



Fr. Kenneth Armstrong Obit

Birth: Jan. 22, 1946, Okemah, Okfuskee County, Oklahoma

Death: Nov. 27, 2012, Ponca City, Kay County, Oklahoma

The Reverend Kenneth L. "Father Ken" Armstrong, 66, resident of Ponca City, died at his home Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2012.

He was born in Okemah, on Jan. 22, 1946, the son of Jack Armstrong and Betty Duncan Armstrong.

Father Ken graduated from St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas with a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree and the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas with a Master of Divinity degree. He later went on to serve as a Trustee on the Board of Directors at the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest.

He married Ann Johnson Armstrong on May 21, 1972. Together they raised three children and provided spiritual support to numerous God-children and close family friends.

Father Ken spent the majority of his life fulfilling his passion for ministry as an Episcopal priest in the Diocese of Oklahoma. His assignments in the Diocese included positions as Vicar and Priest in Charge at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Hugo, Oklahoma and St. James' Episcopal Church in Antlers, from June 1979 to January 1982; Rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Ada, from January 1982 to May 1991; and Rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Ponca City, from May 1991 until his retirement in January 2012.

He was also very active during his priesthood throughout the Diocese of Oklahoma and with the national church. These activities included serving at the Diocesan Convention as Chair of Dispatch of Business, Chair of Nominations Receiving, and Legislative Chair. Father Ken was a former member of the Standing Committee Diocesan Council, Committee on Indian Work and College Work Commission. He was a past president of the St. Crispin's Board and chaired the Continuing Education Committee and Examining Chaplains of the Commission on Ministry. Father Ken was a former trustee of the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest; former Diocesan Chaplain, Brotherhood of St. Andrew; and former Diocesan Spiritual Director of Cursillo. He served four times as a Delegate to Province VII Synod; was an Alternate Deputy to the General Convention in 1985 and 1988, and a Deputy to General Convention in 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000 and 2003.

Prior to joining the priesthood, Father Ken held positions at Standard Oil Company and Sun Oil Company in Tulsa. He was also a veteran of the United States Army and Army National Guard. He served first with the Army Security Agency from 1965-1969 in

assignments at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and Fort Devens, Mass. for training, an international assignment in Ethiopia while assigned to the National Security Agency and closing out his active duty service with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. Father Ken later went on to serve as a Chaplain with the 45th Infantry Division with the Army National Guard.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Armstrong, of Ponca City; his parents, Jack and Betty Armstrong, of Ponca City; one sister, Sharon Humphrey and her husband, Howard Humphrey, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio; two children, Brad Armstrong and his wife, Stephani Armstrong, of Geneseo, Ill., and Ashley Caldwell and partner, Erin Hoff, of Willoughby, Ohio; four grandchildren, Taylor Campbell and Lauren Armstrong, of Geneseo, Ill., and Kimberly and Kendall Caldwell, of Freeport, Kan.; and close family friend, whom he considered like a son, Cameron Fleming, and his wife, Trey Fleming, and their children Camdon and Libby Fleming, of Ponca City.

He was preceded in death by his older sister, Sandra Armstrong.

Father Ken's funeral will be held on Monday, Dec. 3, 2012, at 2 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church in Ponca City.