



## Kenneth "Kenny" Hubert Engley

October 29, 1968 - October 14, 2021

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East Wenatchee, Washington

Kenneth Hubert "Kenny" Engley, age 52, passed away surrounded by his family on Thursday, October 14th, 2021, following a brief illness.

Born October 29th, 1968, in Wenatchee, WA to Richard and Elizabeth Engley, Ken attended Grant Elementary, Sterling Intermediate, Eastmont Jr. High, and graduated from Eastmont High School in 1987. He then attended Wenatchee Valley College - learning, mastering, and probably teaching Tree Fruit Production after high school. Ken was the second oldest in a family of five children. He kept his siblings in stitches with his humor and in the corner with his smirky smile and mischief.

Ken married the love of his life, his rock, and most loyal partner and support; Shelly Sanger on May 7th, 1994. Together they made their home in East Wenatchee and raised two sons: Collin and Chase. Their family made many memories together: farming, boating the river and lakes, trips to Mill Bay and Silver Wood, four wheeling in the hills, hosting many holiday get-togethers, and everyone's favorite, karaokeing at Christmas. Ken was so proud of his family. He always had pictures and joyful moments to share of his life with

them. His face always gave his emotions away immediately. Pride and love were very evident when he spoke of his wife and children. That look could also be seen when speaking of his nieces and nephews as he was a remarkable uncle as well. He always made sure they and many other friends of the family had summer jobs and were taken care of by his crew.

Ken was recognized as "The Voice of the Wildcats" his senior year in high school. Ken loved being able to announce any and all sporting events he could while attending high school. After graduating, he continued his love of amateur broadcasting live sporting events at Eastmont. He announced as many games, matches, and meets as his time would allow. He was especially known in recent years for taking on Eastmont's Mat Classic wrestling tournament. His voice dynamics and sound were like no other. It is already missed.

After Ken attended Wenatchee Valley College, he began following another love that he had harbored since childhood: he became a full-time orchardist. He had spent many years farming alongside his father, wife, and father-in-law, in addition to overseeing many orchards for others independently. Ken found his niche and place to shine at Piepel Premium Fruit Company in 2006. He managed over 800 acres of orchard, specializing in numerous fruit varieties. Ken was known by most other farmers, workers, fieldmen, etc...for the amazing crops he was able to produce during the hardest of times and for his happy, upbeat spirit, and smile, even under the pressure and strain that a farmer always feels.

Ken will be remembered for his hard work, dedication, humor, generosity, and kindness. We will miss his smirk and hearing "brother" or "sis" in that gorgeous voice that always made you smile. Christmas and Easter church choir will definitely not be the same.

"Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy." John 16:22

Ken is survived by his wife Shelly of East Wenatchee, WA; his children: Collin and Chase of East Wenatchee, WA; his father Richard Engley of Wenatchee, WA; his father and mother in law: Ed and Peachy Sanger of East Wenatchee, WA; his brothers and sisters: Joe Engley of Wenatchee, WA, Rick and Jennifer Engley of Gig Harbor, WA, Maria Engley-Spencer of East Wenatchee, WA, Teresa and Milo Gust of East Wenatchee, WA; his nephew: Kai Spencer; his nieces: Keisha Engley, Eliza Gust, and Amaya Gust; numerous Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins as well as many honorary "Brothers and Sisters" throughout the Wenatchee Valley. He was preceded in death by his mother: Elizabeth Engley.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, November 5, 2021 at 11:00 am located at the Holy Apostles Church in East Wenatchee. A reception will follow at the Church Reception Hall.

# Tribute Wall

KT

“ My fondest memory of Kenny was when he did something very important for me, when I was really, really down, and he didn't even realize that he did it! In 1989, I was moving into a small office in the old Franklin House building on S. Wenatchee Ave (where the bus station is now) after my previous employer closed down. A thousand negative thoughts were going through my head, like How's this going to work out? What am I doing? Is this the right thing to do? So, while I was unloading a truck of files and furniture, feeling sorry for myself, who should drive up but Kenny and Ricky in a pickup, apparently doing some kind of work at that building on the same day (young hustlers that they were!). We were surprised to see each other, and we each explained what we were doing there that day. Besides being uplifted just by seeing their smiling, good-natured faces, I'll never forget what Kenny said (Rick too!) as we parted company - 'Good Luck Uncle Eli - everything's going to work out alright!' This marked the official end of my pity-pot period after having to change jobs involuntarily, and gave me a tremendous lift and hope when nothing else really did. Just by being himself and sharing an otherwise normal few moments, I literally could feel the positive aura that he sent outward, and it made me think, 'Why yes - I really do have a lot to be grateful for - look how happy and full-of-life those young men are - now, let's get on with it!' Without any intention, and just by being himself, Kenny made me stop for a second and see the bigger picture. This was one of those pebbles-in-the-pond moments that had positive consequences far beyond the initial intent, and I'll never forget it. I may have gotten happier eventually anyway, but the fact is that at THAT moment, I can surely say that my attitude began to change. I'm sure that he had similar affect on others as well. Thank you Kenny, for being the wonderful person that you are, a proud legacy of your exceptional parents and families old and new - and for showing the rest of us how to live a full and joyous life. Rest in Peace my dear nephew - and peace to your entire extended family. With love, your Uncle Eli (Tsipras).

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**Kathleen Tsipras** - November 03, 2021 at 10:51 PM

KT

“ I remember my nephew Kenny as a little boy who carried the altar cross as part of the entrance procession at Holy Apostles Parish. Ken always looked so holy and angelic in his altar vestments, yet he continued to always wear his usual boyish and mischievous grin! I remember that Grandma Engley said it was the happiest day of her life to see all of her children with so many grandchildren filling the pews of the church. 'The family that prays together stays together! ' Yet Grandma also said that Ken was a favorite because he was like Simon of Cyrene, helping Jesus to carry the cross and leading everyone to participate in the Mass - and eventually leading us all to heaven! Kenny died on October 14, so I turned to my daily devotional book called 'Jesus Calling' by Sarah Young, because I needed a few words of scripture for comfort - here is what that day's passage was - 'Dear Brothers and Sisters - When troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith has been tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your faith is tested, and your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing'. James 1: 2-4. I think these are special words of hope that were sent to us by our beloved Kenny. Thank you so much, Kenny, for the many fond memories of the little boy of childhood who grew up to be a virtuous man, brother, husband, father, and worker in adulthood. Ironically, you died in the special Church Year of St. Joseph. Perhaps it is because the two of you were so much alike in so many ways. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Pray for Us! R.I.P. Your Aunt Kathy.

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**Kathleen Tsipras** - November 03, 2021 at 09:51 PM

ME

“ I was 16 years old when Kenny was born. His parents were living on my parent's property at the time for about a year and then only a few blocks away. As his aunt, I was the perfect age to be a "baby sitter." I loved my little boy Kenny. He will always be "my little Kenny." He had the cutest face that was so bright especially when he smiled, and was such a cuddly kid that I used to hold and rock to sleep and smother with kisses. He had a funny sense of humor, was quick witted, and made everyone laugh and be happy. Just the sight of him made me smile. He told the funniest stories and had the "gift of gab" that allowed him to navigate life with many friends. He was an altar boy at Holy Apostles, and he carried the cross in and out of the Church, and certainly he carried a cross at the end of his life for all of us. He worked hard to bring in the food crops in the valley, and in a starving world, his labor as a orchardist we can only say thank you for. Life is very short and eternity is a long , long time. His true home is with God in eternal paradise, a place God wanted him to be from the time he was born into this world. This life is just a temporary journey back to the arms of God, who is holding "my little Kenny" in a place of no more suffering. God gave us a special gift in Kenny because he was so easy to love, and the world was a more loving place because of Ken. Prayers brought Ken into this world as his mother navigated her way from Vietnam to America, and we all prayed we he passed out of this life into eternal life with Christ. Pray for us now Ken, that we can all join you with Jesus in paradise. Aunt Mary Engley

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Mary Engley - November 01, 2021 at 02:50 AM

PH

“ Kenny and I worked together at Eastmont announcing basketball, and I considered him a wonderful colleague. He loved sports and he was always willing to trade assignments when there was a scheduling conflict. He could be completely trusted to do the very best job, which is what kids and parents deserved. He was a friend and a terrific guy. - Pat Haley

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**Pat Haley** - October 25, 2021 at 11:36 AM

MH

“ Kenny had a big heart, big smile and a wonderful sense of humor! My sister, Joanna, and I used to babysit him and his siblings when they were grade school aged and let me say that there was never a dull moment! As he grew up to make his path through life, you always knew he was working hard to build his career and provide for his family. Kenny you are so missed and you will forever be in my heart....my little red-haired baby cousin that I would cuddle in my arms to sleep.

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**Michele Holman** - October 24, 2021 at 03:44 PM

JD

“ From Joanna and Patrick Danahey  
Patrick and I will forever be grateful to Kenny and his brothers and sisters for the fantastic and talented performance at our wedding so many years ago which we shall always cherish. It was so wonderful to see Kenny and his family at our first Family Reunion, and of course, watching Kenny with his boat taking delight in driving his nieces and nephews on the Columbia River. Kenny's love for the orchard started early in life. When he was a child, I could see Kenny with our Uncle Denny and Grandpa, both with a twinkle in their eyes, listening to Kenny chatting around the tractor, all hands on and loving it! --He was born for it. Kenny's family, all his relatives, friends and the community he served so well will miss him tremendously. Kenny will always be in our hearts and we will feel his presence in every fragrance of each cherry and apple blossom. Bless you Kenny.

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**Joanna and Patrick Danahey** - October 23, 2021 at 07:07 PM

KS

“ So sorry to the entire family! Kenny was such a great guy. He coached his sister Teresa's AAU basketball team and he was an outstanding coach. He was always happy and was such a funny guy. Puts a smile on everyone's face, he will be missed. God gained an amazing angel. Spread your wings Kenny. 😇

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**Kris Rice Sanders** - October 22, 2021 at 11:47 AM

AT

“ I remember going out with a few of us on Kenny's boat in early 90's and he was so nice & trusting- I convinced him to let me drive the boat while he skied behind it. I almost ran him over as I circled back to pick him up. I am pretty sure he never let me drive the boat again! Rest in peace Kenny & condolences to his family for their loss.

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**Amy Thofson-Rush** - October 21, 2021 at 09:41 PM

CT

“ Kenny we can't believe you are gone. In the 70's I baby sat you and your siblings , Terri Bonwell-Durham then you and my husband became friends both in orchard work. Clay misses you so much. Our love and condolences go to your family. You keep growing beautiful fruit in heaven my friend clay and Terri Bonwell-Durham

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**Clay and terri** - October 21, 2021 at 05:25 PM

PH

“ I don't even know where to begin to share my memories. Kenny was my orchard manager for over 20 years. He was the nicest person to work with. He was so knowledgeable and wanted me to understand what he was doing and why. I felt involved even-though I really was just an observer. He always went the extra mile to take care of things I needed. Over the years he was more like another son than he was my orchard manager. He was so positive about life and dearly loved his family. It was hard for me to distinguish between which he was proudest of... his family or his work! He was sincerely committed to both. I loved his warm personality and smile. He always had a smile!!! I could always call or text him with questions even after he was no longer my manager and he would always give me guidance and help. His generosity was ever present, even sometimes to the detriment of his personal time. I can not express how much I will miss him. I count it a blessing that I got to share his presence in my life. I am just sad that we had to lose him so soon. He will always be remembered in love, warmth, happiness and generosity.

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**Patti Hindman** - October 20, 2021 at 03:47 PM

MB

“ We are so sorry for your loss. When Kenny worked with us, he always was smiling and did anything he was asked to do. He was fun to be around and to work with. He was a person that people gravitated to. Our condolences to his family. Alan and Larry Witte

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**Marky Bowling** - October 19, 2021 at 03:15 PM