



Kent Albert West

FEB 12, 1951 - JAN 1, 2025



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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DECATUR- Kent Albert West, 73, of Decatur, Illinois, passed away peacefully on January 1, 2025, after a courageous five-year battle with cancer.

Born on February 12, 1951, Kent entered the world as one of the famed "Decatur Triplets," alongside his identical brothers, Kevin and Kim. A pride of the community, the triplets' milestones were highlighted by the local paper over the years.

Kent graduated from MacArthur High School in 1969 and went on to earn a degree in Business Management from Bradley University. After many years working in Chicago, he returned to Decatur in 1997 where he and his father co-owned Tryco International, a distributor for industrial recycling shredders.

Kent married the love of his life, Lea Hier, on September 19, 1987, in Chicago. Together, they shared a life filled with love, laughter, music, and family. He was a devoted father to Alexandra and Rachel and a proud grandfather to Eliot, Owen, Isla, and Desmond.

One of Kent's passion projects (of which there were many) was his beloved 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air convertible, a car he and his brothers purchased for \$150 of lawn-mowing wages when they were 16. In 2016, after a year of meticulous restoration, Kent surprised Lea by unveiling the fully restored car, dazzling in its turquoise-and-ivory paint. It was a gift of love and nostalgia, capturing Kent's adventurous spirit and creativity.

Kent enjoyed many hobbies, including sailing on Lake Decatur, rollerblading on the Fairview Park bike path, and working diligently in his garden. He was deeply rooted in his community with his involvement in CONO, neighborhood associations, and National Night Out. Kent was also passionately involved in his church, Central Christian, serving as a deacon, elder, and trustee over the years, never missing an opportunity to uplift others. In retirement, Kent and Lea were fortunate to enjoy international adventures to Greece, Portugal, and France.



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Kent is survived by his wife of 37 years, Lea West; daughters Alexandra (Ben) Haefele and Rachel (Andy) Seidel; four grandchildren Eliot, Owen, Isla, and Desmond; siblings Kevin, Kim, Robert (Cathy), Julia Stephens (Brad); and beloved dog, Walter. He was preceded in death by his mother, Evelyn; father, Robert; sister Ann; and many dear family members.

Visitation will take place from 4 to 6 on Friday, January 10, 2025, at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home. Kent's Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 10 am, at Central Christian Church, followed by a private burial. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Central Christian Church or Central Christian Church Music Program.

The family wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Vonderlieth, the University of Chicago oncology team, and the many friends and caregivers who supported Kent throughout his illness.

Kent Albert West will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and brother whose love of family, adventurous spirit, and kindness left an indelible mark on everyone who knew him. He will be deeply missed but cherished always.

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family in care of Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Homes www.gracelandfairlawn.com.




Events


Kent Albert West

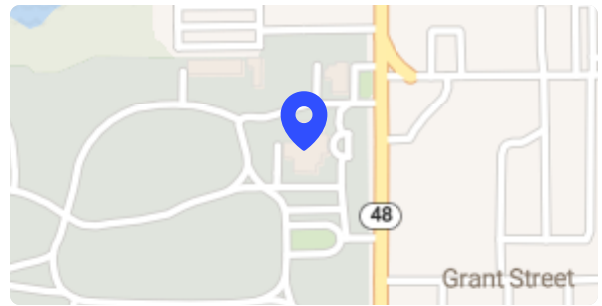
FEB 12, 1951 - JAN 1, 2025

Visitation

 **Friday**, January 10, 2025


 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM CT

 **Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

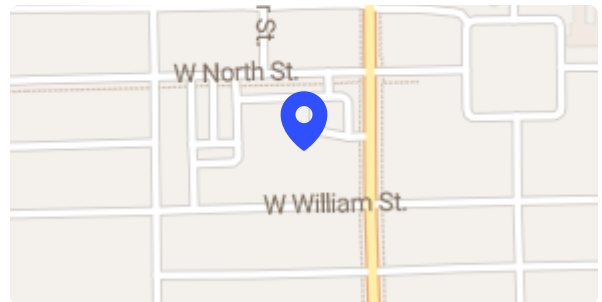


Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, January 11, 2025

 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT

 **Central Christian Church**
.650 West William Street, Decatur IL 62522





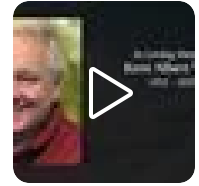
Tribute Wall

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Graceland Fairlawn shared a **Video**.



January 7 at 5:34 AM



Linda O'Brien January 10 at 7:55 AM

So sorry for the loss of your husband Linda OBrien



Gail Jacques posted:

Kent was my first real boyfriend. It was a short lived relationship but the Kent I knew was very sweet and kind. I'm so happy he had a good life with wife & daughters. The world is a little less than it was with Kent in it. Gail

March 25 at 1:49 PM



Ada B Owens lit a candle in honor of Kent.

ada b owens lit a candle in memory of Kent West



January 9 at 12:35 PM



Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the West family.



January 6 at 8:03 AM



Louisa M Hunter posted:

To Kevin and Kim, I am so very sorry for your loss as I too have lost a brother. He was a friend to the three of you while at MHS. He would have been sad too, at Kent's passing. My prayers include you and your family, and wish you peace in this time of sorrow. Louisa Hunter (Tom Hunter's sister)

January 4 at 6:06 PM



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Gail Prince posted:

I cherish the many memories I shared with Kent. We loved to tell each other the latest joke we'd heard, but his were always better than mine. One of my last visits with Kent was sitting outside at Vonderlieth. Two of us (members of Lea's small group) took him a strawberry milk shake and he lit up with his big smile. He enjoyed every memory we brought up about his time in the old neighborhood. God has prepared a place for his good and faithful servant.

January 4 at 5:16 AM



Anonymous sent a Country Basket Blooms to the West family.



January 2 at 1:05 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Kent.



January 2 at 1:05 PM



Anonymous sent a Sweet Tranquility Basket to the West family.



January 2 at 12:23 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Kent.



January 2 at 12:23 PM



Media

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January 7 at 5:34 AM



Linda O'Brien January 10 at 7:55 AM

So sorry for the loss of your husband Linda O'Brien



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Kent by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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