Kenneth “Ken” W. Peterson
1948-2019



Ken became a member of Topeka South Rotary Club in 1986 shortly after the Club was chartered. He was on the Board in the Club’s early years from 1987 to 1991. The Club honored Ken as a Paul Harris Fellow in 1990. Ken served as Executive Director of the Kansas Petroleum Council and his classification was “Associations/Petroleum”.

Ken graduated from Chapman (Kansas) High School and earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Kansas. After graduation from the University of Kansas, he began his journalism career as a field reporter in Washington, DC for the Topeka Capital-Journal. He later served as a press secretary on Capitol Hill for Representative Jim Slattery.

Ken told stories about the lean times getting started in Washington, DC. Also, he was a great source of information on state and national politics at our Friday morning breakfasts. After giving us the straight scoop on a topic, he would flash a smile in amusement. Ken had a quick wit and it was fun to talk with him. He and his former wife, Kathy, were parents of a son and daughter.

Written by: Charter Members-Roger Johnson, Mike Land and Dale Warren.