

**Kenneth Gordon "Ken" Whitmyer**, son of John Freeman (1910-1999) and Naomi E. (Wilkins) (1910-2004) Whitmyer, was born 22 My 1944, Ingham County, Michigan.

*Lansing State Journal, Nov 15, 1951*

## Okemos

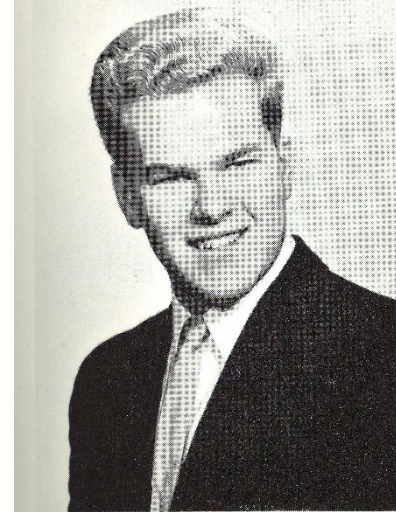
(Special to The State Journal)

OKEMOS, Nov. 15 — Mrs. M. Brand, one of the two speech correctionists employed by the Ingham county board of education, gave a discussion of the speech defect problems among school children, at the Okemos P. T. A. meeting Tuesday evening.

She stated that 10 percent of the children have some speech difficulties, half of which are simple and readily corrected. The other 5 percent are of a more serious nature and require a longer period of correction. In all cases it means a close co-operation between parent, child, school routine and correctionist.

Mrs. Brand spends two half days per week at Okemos and has eight children in a group for a half-hour training each session. She demonstrated the "s" difficulty and correction methods with one of the classes. The children who assisted in the demonstration were David Coats, Carol Piper, David Whitmore, Kenneth Whitmyer, JoLynn Matthews, Dale Hoke, Barbara Ondreas and Donald Wakeman.

As a musical feature on the evening's program, Mrs. Anderson, music teacher in the school, sang two selections. The 12 grade mothers acted as hostesses at refreshment time. Mrs. Rosdail's room took honors for having 38 percent of room parents present.



KENNETH G. WHITMYER

Ken graduated from Okemos High School in 1962.

Both of his parents, John and Naomi, were 1928 OHS graduates.

In 2017 Ken wrote, "After high school I slowly entered into community college and later graduated from Ferris. I was drafted into the Army and returned from Vietnam and was discharged in 1969. I started work for Consumers Energy in Traverse City.

*Lansing State Journal, Aug 16, 1987*

Consumer's Power's new Southern region has appointed the following people: **Edward Rice**, energy services manager; **Donald Anderson**, customer services and marketing manager; **Laurence Jones**, support services manager; **Kenneth Whitmyer**, controller; **Howard Mannion**, human resource director; **William Mabin**, communications director; **Everett Beemer**, Lansing district manager; and **Al Ross**, Jackson service manager.



Through my brother, I met Karen, who became my wife in 1970. "

## Couple to Reside In Traverse City

Rev. Eugene E. Schooler officiated at the double ring rites on June 6 which united Karen R. English and Kenneth G. Whitmyer. The evening wedding was held in the Zion Lutheran Church which was decorated with baskets of white gladioli and pink standard chrysanthemums.

Mrs. Stanley Garthe, organist, played the processional and recessional.

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Hakola, of Rudyard, Mich. are parents of the bride and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Whitmyer, of Williamston, Mich.

Escorted to the altar by her father, the bride wore a light blue gown of chiffon over acetate. Venise lace trimmed the neckline, cuffs of the short sleeves and the waistline and she wore a small flowered headpiece.

Her flowers were a line arrangement of eucharis, lilies and pink sweetheart roses.

Mrs. Sue Ellen Lottridge assisted as the matron of honor and the groom's best man was Bernard Marcussen.

Mrs. Lottridge wore an orchid gown identical to the bride and carried the same arrangement of lilies, pink sweetheart roses and eucharis.

John I. and Donald K. Whitmyer seated the guests.

A reception was held at the Perry-Davis Hotel. Nancy Knechtges cut the wedding cake; Barbara Arndt and Michelle Knechtges served punch and Margaret Sovari attended the guest book.

The mother of the bride chose a pink coat dress for her daughter's wedding and the mother of the groom chose a light green coat dress. Both wore accessories to compliment their costume and a corsage of cymbidium orchids.

The bride graduated from Western Michigan University and has been employed as a medical technologist at the

Burns Clinic Medical Center in Petoskey. The groom, a Ferris State University graduate, is currently employed at Con-sumer's Power Co. in Traverse City. The couple will reside in Traverse City. (Photography by E. Bortolussi)



Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth G. Whitmyer

## Club News

### Beverly Manor

There were five members who attended a recent Beverly Manor Guild meeting.

The residents made paper birds for their tree decorations and in the month of July they will make butterflies for these trees.

Salvation Army ladies will be hostesses at the center during the month of June, it was announced. Also it was announced that tray favors were made for the residents by members of Girl Scout Troop No. 240 during the month of May.

The next meeting will be July 6.

*Lansing State Journal, Dec 8, 1994*

At Consumers Power Co., Operations Services Division: **Robert Jocis** to director, customer call center services; **Kenneth Whitmyer** to director, business support services; **Cindy Westerhof** to director of planning, professional staffing and Consumers Power resource center; and **Michael Campbell** to manager, information services and technology.

Following moves to Battle Creek, Jackson, Lansing and back to Jackson, I completed 33 years with the company, retiring in 2002. "

Both of our girls were born in Battle Creek."

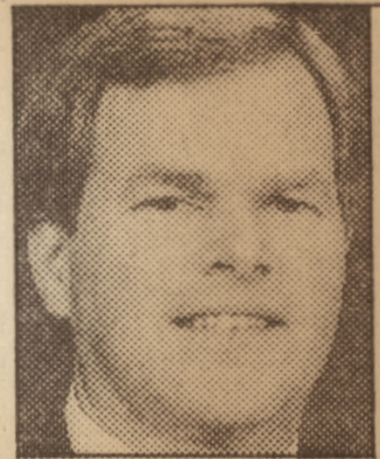
*Lansing State Journal, Jun 19, 1990*

office facilities, environmental control and property protection.

**Kenneth Whitmyer** was named administrative and planning manager. Whitmyer was previously the region controller.

**P. Dennis Custer Jr.** will continue as sales manager but will report to the region general manager.

Compiled by staff writer **Jodi Upton**.



**Whitmyer**

"Karen and I enjoy retirement by volunteering at Sparrow Hospital and another hospital in Gilbert, AZ (when we are there in the winter). I also do substitute teaching at Okemos High School when we are in town. We also follow the grandchildren: two in Haslett and two in Vienna, VA."

"My parents and sister Nancy have passed away. I still have both brothers here in Michigan."

After serving in Vietnam, Ken returned to Michigan and enrolled at Ferris State University. While working towards a degree he met and married Karen R. English on 6 June 1970.

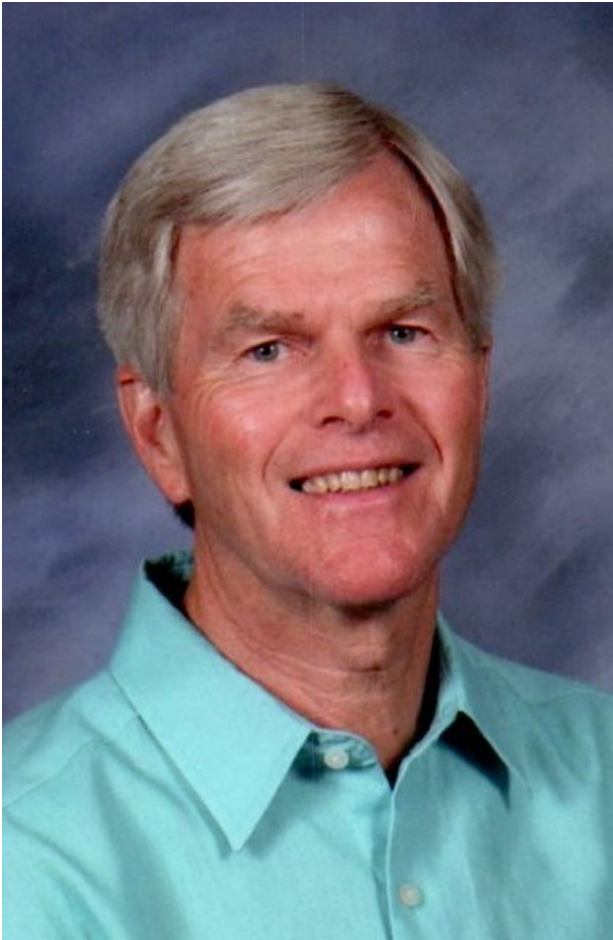


Ken in 1970 began his lifetime employment career with Consumers Power (Consumers Energy).

*Lansing State Journal, Feb 27, 2011*



After celebrating 50 years of marriage and 2 children together, Ken died 3 December 2020.



Obituary from Gorsline Runicman Funeral Homes, East Lansing.  
**Kenneth G. Whitmyer**

Haslett - Kenneth G. Whitmyer, 76, passed away on Thursday, December 3, 2020 in Lansing. A graduate of Okemos High School and Ferris State University, Ken served in the Army during the Vietnam War and retired from Consumer's Power after 32 years of service. In retirement, he worked as a substitute teacher at his old alma mater, Okemos High School.

Ken was a volunteer at Sparrow Hospital, a member of the Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club, and a longtime member for Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John F. and Naomi (Wilkins) Whitmyer; and his sister, Nancy Bengston.

He will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Karen (Hakola) Whitmyer; daughters, Heidi (Les) Bowers and Gretchen (Col. Joseph) Galvin; grandchildren, Kadin and Brielle Bowers, Hunter and Brody Galvin; and brothers, John I. and Donald Whitmyer.

A Private Family Service will be held with a burial to follow at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan.

Memorials may be made in Ken's honor to Faith Lutheran Church, 4515 Dobie Rd, Okemos, MI 48864 or to Hospice House of Mid-Michigan through the Sparrow Foundation, 1322 E. Michigan Avenue, Suite 204, Lansing, MI 48909.

The family is being served by Gorsline Runicman Funeral Homes, East Chapel. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.greastlansing.com](http://www.greastlansing.com).

*Lansing State Journal, July 22, 2008*

## Rotary Club names new

Haslett/Okemos Rotary Club had its annual Presidents Party, awards were given and new officers were announced.

**Bruce Caltrider** of Wachovia Securities is the new president. The club thanked outgoing president **Dennis Louney**, Delta Dental of Michigan, for his service to the group.

The first ever Don Bunka Award for outstanding service was awarded to **Ken Whitmyer**.

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