



## Donald V. Hillegass

May 1, 1943 - January 14, 2015

Donald V. Hillegass, age 71, of Richland Center died Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at Sannes Skogdalen Nursing Home in Soldiers Grove. He was born May 1, 1943 in Ohio the son of Kenneth & Elinor (Woodward) Hillegass. On December 4, 1971 he married Karen Thompson in Akron, Ohio.

Donald was a chemist working in the biomedical field and contributed to such advances in technology as the artificial heart. He was a racing enthusiast, a pilot, and an educator. His passion for motorcycles and cars was a love he passed on to his sons and has inspired them to pursue that love in their own lives. His sense of humor was boundless and lives on in his children.

Survivors include his wife Karen Hillegass of Richland Center; 5 children Todd (Lisa) Hillegass of Ohio, Nevin (Dena) Hillegass of Richland Center, WI, Grant (Maja) Hillegass of Westby, WI, Kyle (fiancé Amy Kryzenske) Hillegass of Milwaukee, WI, Rachael Hillegass of Minneapolis, MN; 4 grandchildren Thorsten and Viktor Hillegass of Westby, WI, Kayla and Corey Hillegass of Ohio; other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother Paul Hillegass.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Friday, January 16, 2015 at 6:00 PM at the Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center with Pastor John Gannon officiating. Visitation will be held on Friday from 5:00 PM until the time of service at 6:00 PM. Burial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Bonneville Speedway Museum in Wendover, UT. On line condolences can be made at <http://www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com>

# Comments

---



“ Sorry to hear of your loss, and please accept our condolences. I met Don at Road America several years ago - what a unique man. May you all be comforted knowing that he is in a better place now.

**Lee & Cathy Roloff - Greendale, WI - Friend** - January 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ SORRY TO HEAR OF DONS PASSING. I MISS OUR LONG TALKS.

**BOB HOUDEK - RACINE, WI** - January 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ Karen, Todd, Grant, Nevin, and Rachael; so sorry for the loss of Uncle Don. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

I remember the days out at the farm in Alliance with the whole family. Riding the dune buggy up and down the hills behind the barn. Many good memories.

Him and dad were two peas in a pod. I am sure they are already up to no good up in Heaven. :)

**Ken Hillegass - Wadsworth, OH - Nephew** - January 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ May Mr Hillegass RIP. I did not know him personally; however, I am lucky enough to know two of his sons and judging from them - Mr. Hillegass was a loving father and raised a strong family. Nevin and Grant I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers and I pray for healing for you and your families.

Dana Durst

**Dana Durst** - January 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ Nevin and Grant. I was saddened to hear of the loss of your father. Please know that you are in my heart and thoughts during this difficult time. Gather strength from your memories and hold his love in your hearts.

**Sherri McKittrick** - January 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ So sorry to hear about Don. My Mother also passed due to this disease. Prayers to the family.

**Sandra Holmes Golden - Port Richey, FL - Sister of Sharon Hillegass** - January 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ Nevin and Grant, I am so sorry for the loss of your Father. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

**Beth Sjovall - La Crosse, WI - Friend** - January 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

---



“ I remember Donald and I chaperoning many field trips during Rachel and Kristins grade school years. The best one was the over night to Camp Timberlee. Donald had to spend the night with a bunch of 7th grade boys, while Rachel got to stay with me and Kristin.

My heart goes out to your family. Remember all the good times!

Tammy Hall

**Tammy Hall - Franksville, WI - Friend** - January 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM