

## Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka

May 12, 2025

After 89 extraordinary years, Kazimierz (Ken) Palimaka passed away peacefully on May 12, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Kazik was the beloved son of Jan and Wiktoria (Zielinska), the youngest of four siblings.

Born on December 4, 1935, in rural Poland near Krakow. Ken was just five years old when his family was taken from their family farm by Russian Soldiers and sent to a Siberian labour camp where they faced extreme hardships. After a few years, their family managed to escape and began the treacherous journey through Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and finally Tehran, where he lost his father. His brother Josef joined the Polish Air Force and the remaining family was able to make their way to East Africa, where he spoke fondly of his memories climbing trees with monkeys, playing sports and living freely for the first time. Ken went on to rebuild his life in England. It was in Nottingham that he met and married the love of his life Filomena (Fila) Krupa. Together they welcomed their children, Izabella and Andrew, before immigrating to Canada in 1964. They settled in Wallaceburg, Ontario and later completed their family with the birth of their son Stephen. A gifted tool and die maker, Ken took great pride in his craft, and with his own hands built the family home – a sanctuary that has been the backdrop for some of our family's most cherished memories.

Ken was a devoted son, husband, father, dziadziu, and proud Polish

Canadian. A humble and hardworking man, he lived with quiet strength, selflessness, and kindness. He found joy in life's simple pleasures: tending to his bees, golfing, a good drink and, most of all, spending time with his beloved grandchildren.

Despite the hardships he faced, Kazik radiated warmth, humor, and joy. His gentle spirit, sensitivity, and affectionate nature made those around him feel special and deeply loved. He had a remarkable ability to light up any room, he was the life of the party and brought comfort, witty humour, and a sense of belonging wherever he went.

Ken is predeceased by his beloved son Stephen (2007), his sister Helena (Kazimierz) and his brothers Jozef (Franciszka) and Lou (Elizabeth). He will be deeply missed by his loving wife and best friend of 64 years, Filomena (Krupa) his children: Izabella and her husband Tim, and their children Alexandra (Andrew), Ashton (Sarah), Jenna (Justin), Jacqueline (Stephen), and Victoria; Andrew and his wife Nicole, and their children Dillon, Koby, and Michel; and his adored great-grandchildren: Lyla, Ella, Mackenzie and Hudson.

Family and Friends are invited for visitation at the Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home, 409 Nelson Street in Wallaceburg (519-627-3231), on Thursday, May 15, 2025 from 6-8pm and on Friday, May 16, 2025 from 11am until 12:30pm. His Mass of the Resurrection will take place on Friday, May 16, 2025 at Our Lady Help of Christians Church at 1pm, followed by burial at Riverview Cemetery. If you wish to make a donation in his memory, please consider Our Lady Help of Christians Church or the CKHA - Sydenham Campus. Cherished stories and tributes may be left for the family at [www.CavanaghFuneralHome.ca](http://www.CavanaghFuneralHome.ca)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **15**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home  
409 Nelson Street  
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4G9 (CA)  
(519) 627-3231  
contact@cavanaghfuneralhome.ca  
<https://www.cavanaghfuneralhome.ca>

## Visitation

MAY **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home  
409 Nelson Street  
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4G9 (CA)  
(519) 627-3231  
contact@cavanaghfuneralhome.ca  
<https://www.cavanaghfuneralhome.ca>

## Mass of the Resurrection

MAY **16**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Our Lady Help of Christians Church  
422 Elgin Street  
Wallaceburg, ON (CA)

# Tribute Wall



“ Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka



Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home - May 15, 2025 at 01:59 PM

HH

*Beautiful tribute*

Harry and Yvonne Hoekstra - May 15, 2025 at 06:59 PM

TC

*What a beautiful tribute to an amazing man and his beautiful wife and family. Rest in eternal peace Ken. And may God give strength and healing comfort to your lovely family. ❤️🙏*

Terry Campbell - May 15, 2025 at 07:10 PM

VB

*Dear Phyllis. I'm so sorry to hear your beloved husband has passed away. You may not remember me. We worked together in the lab at the Wallaceburg hospital. My sincere condolences to you and your family. Valerie Bell.*

Valerie Bell - May 16, 2025 at 09:17 AM

DK

*Sincere condolences on Ken's passing! We, at Cape Breton University, have Victoria and her family in our hearts, thoughts, and prayers. What an extraordinary life Ken's tribute and obituary shared! I can see where Victoria gets her smile and genuineness from. What a Teacher she will be! S2 will warmly await your return to campus. Take comfort in those beautiful memories with your beloved Grandfather. Thinking of You!*

Dr. Erin Keith - May 19, 2025 at 06:46 PM

MD

“ Our sincere condolences to the Palimaka family in the loss of their dear husband, father and grandfather.  
*Michelle & Mike Decock*

Michelle Decock - June 01, 2025 at 08:44 AM

AF

“ Arlene Houle and family lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka



Arlene Houle and family - May 21, 2025 at 09:40 PM

HAYCOCK  
CAVANAGH  
FUNERAL HOME

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home - May 21, 2025 at 01:35 PM



“ So sorry to hear this.  
*My Deepest Condolences to the Family.  
I had the pleasure of playing golf with Ken. I learned a lot playing with him, he always had a positive attitude and would never give up on the golf course. He was a beautiful soul, kind, gentle, loving man. Always made sure I had my honey stocked up. He will be missed.*

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**Ron Schaffer** - May 18, 2025 at 10:20 PM



“ So sorry to hear this, he will definitely be missed!  
*My deepest Condolences to the Family.  
Kenny was a beautiful soul, a very gentle humble man.  
I always enjoyed golfing with Ken he sure had game.  
Him walking 18 holes at 88 years old just blew my mind, he had super inner strength! May you Rest in Peace my friend.*

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**Ron Schaffer** - May 17, 2025 at 10:35 PM



“ *Bob Thomas lit a candle in memory of  
Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka*



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**Bob Thomas** - May 17, 2025 at 08:45 PM

JF

“ *Phyllis and Family.*

*So sorry to hear of Ken's passing. A good neighbour for many years with a wave and a smile when he would drive past. John also enjoyed many a golf game with him in days gone by. Thinking of all of you.*

*Joyce and John Feher*

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**Joyce Feher** - May 17, 2025 at 12:56 PM

JJ

“ *Ken was one of the finest gentleman we've ever known. Mike & him hit it off at work immediately . On one of our visits to Phyllis & Ken's home my 3 year old daughter at the time rode on the back of their gentle Great Dane. Such a precious memory. Phyllis you and Ken hold a special place in our hearts and we will forever be grateful*

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**Jacqueline Johnston** - May 17, 2025 at 10:41 AM

MS

“ *Condolences to Phyllis & their beautiful family. What an amazing man Ken was. Rest in heavenly Peace Ken.*



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**Marjory & Rick Smith** - May 16, 2025 at 07:30 PM

SC

“ *Sarah Copeland lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka*



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**Sarah Copeland** - May 16, 2025 at 09:52 AM

GB

“ Sending my love to all of Ken’s family. He was a truly lovely man and was so lovely to spend time with him and gave me lovely memories of my Grandma Helena. Rest in peace. Thank you for all your company and kindness x

Georgina blair - May 16, 2025 at 08:57 AM

DM

“ Ken was a special friend his kindness and caring nature for all will be sadly missed I knew if Ken was late or didn’t show you knew something happened and he would apologized to you for he didn’t want to let you down well Ken you never ever let me down you made me feel as if I was part of your special circle I will miss you my friend



dave McTavish - May 16, 2025 at 08:34 AM

JC

“ Whenever we encountered Ken, he was always welcoming and shared what seemed to be an infectious and pleasant joy. Even his wine, which by any objective standard would be considered [you can fill in this blank], makes me smile just thinking of it.



John Cotter - May 16, 2025 at 01:55 AM

KA

“ Deepest sympathies to Andrew and the Palimaka family on your loss from Kent and Carrie Armstrong. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.



Kent Armstrong - May 15, 2025 at 08:19 PM

PH

*All my sympathy to the Palimaka family. Ken was a great guy, who always had a smile on his face.*

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**Pam & Mike Hinnegan** - May 16, 2025 at 01:23 PM

HH

“ *Our condolences to Kenny’s family, thanks always for the sweet honey and the joy of seeing him at the golf course, he will be missed!*

*Harry and Yvonne Hoekstra*

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**Harry and Yvonne Hoekstra** - May 15, 2025 at 06:42 PM

MR

“ *Uncle Ken was a great man. He was very kind, warm and generous with his love and affection. He used to play and entertain my sister, Krystyna, and myself by picking us up, one in each arm, and making us laugh with happiness. We were all very close to Uncle Ken and loved him coming to visit us.*

*Although we didn't see him towards the end, we always wished him well and hoped he would get better. We will always remember Uncle Ken in our hearts for ever.*

*May God bless him and look after him in heaven.*

*Maria Roper*

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**Maria Roper** - May 15, 2025 at 06:04 PM

FK

“ Dearest Uncle Ken- I shall always cherish you and the fond memories that both I, and my family have spent with you and yours throughout the years. Your warm, kind, witty and humble personality shall always remain in all our hearts. Aunt Fila and Family truly got a Prince in you. As I viewed the memory album it was evident the Love you shared with all! May your light shine upon your family eternally! Your Nephew Frank and Family.

Frank M Krupa - May 15, 2025 at 05:12 PM

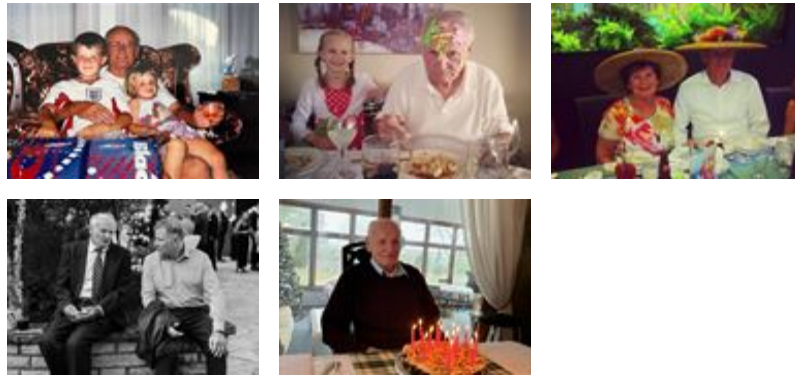
ED

“ So sorry for your loss .I hope your happy memories will help sustain you at this difficult time

Emer Dudley - May 15, 2025 at 04:34 PM

HAYCOCK  
CAVANAGH  
FUNERAL HOME

“ 95 files added to the album Life Tributes



Haycock-Cavanagh Funeral Home - May 15, 2025 at 01:55 PM

AR

Sorry for your loss . I worked with Ken at HEV .

Alex De Ridder - May 15, 2025 at 05:53 PM

DW

*My deepest condolences. What a lovely man. I can honestly say I'm a better person for knowing him. I will cherish my last jar of honey. RIP my friend ♥*

**Don Webster** - May 15, 2025 at 09:43 PM

TM

“ *Tina & Andy Myers lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka*



**Tina & Andy Myers** - May 15, 2025 at 01:14 PM

JA

“ *My sincere condolences.....I think I remember Ken ,when my husband George Antuma had his garage uptown ...I'm sure Ken was one of his customers ...I remember seeing his name on George's bills ....George would have been 88 this year ...but he died at age 70....one of my brother in laws was from Poland too and he also had to flee ...sounds almost the same as your dear Ken... May the Lord comfort you in your loss!*

**Jean Antuma** - May 15, 2025 at 01:13 PM

SL

“ *So sorry for your loss. He was such a kind man . Gary &Sally Lucier*

**Sally Lucier** - May 15, 2025 at 12:56 PM

LB

“ Sending my love to Uncle Ken, Aunty Fila, Izabel, Andrew and all family. Am so sorry for the loss of wonderful Uncle Ken and I cherish the time we spent together. He was such fun, so numerous, kind, caring and welcoming to us. My grandma Helena loved him very much and lit up when he came to visit her. My mum Maria spoke of Ken with much love and affection. Uncle Ken spoke to my father Keith on his last days and told my dad he was his best friend and loved him, hearing those words meant so much to me and I love Uncle Ken for being such a wonderful person.

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**lucy billington** - May 15, 2025 at 12:52 PM

AP

“ To Phyllis and family. So sorry to hear of Ken's passing. He was a kind man and yes the life of the party. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.

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**Ann Park** - May 15, 2025 at 11:43 AM

RH

“ We are deeply saddened that we cannot be there in person to honor and remember Ken, but our hearts are with you all. As a child, I remember visiting—watching the bees, playing on the tennis courts with my sisters, enjoying the space near the river. I remember Ken as someone who was kind and full of peace, and those memories have stayed with me over the years.

*In this time of sorrow, we pray you feel the nearness of God’s Holy Spirit, bringing peace and comfort that only He can provide. We hold onto the hope and assurance that through Christ, this goodbye is not the end, but a pause until we meet again in eternity.*

*“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying... for the former things are passed away.”*

— Revelation 21:4

*“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”*

—Psalm 34:18

*“And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.”*

—1 John 2:25

*With love and heartfelt sympathy,*

*Rhona Haas (formerly Wroblewski), David, Hailey and Asher Haas*

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**Rhona Haas** - May 15, 2025 at 11:42 AM

DB

“ Always came in with a warm smile, and so mannerly with everyone.



Dr. Ken Bell - May 15, 2025 at 10:46 AM

TB

“ Sincere sympathy to Fila and family from Teri and John Buda in Thunder Bay.



Teri & John Buda - May 15, 2025 at 09:51 AM

RY

“ Sending condolences to the Palimaka Family



Rose-Marie Yazbeck - May 15, 2025 at 09:01 AM

JE

“ Sending our sincere condolences to Andrew, Isabel and Fila and the Palimaka family. May the memories shared with you this week be a comfort to you as you celebrate a life well lived.

Sincerely,  
Jean & Dave Elliott



Jean Elliott - May 15, 2025 at 08:34 AM

JT

*Our sincere condolences Fila, Alexandria and Andrew Ken was such a kind and gentle man tending to his bees, explaining to me how the whole system works I had to mar Bell at his knowledge on so many interesting topics.  
I would see him come home from golfing where apparently he had met another one of our friends,it's a small world.  
He shared one afternoon with us his stories of Poland and coming eventually to Canada.  
We are blessed to have had such a wonderful man as Ken  
Thank-you for sharing your previous gold ((honey)  
Judy and Paul Turner*

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**Judy and Paul Turner** - May 15, 2025 at 09:42 AM

BK

“ *My deepest condolences and prayers for family*



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**Barb Kearney** - May 15, 2025 at 08:17 AM

  
George McGaffey

“ *George McGaffey lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka*



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**George McGaffey** - May 15, 2025 at 08:16 AM

EC

“ Dear Ciocia Fila and all of the Palimaka Family, we are so saddened to learn about Wojciu Kazik’s passing. He was a truly special Uncle – so funny and always so friendly. We will miss him dearly. Thinking of you all and sending our deepest sympathy. Bless Wojciu . Love Elzunia, Jeff, Karli and James Chalmers

Elizabeth Chalmers - May 14, 2025 at 05:29 PM

EH

“ Edyta Harasymowicz lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka



Edyta Harasymowicz - May 14, 2025 at 03:34 PM

SL

So very sorry for your loss ! Such a nice man . Gary & Sally Lucier

Sally Lucier - May 15, 2025 at 10:33 AM

EH

“ Uncle Kaziu was a warm, very nice and cheerful man. I remember Uncle as a gentleman with a charming wit.He was good man. Joining in the grief, I offer on behalf of myself, my husband Robert, my parents :Stanisława and Kazimierz Sikora, heartfelt condolences to Aunt Fila and all of Uncle Kaziu's loved ones 🖤💕  
Edyta Harasymowicz

Edyta Harasymowicz - May 14, 2025 at 03:34 PM

JB

“ Janet Barrett lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka



Janet Barrett - May 14, 2025 at 02:38 PM

PC

“ Dear Phyllis, Izabella, Andrew and family. So sorry to hear about Ken. He was a kind, fun-loving man. He was always upbeat & happy. He will be missed. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Paul & Mary Caron.

Paul and Mary Caron - May 14, 2025 at 01:44 PM

GF

“ Gerry Flynn lit a candle in memory of Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka



Gerry Flynn - May 14, 2025 at 10:57 AM

JB

“ Our deepest condolences and sympathies to the Palimaka Family. He may rest in eternal peace.

-Judita & Ryan Brazil.



Judita Baydal - May 14, 2025 at 10:40 AM

HM

“ Hunter McCallum lit a candle in memory of  
Kazimierz 'Ken' Palimaka



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Hunter McCallum - May 14, 2025 at 09:49 AM