

PVT Kenneth L. Kunde

Location - West-A: R24, C55

Kunde participated in the Rome, Arno and southern France campaigns and received the European-African-Middle Eastern theater decoration, three bronze battle stars, the American defense ribbon and three overseas service bars.

Former lawmaker dies in Sheboygan

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
AND JENNIFER ROECKER

An Oshkosh native, who served in the state Assembly and was well-known for his work in establishing veterans' groups, died Tuesday in Sheboygan.

Kenneth Kunde, 75, died at the Heritage Nursing Center after an extended illness.

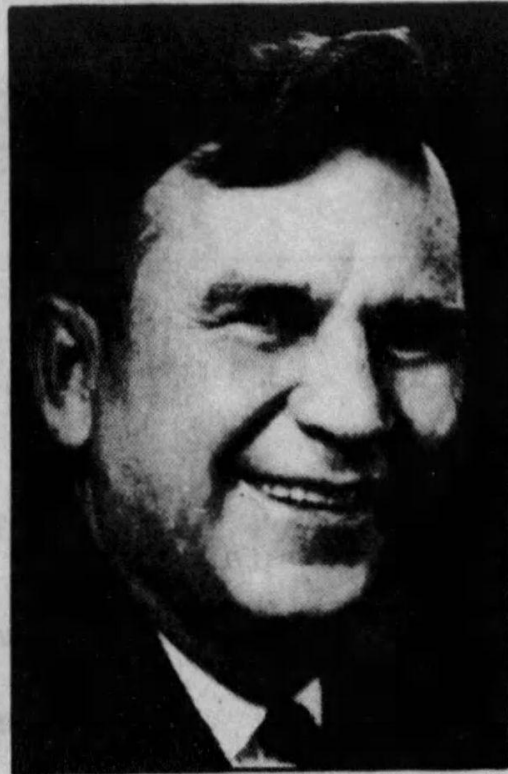
"He was active in politics and veterans' affairs his whole life," said his brother, Donald Kunde of Oshkosh.

Kenneth Kunde, an Oshkosh Democrat, ran for Congress in 1950. He was defeated in that race, but was later elected to three terms in the state Assembly.

In the 1950s, Kenneth Kunde moved to Sheboygan, his wife's hometown, and "always a Democratic stronghold," his brother said.

In 1967, Kenneth Kunde stepped down from the state Assembly to become postmaster in Sheboygan. It was a job he enjoyed, Donald Kunde said, and which he held for 20 years.

The former legislator spent about six years in the Army and was a veteran of World War II.



Kenneth Kunde

He was also a charter member of American Veterans of World War II and served two terms as the state commander of the organization.

Kenneth Kunde also helped establish AMVETS posts throughout the area.

He is survived by his wife Helen and three children.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Ramm-Ziegler-Novak-Rettke Funeral Home in Sheboygan.

Kenneth L. Kunde

SHEBOYGAN — Kenneth L. Kunde, 75, of 3008 S. 10th St., Sheboygan, died Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1992, at Heritage Nursing Center.

Ken was born July 24, 1916, in Oshkosh, the son of the late Alfred and Elsie Ratzburg Kunde.

He was a graduate of Oshkosh High School and attended Oshkosh Business College and Oshkosh Teacher's College. He and Helen De Troye were united in marriage in Grace Lutheran Church, Oshkosh, on Aug. 12, 1938. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1988.

Ken served with the U.S. Army during World War II, seeing action in Panama and the European Theatre. He was employed as credit manager for Kinsbury Brewery for many years. He was a candidate for the U.S. Congress in 1948 and 1950. He was a candidate for mayor of Sheboygan in 1960.

Elected to the Wisconsin Legislature in 1962, he served his constituents until 1967 when he was appointed Sheboygan postmaster. He held that position until his retirement in 1987. He was named Wisconsin Postmaster of the Year in 1977.

He was a member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church. He was past state commander of the Wisconsin Amvets, past commander of the Sheboygan Amvets post and former co-chairman of the Sheboygan Boy Scouts food drive. He assisted with the formation of "Proclamation of Reclamation," the first recycling program in Sheboygan. As a member of the National League of Postmasters, he served as its state commander twice. He served as a scout for the U.S. Naval Academy football team. And, he proudly gave the annual Memorial Day address at Fountain Park, Sheboygan, many times.

Ken is survived by his wife, Helen; two daughters and sons-in-law, Cynthia (Roger) Shanks of Merrimac and Barbara (Richard) Thiel of Springfield, Va.; one son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth (Toni) Kunde of Madison; nine grandchildren, Troye and Curtis Shanks, Laura and Nicole Thiel, Susan Wagner, Laura Hertel, Dena Arnold, and Tom and Gary Timmons; four great-grandchildren, Chris and Betsi Shanks and Alex and Anna Wagner; and one brother and sister-in-law, Donald (Marion) Kunde of Oshkosh.

He was preceded in death by one sister and three brothers.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, in St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 1711 S. 11th St., Sheboygan. The Rev. Dr. Paul G. Bauman, pastor, will officiate. Burial will take place in Lake View Memorial Park, Oshkosh.

Friends may call from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Ramm-Ziegler-Novak-Rettke Funeral Home-Southside Chapel, 1535 S. 12th St., Sheboygan, and from 9 a.m. until the time of service Saturday at the church.

There will be a visitation from 2 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Lake View Park Chapel, followed by a committal service.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund will be established in Ken's name.

Ken was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and brother, and we are happy that he is finally at peace.



KENNETH L KUNDE

PVT US ARMY

WORLD WAR II

JUL 24 1916 + JAN 28 1992

POSTMASTER