Department of

Development, 200 First Street SW, Rochester, MN 55905.

Online condolences may be offered by visiting www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Tribute Wall

KD

“ Kenneth D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Depew.

Kenneth D. - October 24, 2023 at 05:09 AM

BC

“ I just learned the sad news of David's passing. David was a fine, principled person who also happened to be, from my perspective, a real "renaissance man" and a great person to be around. He made a positive impact with his life, personally and professionally and will be greatly missed.

Bobby Cleveland - October 20, 2023 at 12:08 PM

CG

“ I keep thinking about Dave and all of his adventures since we first met in the late 1980's. I will always remember how he helped me grow and made my life better. Thank you Dave for everything my best thoughts to Margaret.

Charles Gauthier - October 20, 2023 at 08:08 AM

SS

“ It is with sincere sadness to learn of Dave Depew's passing. My heartfelt condolences to Margaret and all who mourn Dave. Early in our careers Dave was one of the first to freely instruct me how the permitting process worked, and often didn't. Dave's early tutelage continues to serve me as I continue to serve in that process. His levity on permitting matters, not a subject naturally given to levity, was for me just one of his endearing traits. Dave's wit and well-articulated opinions will be missed. Godspeed and prayers for you Margaret.

stan stouder - October 19, 2023 at 01:49 PM

SH

“ I have no words to say how sad I am that Dave has passed away. He was a mentor to me in so many ways and was such a nice person to work for. He truly cared about his employees, and I have so many fond memories of him. My heart goes out to you Margaret. I know he loved you so much! May he rest in peace!

Sheila Holland - October 18, 2023 at 01:27 PM



Dave taught me everything I knew about land planning. He gave me so many opportunities along with Mike Morris they are both truly great men and will be missed terribly. My heart is so saddened to hear of Dave's passing ..even when I left Morris Depew I always called Dave on Xmas to wish him a happy birthday. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Nicole Lynn - July 25, 2025 at 01:19 AM

DD

“ So sad to hear that Dave has left us. Dave's personality included being enthusiastic, energetic and engaging. Always with a fresh perspective and with profound intelligence. He will be missed.

David Davis - October 14, 2023 at 10:18 AM

ME

“ Sad to hear the news of David's passing — fitting it was on the way to a land use public hearing. I enjoyed David's intellect and sense of humor. He was truly a unique guy. He was the expert witness in two of the biggest land use cases of my career — we prevailed in both. My condolences to Margaret and family.

Mark A. Ebelini - October 13, 2023 at 12:25 AM

MS

“ Sad to have just heard the news of David's passing from a mutual past client of ours, Jack Mayher. I had the privilege of working with David on several zoning and comprehensive plan cases over the years. Everyone knows he was an encyclopedia of knowledge but what I'll always remember (and be thankful for) is the time he took to educate me early in my career, even when it wasn't about a joint project and he had no reason to help me. That's just who he was.

Matt Simmons - October 10, 2023 at 03:55 PM

TP

“ Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
~Amen~
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Fidelium animae, per misericordiam Dei,
requiescant in pace.
~Amen~

Tony Palermo - October 10, 2023 at 02:57 PM

SH

Dave has been a good friend and colleague for many years. His intellect and wit will be sorely missed by so many. Condolences and comfort to Margaret and his family.

Steve Hartsell - October 16, 2023 at 09:45 PM

KW

“ I was so sad and shocked to hear of David's passing. We were office mates for many years. David certainly will be missed by so many people. David was a very special person who cared immensely about his friends and family. When we last spoke, it was as if we had spoken every day for the last 20 years. We will all miss you.

Ken Weiner - October 09, 2023 at 11:42 AM



“ *David W. Depew*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM

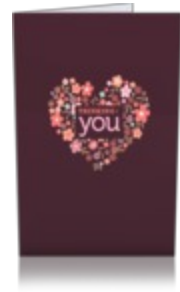
RB

“ I knew David as the clever and devilish little brother to his big brother K.C. Whenever K.C., Ned and I got together at his home, David was always there providing smart commentaries on our game playing. In those days, we had board games like Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, and Risk to spend our free time pondering over. We didn't have cell phones or XBox to waste our time. You had to be in the game, discussing strategy and possible outcomes. And in every game David managed to work his way into our companionship. He was also a sneaky little snot who would turn on you in a game of Risk as I can attest to. He was a good friend, a good brother and a great human being.

Roger N Britts - October 08, 2023 at 07:39 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of David W. Depew.



October 08, 2023 at 07:06 PM



“ Leona M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Depew.

Leona M. - October 08, 2023 at 12:14 PM



“ A wonderful man! Ken and I shared many wonderful dinners and fine wines with David and Maggie. Our hearts are broken. RIP David and light up heaven with your wisdom and wit 😭

pam oertel - October 07, 2023 at 05:13 PM



“ Gene & Vange K planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Depew.

Gene & Vange K - October 07, 2023 at 03:02 PM



“ Margaret E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Depew.

Margaret E. - October 07, 2023 at 08:36 AM

RS

“ Richard S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Depew.

Richard S. - October 06, 2023 at 08:19 PM

RS

“ Farewell, my oldest friend. You followed your heart with courage and humor, and you live on in ours.

“For me there is only the traveling on paths that have heart, on any path that may have heart, and the only worthwhile challenge is to traverse its full length.” — Carlos Casteneda

Richard Sanford

Richard Sanford - October 06, 2023 at 08:14 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David W. Depew.



October 06, 2023 at 03:58 PM

K&

“ Kathy &. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David W. Depew.

Kathy &. - October 06, 2023 at 01:13 PM

KP

“ David was such a dear friend. Our sadness and grief are immeasurable. We were beneficiaries of some of those renowned dinner parties and will always remember David in the kitchen! He felt like more than just a friend to us and we miss him terribly. His strength and also the strength of Margaret amazed us these last 2 years. He fought as hard as anyone could. We are glad his struggle is over and he is at peace and pain-free. We love you, David.

Kathy & John Pleune - October 06, 2023 at 01:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David W. Depew.

October 06, 2023 at 11:01 AM

WA

“ I find it impossible to adequately convey the depth of love and friendship that has blossomed between David, Margaret, and me during our journey from a business relationship to a profound and lasting friendship. This journey is etched in my heart, an experience I will forever cherish.

Initially, my connection with David and Margaret began as a Real Estate Broker, but it quickly evolved into something much more profound. My wife and I grew exceptionally close to this remarkable couple. Chef David's culinary masterpieces graced our tables, and our conversations spanned the spectrum of human experience, filling our lives with profound joy.

I take immense pride in sharing that David and Margaret, in addition to their many talents, became our Pickleball instructors. Through their patient guidance and warm encouragement, my wife and I not only learned to love the game but also developed a profound affection for the two most kind-hearted individuals we've ever known. Whenever we step onto the Pickleball court, memories of David's infectious laughter and his humorous reference to the "big Gorilla" always make us smile.

Though David has left us, his legacy will forever endure in our lives. We will forever miss him, but we will also forever remember the exceptional man who allowed us the privilege of knowing him intimately.

Wade & Keri Abed - October 06, 2023 at 10:49 AM

KD

“ David was an exceptional brother, and I'll miss his presence as well as the many dinners (with wine and leftovers to take home) that I shared with him and Margaret.

--Kenneth

Kenneth C Depew - October 06, 2023 at 10:47 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David W. Depew.



October 06, 2023 at 10:47 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David W. Depew.

October 06, 2023 at 10:47 AM