

Ray Kearney

On June 3, Ray Kearney passed away at his home in Marengo, IL. Ray was the superintendent at Marengo Ridge Golf and Country Club for the past seven years; before that, he was the superintendent and general manager at Fox Lake Country Club for 21 years. Prior to Fox Lake, he worked at Plum Tree National in Woodstock.

Ray learned the business from his father, Sid Kearney, and from current MAGCS member Ray Schei. Along the way, Ray had learned to expect the best from his courses, employees, vendors and friends, and gave the best to his family. For those of you who may not have had the pleasure of knowing Ray, all I can say is that he was one-of-a-kind and someone who would do anything for you. Ray may not have had the university degree in turf management, but he had earned a Ph.D.

from the School of Hard Knocks. When you had the opportunity to play one of Ray's courses, his knowledge of the game and his craft were ever-present.

Ray left us at the young age of 51, but for those of us who knew him, he gave and taught us so much it is hard to believe we had not known him for our entire lifetimes. To me, he was much more than a client; he was a friend, confidante and mentor. As life goes on, we all have our down

phases; well, all I had to do was go see my friend Ray and he would get me back on track. I learned reams from him and I am very proud to tell anyone of my friend, Ray Kearney.

Ray is survived by his wife Deborah, his daughter Rhonda, his son Joe and Joe's new bride of three weeks, and his father Sid.



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