



## Edward Kevin Sweeney

August 2, 1930 - June 9, 2016

1930-2016

TSgt Edward Kevin Sweeney, age 85, a resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico, peacefully passed away, at his home on Thursday, June 9, 2016 with his wife and family by his side. He was a Veteran of the United States Airforce, and served 21 years before retiring in 1972. TSgt Sweeney was born on August 2, 1930 to Joseph and Mae (Hurley) Sweeney in Olympia, WA. In 1951 he enlisted in the USAF and traveled the world, living in many beautiful places. After 21 years of service, he retired to Albuquerque, New Mexico and went on to work and eventually retire from Sandia National Laboratories at Kirtland AFB. During these working years, he met and married his beautiful wife, Eva (Sanchez). They would have celebrated 60 years of marriage this year. Health was a huge part of TSgt Sweeney's life. His passion was keeping an active lifestyle working out at Defined Fitness well up into his early 80's, going up to three times a day. He always stressed to his family how important it was to stay healthy and fit. Edward is preceded in death by his father, Joseph Sweeney; mother, Mae (Hurley) Sweeney; and brother, Leo. Along with his wife, he is survived by his three children, Anthony (Susan), David (Darlene), and Chloe; brother's, Jim (Midge), Bill (Bea), Dave (Maryellis), and Tim; sister, Teresa, sister-in-law Janet; grandchildren, Edward (Racheal), Patricia, Dana (Eli), and Michaela; four Great-Grandchildren, Ireland, Michael, Logan, and Tristain. Edward is also survived by many numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. All services will be held at Mt Calvary

Chapel & Cemetery on, Tuesday, June 14, 2016. A viewing will begin at 10:30 a.m., with a rosary to be recited at 11:15 a.m., and a funeral mass to be celebrated at 12:00 p.m. Interment to follow. Pallbearers will be Anthony, Dave, Edward, and Michael Sweeney, Cecil Abeyta, and Eli Flores. Honorary pallbearers will be Logan Sweeney and Tristain Flores. Please sign Edward's online tribute at [www.romerofuneralhomenm.com](http://www.romerofuneralhomenm.com) Romero Funeral Home, 609 N. Main St. Belen, NM.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JUN 14. 10:30 AM (MT)

Mt Calvary Cemetery and Chapel  
1900 Edith  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

## Rosary

JUN 14. 11:15 AM (MT)

Mt Calvary Cemetery and Chapel  
1900 Edith  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

## Funeral Mass

JUN 14. 12:00 PM (MT)

Mt Calvary Cemetery and Chapel  
1900 Edith  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

# Tribute Wall

KH

“ *Uncle Kevin's smile and twinkle in his eye are my favorite memory. Dad (Leo) and I picked him up at SEATAC airport when he returned from Turkey. I had just earned my driver license and was quite proud to be chauffeuring Uncle Kevin home to Olympia for a visit. He was pure fun, full of stories always. Especially delighted in hearing all the stories he told about brother Leo (my Dad). He left quite an impression on me for the few times we managed to see him. I am sad that he has left us but I know that Dad and Grama Sweeney and my brother Pat are all showing him around the neighborhood in heaven.*  
*Love to all the Sweeney's*  
*Kathy Sweeney Hopkins*

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**Kathy Sweeney Hopkins** - June 15, 2016 at 12:53 AM

“ I am a friend of Ed's from the Gym, Defined Fitness on Juan Tabo, where Ed worked out in his later years, up until just a year or two ago. Ed was always sunny and upbeat, an inspiration to everyone at the gym. The only age 80+ gym member that I knew of and by far the friendliest of anyone there, of any age. By then, Ed couldn't work out very hard, due to his aging body, but he was there everyday, like clockwork, with a smile on his face and a friendly greeting for everyone. He was like the social chairman of the gym. Ed went around and asked everyone their names, made a point of remembering, and a week or a month later if he couldn't remember your name, he had no qualms about asking you again, just to make sure he had it right. He really cared about knowing everyone's names. Then, he made a point of introducing you to someone else at the gym you didn't know. Always introducing someone to someone else, the quiet, smiling social chairman. Ed was always working his way around the gym, saying hello, stopping to chat about the latest sports or news stories, and continually introducing people to other people. In the fall, he and I talked frequently about Midwest, college football. Ed knew a lot about it and was a big Notre Dame fan, because they were the Catholic team, like him. And he was a big fan of the Oklahoma City, NBA team, because they used to be in Seattle, the area where he was from. Ed had all kinds of favorite teams, always for some reason that connected him personally. Occasionally he'd get a little exercise in, on this machine or that, then he'd be back to saying hello, chatting for a few minutes and continuing his endless, wonderful introductions and stories to those of us taking the time to listen. We were all truly inspired by Ed. Here he was, with more aches and pains probably than all the rest of us combined, but never a complaint, always a smile, always a kind word for everyone. I never met Ed's wonderful wife, but want to thank her for always bringing Ed to the gym and then picking him up again, usually before he was ready to leave, but always bringing him back the next day. The gym was good for Ed, but Ed at the gym was good for everyone there too. You could feel his positive energy. A true inspiration. A powerful beacon of pure light was, and I'm sure still is, my old friend Ed. A blessing to us all.

*Jeff S.*

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**Jeff Shuster** - June 14, 2016 at 04:18 PM

SH

“ *I always remember Sweeney was smiling and friendly! He inspired me to join the Air Force!*

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**Sue Ayre Hedrick** - June 14, 2016 at 02:47 PM

TS

“ MEMORIES OF UNCLE KEVIN

*I am very sorry I cannot make the funeral service for Uncle Kevin but wanted to share a few memories. Regardless of circumstances, uncle Kevin always seemed to have a positive attitude. He was always upbeat. Nothing seemed to rile him much. He always had words of encouragement for me and those around him. I always sensed things were going to be ok after listening to him.*

*I remember during one family gathering we were playing a football game where one team was more stacked. Kevin wanted to play with the underdogs. Our team was not doing so well and I recall telling him we were struggling with their pass rush. He said “Ok don’t worry about the pass rush, I will take care of that”. Again, he was always encouraging and made you feel things will be ok.*

*He had traveled the world over with the Air Force and we loved hearing about his adventures and stories. I realized the world was a much larger place after listening to him. He had great stories about Sweeney history and provided a unique and humorous perspective on the past. He had us laughing many a times.*

*Of course he was the fitness king. He was always exercising and talking about work outs. No one worked harder at staying fit then he did. It was a life long passion for him. He was our Jack La Lane and inspired me and others to get with the program.*

*It was clear he was all about love and kindness for others and his family. He was an inspiration for all who came in contact with him and always seem to have words of encouragement and hope. Eva, Anthony, David, Chloe and others, our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Terry Sweeney (nephew)*

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**Terry Sweeney** - June 14, 2016 at 01:15 PM

MS

“ Remembering Uncle Kevin

*By Martin Sweeney*

*Uncle Kevin will be remembered as a wonderful man who modeled an incredible work ethic and with such joy and optimism, that he inspired others around him to do their best too. We would always look forward to his visits with our family and could count on laughing at his stories and learning about his take on family history well into the night. As an Air Force veteran who served across the globe, we didn't always catch Uncle Kevin on our many visits to Washington, but they were extra-special when he and his family were able to make it. Upon returning from one deployment to Turkey, Uncle Kevin stopped by our Saratoga home and, along with his non-stop, mischievous sense of humor, brought us several nice gifts (and stories) from his time there. The most memorable was a beautiful tapestry of a lion and brother Jim and I were lucky to have it hanging on our bedroom wall. It was our pride and joy and was always unique and special and our friends were in awe. The tapestry continues to be displayed in Jim and Midge's home and I always smile and think kindly of Uncle Kevin when I see it. Uncle Kevin was incredibly dedicated to his fitness and never missed a day to complete some form of rigorous workout. I remember when we gathered at Grandma Sweeney's home in Olympia for her funeral. I woke up early one morning and noticed a hooded figure charging up and down the staircases at the house across the street and thought to myself, "that guy is really going!" A few minutes later my dad came in and said, "That's Kevin." It made perfect sense and inspired me to get off my bum and go for a run myself, but nothing quite as rigorous as what Uncle Kevin was up to. He continues to be an inspiration for me and I remember him as a model of integrity and dedication who approached life with a clever sense of humor and, "can-do" attitude. May he rest in peace.*

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**Martin Sweeney** - June 14, 2016 at 10:47 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Edward Kevin Sweeney.*



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June 13, 2016 at 11:47 AM



“ *I met Mr ed at defined fitness. I use to tell him I hope I could keep going when I got to his age. I send my condolence to his family. He will forever be loved and missed.*

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**Aaron rodriguez** - June 12, 2016 at 11:48 PM



“ *Aaron Rodriguez sent a virtual gift in memory of Edward Kevin Sweeney*



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**Aaron rodriguez** - June 12, 2016 at 11:39 PM



*I met Mr ed at defined fitness. I would always tell him I hope I can get in the gym when I get his age. I send my condolence to his family he will be loved and missed*

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**Aaron rodriguez** - June 12, 2016 at 11:43 PM



“ I met Ed at the VA Hospital. He was always so kind, witty, and pleasant. He was one of my favorite patients! Even when he didn't feel well he had a good attitude. I'm sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

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**Melody Nagel** - June 12, 2016 at 09:32 PM



“ I met Ed at the VA Hospital. He was always so kind, witty, and pleasant. He was one of my favorite patients! Even when he didn't feel well he had a good attitude. I'm sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

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**Melody Nagel** - June 12, 2016 at 09:31 PM



“ I met Ed at the VA Hospital. He was always so kind, witty, and pleasant. He was one of my favorite patients! Even when he didn't feel well he had a good attitude. I'm sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

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**Melody** - June 12, 2016 at 09:30 PM



“ I met Ed at the VA Hospital. He was always so kind, witty, and pleasant. He was one of my favorite patients! Even when he didn't feel well he had a good attitude. I'm sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

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**Melody** - June 12, 2016 at 09:29 PM

DR

“ *Dicky And Suzanne Romero lit a candle in memory of Edward Kevin Sweeney*



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**Dicky and Suzanne Romero** - June 12, 2016 at 05:48 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Edward Kevin Sweeney.*



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June 12, 2016 at 04:19 PM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Edward Kevin Sweeney.*



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June 12, 2016 at 02:20 PM

JS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with each and everyone one of you.*

*By love he is remembered - In memory he lives.*

*Death leaves heartache no one can heal -  
Love leaves memories no one can steal.*

*Love & Blessings janet*



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janet sweeney - June 12, 2016 at 12:56 PM

JM

“ *For years I worked out with Ed at Defined Fitness. For years I would watch him glad-handing most everyone in the room like a politician - - except he was honest and didn't have an ulterior motive! For years I was charmed by his sunny personality and witty observations on the human comedy. His determination to work out despite his accumulation of challenges was observed with awed admiration by all. He didn't always remember my name but he always recognized me. I will always remember him with the greatest of affection and respect.*

*Joel McCrillis, AKA "Joe DiMaggio"*

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J. M. McCrillis - June 12, 2016 at 12:55 PM

DO

“ *Donna lit a candle in memory of Edward Kevin Sweeney*



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Donna - June 12, 2016 at 12:18 AM