

## Keith 'Sonny' Surber



GH - Aug 21, 2006

Keith "Sonny" Surber, 60, of Lake Ponderosa died Friday, Aug. 18, 2006, at his home of cancer.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on today (Monday) at the Montezuma United Methodist Church, with Richard McCulley and Phil LeBoef officiating. Burial will be in the Jackson Township Cemetery, also in Montezuma.

A visitation was held at the church on Sunday afternoon, with the family present in the early evening.

Born March 24, 1946, in Centerville, he was the son of Elmer K. and Katie Nikkel Surber. He graduated from Tri-County High School in 1964 and served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam war.

On June 5, 1971, he married Rosemary Bair in Iowa City.

While living in Cedar Rapids, he worked for the Welty Way sheet metal company and traveled extensively on business, to Japan, England, Mexico and Canada.

In 1976, he moved to What Cheer and joined his father in the upholstery business. He had worked as a claims adjuster with Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance for the past 10 years.

He was a member of the Iowa Street Rod Association and the National American Motors Drivers & Racers Association and attended the Montezuma Methodist Church and the New Sharon Christian Church, where he was involved with the choir and worship team. He served as chief of the What Cheer Fire Department for 10 years. He was a former member of the What Cheer and Montezuma Lions Clubs and a former member of the What Cheer Opera House board of directors and the What Cheer Commercial Club.

He took great pride in his 1969 AMX, which he restored and which had won multiple honors and awards in car shows.

He is survived by his wife; his sons, Ryan and Aaron Surber of West Des Moines; his mother; five sisters, Carolyn Brewer of Keokuk, Phyllis Graham of Kellogg, Linda Anderson of St. Louis, Mo., Rebecca McCulley of New Sharon and Sharon Turnwall of Minneapolis, Minn.; two brothers, David Surber of Troy, Mo., and Kenneth Surber of Harrisonburg, Va.; a step-daughter, Beth Haider of Tucson, Ariz; a brother-in-law; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and a sister, Virginia Crow.

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## Keith Surber, 60, Lake Ponderosa

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Keith V. "Sonny" Surber, 60 of Lake Ponderosa, passed away Aug. 18, 2006. Funeral services were held Aug. 21, at the Montezuma United Methodist Church. Interment was held at Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma.



Keith, son of Elmer K. and Katie Nikkel Surber was born March 24, 1946, in Centerville. He graduated from Tri-County High School in 1964 and served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. On June 5, 1971, he was united in marriage to Rosemary Bair in Iowa City. While living in Cedar Rapids, Keith worked for the Welty Way sheet metal company and traveled extensively on business to Japan, England, Mexico and Canada. In 1976, Keith moved to What Cheer and joined his father in the upholstery business. A resident of Lake Ponderosa since 1988, Keith had worked as a claims adjustor with Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance

Company for the past 10 years.

Keith was a member of the Iowa Street Rod Association, National American Motors Drivers & Races Association, and attended the Montezuma Methodist Church and the New Sharon Christian Church. He served as fire chief for 10 years with the What Cheer Fire Department.

He is survived by his wife, Rosie of Montezuma; his sons, Ryan Surber and Aaron Surber and wife Jackie all of West Des Moines; his mother, Katie Surber of New Sharon; five sisters and their husbands, Carolyn (Miles) Brewer of Keokuk, Phyllis (Robert) Graham of Kellogg, Linda (Wally) Anderson of St. Louis, MO, Rebecca (Richard) McCulley of New Sharon, and Sharon (Don) Turnwall of Minneapolis, MN; two brothers and their wives, David (Virginia) Surber of Troy, MO and Kenneth (Denise) Surber of Harrisonburg, VA; a stepdaughter, Beth (Creig) Haider of Tucson, AZ; a brother-in-law, Gordon Crow of St. Louis, MO.

Keith was preceded in death by his father, and a sister, Virginia Crow.

DT-SEP 27, 2006

## Keith "Sonny" Surber, 60



Keith "Sonny" Surber, 60, of Lake Ponderosa, passed away on Friday, Aug. 18, 2006 at his home following a courageous battle with cancer.

His funeral service was Monday, Aug. 21 at the Montezuma United Methodist Church with Richard McCulley and Phil DeBoef officiating. Burial followed at the Jackson Township Cemetery, Montezuma. Harden Funeral Home of New Sharon was in charge of the arrangements.

Keith V. "Sonny" Surber, son of Elmer K. and Katie Nikkel Surber, was born on March 24, 1946 in Centerville. He graduated from Tri-County High School in 1964 and served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. On June 5, 1971, Keith was united in marriage to Rosemary Bair in Iowa City. While living in Cedar Rapids, Keith worked for the Welty Way sheet metal company and traveled extensively on business, visiting Japan, England, Mexico and Canada. In 1976, Keith moved to What Cheer and joined his father in the upholstery business. A resident of Lake Ponderosa since 1988, Keith had worked as a claims adjustor with the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company for the past 10 years.

Keith was a member of the Iowa Street Rod Association, the National American Motors Drivers and Racers Association, and attended the Montezuma Methodist Church and the New Sharon Christian Church where he was involved with the choir and worship team. He had served as fire chief for 10 years with the What Cheer Fire Department, was a former member of the What Cheer and Montezuma Lions Clubs and a former member of The What Cheer Opera House Board and What Cheer Commercial Club. He took great pride in his 1969 AMX which he restored and which had won multiple car show honors and awards.

Keith is survived by his wife, Rosie, of Montezuma; his sons, Ryan Surber and Aaron Surber and wife Jackie, all of West Des Moines; his mother, Katie Surber of New Sharon; five sisters and their husbands, Carolyn (Miles) Brewer of Keokuk, Phyllis (Robert) Graham of Kellogg, Linda (Wally) Anderson of St. Louis, Mo., Rebecca (Richard) McCulley of New Sharon and Sharon (Don) Turnwall of Minneapolis, Minn.; two brothers and their wives, David (Virginia) Surber of Troy, Mo. and Kenneth (Denise) Surber of Harrisonburg, Va.; a step-daughter, Beth (Creig) Haider of Tucson, Ariz.; a brother-in-law, Gordon Crow of St. Louis, Mo. and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father and a sister, Virginia Crow.

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