



Karl Koch

September 30, 1925 - May 17, 2020

Karl was born in Chicago to Kristian and Marie Koch. Karl spent his formative years in Denmark. For his own protection, Karl was granted Danish citizenship during the time Denmark was under Nazi occupation. Karl was fluent in the Danish and Swedish languages as well as his native tongue.

Karl was a builder. Together with his wife of 67 years, Ethelann, they built a family with four kids, Kirk Koch, Jeff (Brenda) Koch, Mark (Merri) Koch, and Mary Dybvik. Six grandchildren: Tara (Aaron) Mennenga, Karl Scott and Peyton Koch, Courtney (Chris) Massina, Noah (Emily) Koch and Chase Koch. Four great grandchildren: Grayson Mennenga, Oliver, Theo, and Emelia Massina. We are all very proud of this family he and Ethelann built.

Karl is preceded in death by his parents, his son Kirk, daughter Mary Dybvik, and a brother.

Karl was a student of European History, WWII, and the bible. Karl has served as PTA president, probation aide working with youth, and has always been active in his church. Karl loved to play card games including Up and Down the River, Hand and Foot, and Dirty Marbles. Karl loved animals, raising all kinds of birds and keeping horses and ponies. Karl had a great sense of humor, great smile and laugh, and could tell a great story. Karl was also an avid reader and letter writer.

Karl was very thankful for his Koch Construction family, the many, many, great customers, the different tradesman, and of course the employees. He took great pride in sharing his craft with the staff at Koch Construction whether he was teaching or learning from them.

Most of all (after his family) Karl loved to work. He loved to build and see what he had accomplished at the end of the day. Karl went hard right up to the end, building planter boxes and furniture from salvaged wood pallets until the final months of his life. He left it all on the playing field of life. He ran the race with perseverance and fought the good fight. He will be sorely missed.

Private family services will be held Wednesday at Richardson Funeral Service with inurnment in Greenwood Cemetery, both in Cedar Falls.

Memorials may be directed to Hartman Reserve, St. John Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, or Hospice Compassus.

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

the end of College St, north of First Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 273-8628

Tribute Wall

MG

“ *Karl was so faithful as a volunteer in assisting residents to and from Sunday Chapel services at NewAldaya! He was very much missed, by all, when he was no longer able to assist. We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to you, Ethelann, and Family! Love, The Gregersens-- Jack and Marie.*



Marie Gregersen - May 31, 2020 at 11:38 AM

 Nell
Wilson

“ *Ethelann and Family,*

I am so sorry to read about your husband's recent passing. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

*Caring Friendship,
Nell Wilson*

Nell Wilson - May 26, 2020 at 10:51 AM

LK

“ *Oh my! So sorry to read about Karl's passing in the newspaper yesterday. Such an interesting guy. Enjoyed reading and learning more about his life. Much sympathy to you, Ethelann, and the family, on this tremendous loss.*

Lyle Krueger - May 25, 2020 at 10:56 PM

BD

“ *karl was an awesome woodworker i am sure will be missed by his family so sorry!*

barbara dix - May 24, 2020 at 11:17 AM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Karl Koch.*



May 22, 2020 at 10:40 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Teresa Merkel - May 21, 2020 at 01:11 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Doug Aschbrenner - May 20, 2020 at 05:17 PM



Pals forever!

Doug Aschbrenner - May 20, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Karl Koch.*



May 19, 2020 at 10:11 PM



“ *America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Karl Koch.*



May 19, 2020 at 05:23 PM



“ *We always loved visiting and having dinner with Karl. He knew who he wanted to talk to and always had questions to ask! We enjoyed all his stories and always learned something new. Thoughts and prayers to the family! Love, Bill, Barb (Boysen), Sarah and Lisa Clements*

Barb Clements - May 19, 2020 at 01:07 PM



I will always remember Karl's birds and how I enjoyed seeing the beautiful birds he had. He built large cages and I remember thinking it was almost like they were in their natural habitat they were so large and the birds had so much room to fly around in.

Kay Cartney - May 22, 2020 at 12:03 PM

BJ

Sorry to hear of Karl's passing. I still hear Karl's voice in my head when building things. I will always be grateful for my time working and learning from the Koch's.

Brice Jackson - May 22, 2020 at 10:53 PM

JH

Karl was one of the great people always telling wonderful stories and making you laugh. We have lost a wonderful person and my heart goes out to the Koch family.

Jeff Heisterkamp - May 23, 2020 at 10:58 PM

TH

Our condolences to your family in this time of sorrow.

Ted & Marla Hool - May 24, 2020 at 08:23 PM