



Ken Garber

December 29, 1944 - December 21, 2019

Ken Garber, son of Dorothy and George Garber, husband of Chris, father of Lisa Stoof and Kenny Garber, brother to Cathy Skola passed unexpectedly on December 21, 2019. Born in Chicago, Illinois on December 29, 1944 and raised in Dayton, Ohio.

He attended the University of Cincinnati and Parsons College in Iowa where he graduated with a Bachelors of Business Administration Degree in 1969. Ken was an Army National Guard veteran.

Ken worked at GM/Delphi as a Senior Administrator and Business Analyst before retiring to Florida in 2002. Unable to stay idle, Ken immersed himself in community work. He served on the Advisory Committee to Manatee County, the Board of Directors at Ocean Point in the Florida Keys, Mote Ranch Homeowners Association Board of Directors, DSRA Pension Board (Delphi Salaried Retired Association) and DSRA Benefit Trust Board.

Ken was a founding member of the 1114 Health Care Committee which created the VEBA that researched insurance options and answered questions for all members on health insurance. He was the Point of Contact for DSRA in the State of Florida since inception. Ken served on the DSRA Election Committee, and DSRA Committee responsible for writing bylaws.

Ken touched lives throughout the country, state and local levels lending expertise on pensions and health care as well as solving local/community dilemmas.

Ken always enjoyed a good negotiation.

Ken loved his grandchildren, Hannah, Olivia, Emma and Josh Stoof and all their friends who enjoyed staying and partying at the house.

In Ken's spare time, he enjoyed fishing, boating, relaxing in the Florida Keys, eating at

good restaurants, cruising the Caribbean and smoking a good cigar.

Ken never backed away from challenges in play, work or life. He loved the challenges of helping people both locally and nationally.

The year 2019 Ken fought through extreme insults to his body and never considered giving up. His fight to survive was a testament to his strength, courage and will to live. Our hearts are broken and we miss you terribly but your painful fight for life has now transitioned to peace.

We love you Ken, Dad, Papa, Brother, Brother-in-law, Cousin, Nephew, and Friend.

Funeral service will be Friday, January 3, 11:00am at Toale Brothers Colonial Chapel, 40 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236

Events

JAN **Funeral Service**

11:00AM

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Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel
40 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL, US, 34236

Comments



“ My sympathy to Ken's immediate family. I used to baby sit Ken in Dayton.
Howard Garber , his cousin

Howard Garber - April 20, 2020 at 01:14 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Chris and family for your loss. Ken's efforts and support will be missed by many of the 20,000 retirees from Delphi.

Robert Phillis - January 04, 2020 at 10:18 AM



“ Cathy. I am so sorry to hear of Kenny's passing. My thoughts are with you. Marcia

Marcia Greenblatt - January 03, 2020 at 04:55 PM



“ Linda Jones lit a candle in memory of Ken Garber



Linda Jones - January 03, 2020 at 09:03 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Chris and family on Ken's passing. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time and wishing we could be there to help support you.

Know that you are in our hearts and how much we love you.

Gail & Elton

Gail Rocke - January 02, 2020 at 05:42 PM



“ Sincere sympathies for all of Ken's family and friends. May you have many beautiful memories.

A fellow retiree,
Phil Crum

Phil Crum - January 01, 2020 at 08:59 PM



“ Much peace and prayers of comfort to the Garber Family!
He was my boss, a friend, and all around good person. He was so funny, we'd talk in the office and laugh. We were divorced (different partners of course :) on the same date and had many laughs about that. So funny!!
I know he thought the world of Chris and his kids!! and of course, Kenny was always Kenny!!

I know you will be missed by your family and friends!! (as well as the DSRA family)

Jeanne Wilkson

Jeanne - January 01, 2020 at 06:23 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Ken Garber.



January 01, 2020 at 01:07 PM



“ With a heavy heart I send my condolences to his family and say although I never met him he was an inspiration to me and to all our Delphi Salaried Retirees. He made sure that all of us were able to continue on with health care for our families and I will be forever grateful to him and his efforts. May God be with you during this most difficult time and give you peace as you celebrate his life. Rest In Peace good and faithful servant that you were!

Fred Weaver
Myrtle Beach, SC

Fred C. Weaver - December 31, 2019 at 08:52 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of his passing.
I do offer my condolences to his family.
Ken ya did so much to help us.
May you rest in peace.

Herman Ziegler - December 31, 2019 at 07:51 PM



“ Thank-you for all the work you have done to make the DSRA-VEBA a success. I appreciate all of your efforts. You, through your work have made it possible for Delphi Retirees to have Healthcare.

May God be with your family during their time of mourning your loss.

Thanks again.

Phil Webber

Phillip Webber - December 31, 2019 at 03:18 PM



“ I worked with Ken the past 10 years on the Delphi Health Care issues. Although we never met, I gained enormous respect for Ken's assistance to our retirees. I truly miss the opportunity to spend time together as we discussed fishing in Florida on several occasions.
My thoughts are with all family members.
We lost a great man!

Tom Green

Tom Green - December 31, 2019 at 03:01 PM



“ Thank you for all the work you did for Delphi Salaried Retirees, it is sad that you are not here to see the conclusion of 10 years of effort to rectify an unjust situation. May God bless you and your family.

Jerome Kelley - December 31, 2019 at 02:48 PM



“ Like many others I never met Ken, but am deeply indebted to him for all of his dedication to the DSRA and thankful for how many lives were enriched through his dedicated efforts for 10 years. My deepest condolences, thoughts & prayers are with his family during this difficult time. It is evident that his warm smile & heart will be truly missed by so many lives he touched. God Bless! Beth Hendricks GM/Delphi Thermal Retiree Lockport NY

Beth Hendricks - December 31, 2019 at 01:19 PM



“ To Garber Family

I worked with Ken at Delphi Kettering from 1994 to 1998. I have great memories of Ken as always being helpful in all situations. Even after our retirement with the Delphi and the debacle .

My condolences goes out to the family and friends. Ken will truly be missed.

Malcolm Inniss

Malcolm Inniss - December 31, 2019 at 12:51 PM



“ I two never meant Ken. But need to thank him for all he did for all of us. And thank his family for sharing him with us. May God bless u all and keep u safe

Joann f. Seegmiller (saginaw, Mi) - December 31, 2019 at 12:23 PM



“ I knew Ken only through his work with the DSRA and I truly appreciate how much he did and how many of us he helped. I will be eternally grateful for his dedication to helping all of us. May he rest in peace. God Bless
Anna Thomas

Anna Thomas - December 31, 2019 at 11:53 AM



“ Though I never met Ken, I was fortunate enough to feel the positive effects of his work with the DSRA. Because of the time and effort he put into the job, I am now able to afford my medical insurance that I need. Thousands of us are thankful for his efforts. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Helen Saluke - December 31, 2019 at 11:07 AM



“ Extending my sincere condolences and sincere sympathy to Ken's family. Thank you for Ken's tenacity, diligence, dedication, and faithfulness to all of us who are a part of DSRA. Your efforts and legacy are greatly appreciated. We honor Ken's memory. Praying peace and comfort for his family. May God bless each of you.

Penelope L. Walker - December 31, 2019 at 11:06 AM



“ Thank you for Ken's involvement and dedication to the DSRA. Many salaried people like Ken were effected but did not have the skills and the ability to add to the fight other than donations. We honor Ken's memory for his dedication to help right the wrong that happened to so many of us. God bless him.

Bill Braun - December 31, 2019 at 10:42 AM



“ For about the last 10 years, Ken devoted a considerable amount of his personal time as part of a small team of retirees who lead the Delphi Salaried Retiree Association's "Benefit Trust." They've taken on the task of figuring out the most cost-effective health insurance options for people at our age. Ken was among a handful of DSRA-BT leaders whose efforts made buying health insurance for we retirees and our spouses more affordable. I never met Ken in person, but was on many conference calls with him since 2011. Whatever Ken said was important and knowledgeable. He really cared about the important role he took on. Chris, thank you for sharing Ken with us. [Ron Beeber, DSRA Board Member and Treasurer.]

Ron Beeber - December 31, 2019 at 08:04 AM



“ My thoughts go out to Ken's family. I never met Ken, but as a DSRA member I know how hard he worked for all of us! I just want to thank his family for sharing him with us during our long struggle for justice. Rest in Peace Ken....

Sharon Sesock - December 31, 2019 at 06:19 AM



“ Ken was a great colleague on our Delphi retiree Boards and as a breakfast buddy here in Florida. Ken always stepped forward for duty and to hep, he is missed by all those he served and worked with. With love and condolences to Chris and to their family.

John & Wendy Norris

John Norris - December 30, 2019 at 09:28 PM



“ My heartfelt sympathy goes out to Ken's wife and family in their loss. Although we worked for the same company our paths never crossed. He certainly was a tremendous asset to the DSRA and our fight to right the wrongs that Delphi and General Motors had given us. Thank you for your dedication to the task on behalf of all retiree's. Rest in Peace and God Bless your family in their time of loss.

Henry Caswell.



Henry Caswell - December 30, 2019 at 09:22 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Ken's passing. It is with the deepest gratitude that I thank his family for sharing him with the DSRA. Although the battle isn't over, he positively impacted many families with his knowledge of the issues and support throughout our journey. He must have been a very bright and kind man. I hope that you will find comfort knowing that his efforts are appreciated and will be long lasting for many. The family of Bob Nichol

Michelle Nichol - December 30, 2019 at 09:15 PM



“ The Delphi Salaried Retirees were blessed to have Ken support the VEBA (for our health care). Thank you for allowing him to spend time supporting our cause. Elaine & Dave Hofius

Elaine & Dave Hofius - December 30, 2019 at 04:53 PM



“ Although Ken and I both shared careers with Delphi, I did not have the privilege of knowing him then but I did experience the joy of meeting and working with him in retirement as part of the Delphi Salaried Retirement Association. I shall always treasure the time we shared together. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends. Jim Thomas [Fellow DSRA Member]

Jim Thomas - December 30, 2019 at 12:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ken Garber.



December 30, 2019 at 12:21 PM



“ Ken and I have been Co-chairs of the Delphi Salaried Retirees Association Benefit Trust for many years. As is very common within our association, many of us have never met in person, but that did not prevent us from becoming good friends. Untold hours spent on the phone struggling to resolve issues that would affect the lives of thousands of retirees and their families. Ken has been missed greatly since his April surgery. On behalf of the DSRA Benefit Trust Board of Directors (VEBA) I wish to express our most sincere condolences to Chris and all of Ken's family.

Paul Beiter

Paul Beiter - December 30, 2019 at 10:04 AM



“ As the DSRA Point-of-Contact for Indiana I have talked with Ken on many occasions. His dedication to serve his fellow retirees has been a blessing for thousands, myself included. He will be missed throughout the entire DSRA community. My prayers go up for his family.

Jim Herbert - December 29, 2019 at 04:18 PM



“ I am a fellow DSRA member. Ken has helped me get thru some hard times, I will never forget that. And we worked on several DSRA projects together. I never personally met Ken, but after 10 plus years I can call him a friend. I will miss him. My deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Gil Putt - December 29, 2019 at 03:44 PM



“ As the Chairman of the Delphi Salaried Retirees Association (DSRA) and on behalf of the entire DSRA Board and Leadership Team, I wish to express our most sincere condolences with regard to Ken's sudden passing.
As stated in his Obituary, Ken was a true Activist.
We are, forever, grateful for his continuous service to the DSRA and to the DSRA Benefit Trust (VEBA) since 2009.
May he Rest in Peace
Den Black
Chesapeake, VA

Dennis Black - December 29, 2019 at 02:31 PM



“ I knew the garbers during what I knew to be happy years for their family and ours. We were not only neighbors, but our mothers were great friends. Kenny was a strong individual and Cathy bright and normal. (don't be embarrassed). Was at Kennys wedding and then lost track. Hope he had a good life. Though I saw Dorothy on a visit to LA. I remember BeeBee but can't recoup her husbands name.
And Cathy my arms are around you. Marcia Greenblatt.

marcia greenlatt - December 28, 2019 at 03:31 PM



“ Christine Talowski lit a candle in memory of Ken Garber



Christine Talowski - December 28, 2019 at 10:30 AM



“ Ken was a great colleague on our Delphi retiree Boards and as a breakfast buddy here in Florida. Ken always stepped forward for duty and to help, he is missed by all those he served and worked with. With love and condolences to Chris and to their family.
John & Wendy Norris

John Norris - December 29, 2019 at 03:15 PM



“ As Vice Chair of our DSRA Legislative Group, having fought many battles for affordable health care for our Delphi Salaried Retirees, I utilized Ken's knowledge more times than I can remember. I often loaded him down with questions and he didn't shy from the challenge. His passing is a great loss to us and it hits us personally as our DSRA/DSRA BT leadership teams are joined together in one mission, to give our retirees, as best we can, the life they worked for. Let his service and dedication to others comfort you, My condolences to Chris and his family. God bless his precious soul.

Mary Ann Hudzik - December 30, 2019 at 10:58 AM



“ Like many Delphi retirees I never met Ken but am very grateful for all the work that he and others did to represent us for health care and our pensions. Thanks KEN !

Jim Fortuno
Delphi Dayton, OH
Cookeville, TN

Jim Fortuno - January 01, 2020 at 11:25 AM