



Ken "Kenny" W. Santala

February 1, 1954 - June 5, 2025

Ken "Kenny" W. Santala, 71 year old resident of Little Falls, MN, passed away Thursday, June 5, 2025, at the St. Cloud Hospital in St. Cloud, MN. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at First United Church in Little Falls, at 11:00 AM, with Pastor Tony Romaine officiating. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, from 4:00-7:00 PM, at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, and again on Wednesday from 10:00-11:00 AM at the church. Caring for Kenny and his family is the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls.

Ken was born on February 1, 1954, in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, to the late Edwin and Bernice (Oja) Santala. He grew up in Little Falls, Minnesota, where he attended Little Falls Community High School and graduated with the Class of 1972. Following high school, Ken continued his education at Staples Votech. On September 28, 1974, Ken was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart, Linda Young. Together they built a life filled with love, hard work, and cherished family moments. Ken devoted his career to carpentry, a trade he was passionate about. He began his work alongside his father-in-law, Dick Young, and over the years worked for several employers before establishing his own business, Santala Construction. Ken took great pride in his craftsmanship and loved the challenges his work brought. He was proud to see his son Jeremy eventually take over the family business, continuing the legacy he built. In his free time, Ken enjoyed riding his motorcycle, hunting, and fishing. One of his favorite places was the family hunting shack in Akeley,

Minnesota, a place that truly felt like home and brought him great joy. Above all, Ken's greatest source of pride and happiness was his family. They meant the world to him, and he cherished every moment spent with them. Ken will be remembered for his love of life, his warm heart, and the deep friendships he formed along the way. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by wife, Linda Santala; children, Jeremy (Amanda) Santala and Sara (Dave) Lester; brothers, Chuck (Faye) Santala, Rick (Nancy) Santala and Tom (Diane) Santala; grandchildren, Braxten Santala, Ellie Santala, Jace Santala, Kiptyn Lester and Adley Lester; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Ken was preceded in death by parents, Ed and Bea Santala and mother and father-in-law, Dick and Pat Young.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 10. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls
214 2nd Street SE
Little Falls, MN

Visitation

JUN 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Church
1000 SE 1st Street
Little Falls, MN

Funeral Service

JUN 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Church
1000 SE 1st Street
Little Falls, MN

Tribute Wall

TL

“ *Sending thoughts and prayers to Santala family.* ”



Tanda Louden - June 21, 2025 at 08:38 AM

FS

“ *Happy Father’s Day Brother! Rest in peace, we love you!* 🥺👉❤️ ”



Faye Santala - June 15, 2025 at 09:36 AM

PG

“ *Sending our love and prayers to your family. Lots of good memories of Kenny and his contagious smile. A good man we will remember fondly.* ”
Patrick & Sara Goebel

Patrick & Sara Goebel - June 10, 2025 at 03:47 PM

HP

“ So sorry to hear of you loss. Loved seeing your dad at baseball games.
Jeremy, Amanda(Beanie), and all your families 🧑🧒 are in my thoughts. Your fathers love of carpentry reminds me of the Bible phrase: " in my fathers house are many rooms, I go there now to prepare a place for you" He's building your forever home in Heaven
🙏❤️

Helen Pfeffer - June 10, 2025 at 09:27 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.



June 10, 2025 at 08:26 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.

June 10, 2025 at 08:26 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.



June 09, 2025 at 01:25 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.*



June 09, 2025 at 09:38 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.

June 09, 2025 at 09:38 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.*



June 08, 2025 at 06:39 PM



“ *May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rain fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may god hold you in the palm of his hands.
We will miss you Ken.
Stick and Shirley*



the Olsons - June 08, 2025 at 04:22 PM

CL

“ Charlie And Dianne Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



Charlie and Dianne Ledbetter - June 08, 2025 at 12:35 PM

JM

“ Ken was the kindest person I have ever met. Although he has left this earth as we know it, he is still with us in spirit and in all our hearts.



jane Morris - June 07, 2025 at 08:17 PM

TL

“ Tom Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



Tom Ledbetter - June 07, 2025 at 03:20 PM

DJ

“ Linda and family.... Sincere sympathy on your loss. God bless and hugs.



Debbie Jelinski-Harakel - June 07, 2025 at 03:07 AM

BL

“ *Bernie & Lyann Lashinski lit a candle in memory of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala*



Bernie & Lyann Lashinski - June 06, 2025 at 04:40 PM

JB

“ *Jim, Jean, Megan, and Betty purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala.*



Jim, Jean, Megan, and Betty - June 06, 2025 at 02:48 PM

RS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your entire family. Such a great person... Cherish those memories and May He Rest in Peace!*



Roger & Michelle Schneider - June 06, 2025 at 02:09 PM

PS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with your family in this trying time.*
Pat Sand



Pat Sand - June 06, 2025 at 01:00 PM

FE

“ Prayers for the family...rest in peace Kenny.
We will miss you!
Dan & Connie Fenske



Fenske - June 06, 2025 at 12:41 PM

HS

“ HOLLY SAULTER lit a candle in memory of
Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



HOLLY SAULTER - June 06, 2025 at 11:55 AM

NW

“ Nancy Waldvogel lit a candle in memory of
Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



Nancy Waldvogel - June 06, 2025 at 10:58 AM

RL

“ Roger Lashinski lit a candle in memory of Ken
"Kenny" W. Santala



Roger Lashinski - June 06, 2025 at 10:26 AM

SM

“ Steve & Kathy Malek lit a candle in memory of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



Steve & Kathy Malek - June 06, 2025 at 09:49 AM



“ Dave Brutscher lit a candle in memory of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



Dave Brutscher - June 06, 2025 at 09:37 AM

SN

“ Sandy Nelson lit a candle in memory of Ken "Kenny" W. Santala



Sandy Nelson - June 05, 2025 at 11:16 PM