



Edward P. Kozelski

October 25, 1932 - October 27, 2014

Edward Paul Kozelski born in Detroit, MI October 25, 1932 to Sophia and Edward Kozelski, survived by his wife Gloria (Liedes) Kozelski, his 5 children Steve, Maureen, Kat, Lauren and Karen, 3 Grandchildren Corey, Aaron and Joel, and his beloved dogs Cabot and Candy. Ed graduated from Denby High School in 1950 then entered the army to serve for 2 years. Ed then returned to Michigan where he worked as a letter carrier for the United Postal Service until he received disability retirement in 1984 .

After retiring, Ed moved to Bonita Springs Florida in 1984 with his wife Gloria, into the house his father built and lived in for years, in Nuttinglikeit Grove. Ed found the Lord in 1999 and soon after began attending Living Waters church in Bonita, when it was just a small church. Ed and his wife Gloria, were water baptized by the Head Pastor in the Florida Gulf shortly thereafter, where Ed and Gloria dedicated their lives to the Lord.

Ed immediately became very active in the little church that was growing fast, not only serving as a greeter with his outgoing personality up until he was 80, but also served as groundskeeper utilizing his landscaping skills to maintain and beautify the grounds, until his physical condition began to further deteriorate. As a result of his relentless service to the church and The Lord, when the little church began to grow beyond its capacity Ed asked the Pastor what they planned to do with the beautiful wooden church pews. The Pastor said take as many as you want. Ed hauled many of the pews out of the church himself, and found his gifting as a carpenter, turning the pews into beautiful

pieces of furniture for his children and other church members. Once Ed used up the pews he loved to go to garage sales, finding little gems that were scrap to others, turning them into beautiful pieces of furniture, which fill his house and the houses of his 5 children, 3 of whom now also have houses in Bonita and Naples, after visiting over the years, the place Ed referred to as his little paradise on earth. Ed helped maintain and beautify his children's homes in Bonita over the years, while he continued making furniture, and helping Living Waters build a larger church to accommodate its growth. Ed took in a rescue Chihuahua and was devastated when it only lived a few short days.

With the help of his daughter Kat, Ed and his wife Gloria adopted sister and brother Chihuahuas from a shelter and Ed proclaimed "I found love again". Ed spent the last 7 years of his life loving and caring for his dogs Cabot and Candy, who kept him going even though he spent many of his days in chronic pain. Ed was seen riding his bike with Candy and Cabot four times a day through Nuttinglikeit grove to the Bonita Springs park nearby, where he would spend time walking the dogs around the river. It was his dogs, his family and the Lord that kept him going during his last seven years as aging got the best of him. He was seen riding his bike with his dogs to the park up until the final weeks of life.

Ed fought through pain his entire life but never gave up, always saying I have a lot to live for. God has blessed me with so much. Although of little means Ed gave all he had to his family, his dogs and his church saying he felt like the richest man alive, often proclaiming he was living the happiest time of his life after finding the Lord, even though in those later years he was in the most pain. Ed was a kind, loving, generous husband, father and grandfather and loved dearly by his family and dogs. Although he will be greatly missed, the legacy he left behind for his family, lives on not only in spirit in the Nuttinglikit Grove and nearby park, known as his little slice of heaven on earth, but in his never ending pursuit to never give up, to fight through the pain that followed him his entire life, knowing that once through it, the joy to come would be worth it. For Ed that Joy meant Jesus. Ed lived his life this way up until the

day he died peacefully surrounded by his loving family. Ed is with Jesus now, no more pain that eventually took his earthly body, but now in His spiritual body and the eternal joy he knew one day would be his. When asked shortly before he passed if he knew that he did his job on earth and that Jesus would be proud of him he answered yes he knew. He also knew he lived a full, blessed life and was loved dearly by his family. Although he tried to fight death one more time, he came to know his last fight now would be to hang on long enough to see all of his children as they came in one by one from Michigan. Ed celebrated his 82nd Birthday in the hospital on Saturday with his family as he waited for the final arrival the following day. Once that last goodbye took place on Sunday Ed knew his fight was finished. He was now ready to go and be with The Lord. He took his final peaceful breath on Monday Oct 27 at 12:38 PM with his loving family by his side. Ed went out the same way he lived his life, "Victoriously", and that will be his final legacy.

Tribute Wall



“ *Edward P. Kozelski*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Maureen McGlynn lit a candle in memory of Edward P. Kozelski*



Maureen McGlynn - November 25, 2014 at 09:20 PM



“ *My dear father I miss you so. I think back at everything we did together and all that you taught me. I will keep you alive in my heart forever.*

Kat Allweiss - November 04, 2014 at 07:15 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Maureen McGlynn - November 02, 2014 at 06:40 AM

KF

“ *My favorite memories of visiting Grandpa Ed in Florida were playing croquet in the backyard, canoeing down the river with grandpa and walking around the neighborhood with his dogs Candy and Cabot while Grandpa told stories.*

*I will miss you.
Have fun up in heaven Grandpa,
Love, Joel*

karen fox - November 01, 2014 at 12:52 PM

KF

“ *The best times that I had with my Dad were on Sundays. That was the day we could just hang out playing pinochle, watching the Detroit Tigers or whatever other sports were on and eating dinner (my favorite was Walleye that he and Gloria just caught.) Dad would always have a line up of stories, jokes and pranks that he would pull on us. He taught me everything I know about sports, how to be competitive and confident, and he gave me my sense of humor. These are all things that have served me well as an adult.*

When I went off to MSU, Dad would always find a way to send me a little spending cash that would always come at just the right time! When Dad and Gloria moved down to Florida, that gave me a good excuse to go on vacation often. I spent many Spring Breaks down there with my girlfriends. When Devin and I got married we even spent a couple days of our honeymoon with them. Dad would always tell Devin "if you want to retire in Florida don't wait, make it your goal to come down in your 50's so you can enjoy it while you are healthy." Of course, Devin took his advice to heart and is determined to get there (5 year plan) and always reminds me that it was my Dad's advice so we have to follow it.

When Aaron and Joel were born, we were able to continue the tradition of fun, games, jokes, talking sports, and dinners when we went down there one or twice a year. Of course, Dad had to teach the boys how to play pinochle so we could carry on the family tradition. Dad would always try and throw a few life lessons along the way to help form the next generation of his family. I am eternally grateful for all that he has done for me and my family. I miss my Dad very much and will always love him.

his loving daughter,

Karen

Karen Fox - November 01, 2014 at 09:11 AM

CC

“Well done good and faithful servant..enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.” Goodbye Grandpaw, I have fond memories of spending time at your house in Florida, garage sale-ing by day, walking along the beach, eating extremely healthy food, hopping in the canoe down the Imperial river, visiting the old banyan tree, taking long walks at night, stopping by the Lion's club, publix or long ago dancing at the Moose. You gave me my first car: The Pathfinder which led to great adventures and transported me to school, work and my various community efforts. Your strong faith, determination, and perseveance were always inspiring and you fathered five of the most influential, loving, and supportive people in my life. You've left a legacy to be proud of and an indelible mark on the world anround you. You'll live on in the hearts of your loved ones. With love, your grandson Corey.

Corey Curtiss - October 29, 2014 at 09:35 PM

MM

How sweet you remembered Grandpa Ed always signed his letters and cards, "Grandpaw."

Maureen McGlynn - October 31, 2014 at 10:33 AM

MM

“ I remember my wonderful father always getting me and my siblings together to play baseball or football in the yard. He put up a basketball hoop for us and made sure all of his girls new how to shoot baskets.

He got us all bikes to ride even if some of them were used and maintained them and made sure the tires were always filled up properly with air. He got us all ice skates and every winter he would flood the side yard with water and make us our own ice pond. We shared and had so much fun on a minibike he bought us.

My dad was such a loving, caring father. Always doing things with us kids when he could. Even when we were older he would invite us over every Sunday and he and Gloria would make dinner for us, usually a fish dinner, fresh fish he and Gloria caught in Lake St. Clair.

After he moved down to Bonita Springs, having dinner at his house while vacationing down there was always special too.

I will miss my dad so much, it breaks my heart to think about him being gone.

Bye Dad, you were the best dad! Rest in Peace Love, Maureen

Maureen McGlynn - October 29, 2014 at 09:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home - October 29, 2014 at 03:05 PM

MM

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Rest in Peace Love, Maureen

Maureen McGlynn - October 29, 2014 at 08:55 PM

MM

Dad always stayed active, he was always working in the carport, out in the yard or on his bike.

Maureen McGlynn - October 30, 2014 at 09:02 AM