

## George Kenneth Graff



George Kenneth Graff, 85, a Grinnell native, died peacefully at home in Carlsbad, Calif., on Sept. 17, 2020.

His ashes will be scattered in the Pacific Ocean in a family ceremony. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the American Heart Association.

He was born in Grinnell on Oct. 11, 1934, to George and Helen Graff, and he and his older sister, Carma, grew up on a farm outside of Sheridan Township. Kenny was an energetic boy who liked animals. When he found worms out in the field he would put them in his pocket

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to feed to the chickens later—although occasionally he forgot about the worms leaving his mother to find them when she did the laundry.

While attending Grinnell High School, Ken met Patricia Padgham. In 1952, Ken left high school to join the Navy and he served on the U.S.S. Chemung and U.S.S. Chikaskia in the Sea of Japan during the Korean War. While stationed in San Diego, he reconnected with Patricia, who had moved to southern California with her family.

Ken and Patricia married in 1955. They moved back to Iowa where Ken attended trade school and received a certificate in accounting. He got a job with Hunt-Wesson Foods in California. Ken and Patricia had two children and eventually settled in Livermore. Ken and Patricia were divorced in 1988.

After retiring in 1994, Ken moved to Carlsbad, Calif., where he loved the weather and the area. Ken loved traveling and socializing, and made friends easily, and he also loved jazz music and attending concerts around the Southwest. His other hobbies included watching sports and playing video poker, although spending time with family was always tops on his list.

In 2000 Ken met Regina Schiffer, and they were inseparable until her death in 2016.

He is survived by his children, Gary and Janet.