

February 2022

EAA Chapter 211

# Hangar Talk

Serving airplane builders, restorers, pilots, & airplane lovers in Western Michigan

**Next Meeting: 7:00 p.m., Friday, February 4, 2022, EAA Clubhouse, Grand Haven Airport**

**\* Please Park In The Terminal Parking Lot \***

Friday, December 3, we had a really nice meeting with Herb Harney who came all the way down from Sparta Chapter 704. He gave a super program on the past trips taken by the Fly Adventures Group over the past 8 or 10 years, and their long-anticipated return to the Bahama Islands in 2022! He also talked about how we could join in on these Air Adventures with them.

Unfortunately, we had a rather small turnout (again). This has left us Chapter Officers (Mark, Eric and Dale) scratching our heads wondering why our last few meetings have had only averaged about a dozen in attendance, even when we make the effort to bring in an interesting speaker/program. We canceled our January meeting kind of at the last minute because of the illnesses, weather, the parking situation with all the snow, and, frankly, concern that there wouldn't be many attending anyway. That is partly why this "newsletter" is so late as well, but the worst of the weather seems to have missed us to the south and it doesn't look like it's going to be too bad Friday, so we are going to take a chance that you are ready to get out and have a night with the guys talking about airplanes, and brainstorming with us a bit about how we might get this group fired back up. Now, we know there are some snowbirds who can't be here, but if you happen to be in Michigan, we sure would like to have you here Friday night. The clubhouse will be decently warm, and we'll have some hot coffee and snacks, and maybe even some hot cocoa too.

Something we need to address is electing at least a couple of new Officers. We need a Secretary, and Eric really wants someone to replace him as Vice-President. Please consider "throwing your hat in the ring" to help our Chapter thrive!

I apologize for the simple, old-school look of the newsletter. About mid-December my laptop crashed due to a ransomware attack. I took it to a local shop, and they were able to recover all my data, but the hard drive needed to be wiped and everything, including the operating system, had to be reinstalled. Unfortunately, I had two programs I rely heavily on to produce the newsletter that I have not been able to locate the original installation disks for. I have a different publishing program available to use, but anything comparable to my old Photoshop7 disk will be costly to replace. By next month I should have a solution and get Hangar Talk back to the Pulitzer Prize award-winning look you're accustomed to!

**Don't forget, Pizza with your buddies at Village Inn after the meeting!**

Farewell too soon to our friend and fellow chapter 211 member, Ken Allen

# Kenneth Gene Allen

1945 - 2022

FUNERAL HOME	UPCOMING SERVICE
Klaassen Family Funeral Home - Grand Haven	Visitation
1500 Robbins Road	Feb, 7 2022
Grand Haven, MI	6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.
	Klaassen Family Funeral Home - Grand Haven



Kenneth Gene Allen, age 76 of Grand Haven, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, January 29, 2022, surrounded by family. He was born on March 16, 1945, in Muskegon, Michigan, to Hazel (Wagner) Kelso and Harold Allen. Robert Kelso married Hazel in 1958 was a significant person in Ken's life. Ken married Annette DenBraber on April 7, 1984, in Grand Haven.

Ken's love of airplanes started at a young age beginning with building model airplanes to fly. He attended Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to obtain multiple ratings, including his commercial pilot's license. With that, he worked various flying jobs, including charter flights. Ken never lost his love of building and flying model airplanes. He started his ultimate project in 1993, building a full-sized two-passenger airplane. In November 2020, he was thrilled to see that plane take its first flight. Ken was a member of the EAA Chapter 211, and enjoyed going to the Oshkosh Fly-In in Wisconsin every year for over 30 years. He was also a member of Port City and Grand Valley RC Clubs, as well as the Egan Aero Modeler Club. Ken enjoyed spending time outdoors in nature going fishing, hunting, boating and traveling. He and Annette loved going down to Florida in the winter months.

Ken is lovingly remembered and missed by his wife of 37 years, Annette; sisters-in-law, Cathy (Randy) Slings and Debbie (Tom) Staffeld; and his nieces and nephews: Julie (Nate) Samuelson, Chad (Mindy) Slings, Susan Staffeld, Katie (Dave) Downend and Tim (Courtney) Staffeld; eight great-nieces and great-nephews; and several aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hazel and Robert Kelso; and his in-laws, Jack and Louise DenBraber.

The Funeral Service for Kenneth Gene Allen will take place at 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at Klaassen Family Funeral Home with Pastor Lou Grettenberger officiating. Visitation will be held the evening prior to the service on Monday, February 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Interment will be at Grand Haven Township Lakeshore Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of North Ottawa Community. For those unable to attend the funeral service, it will be livestreamed. Please visit [www.klaassenfuneralhome.com](http://www.klaassenfuneralhome.com) to view the service and to sign Ken's online guestbook.



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