

REMEMBERING KIP

Kip Trygve Berentson (1SG retired), Fargo, ND passed away under the care of Sanford Hospice on Sunday, June 14, 2026 at SMP St. Catherine's South Health Care facility from a rare military service related eye cancer and pancreatic cancer, a result of his dedication and sacrifice during his active duty career. It is fitting that he passed away on the US Army's 251st birthday.

Kip was born November 23, 1955 in Bottineau, ND to Trygve and Berdie (Korman) Berentson. He grew up on a farm west of Newburg and graduated from Newburg High School in 1974.

At the age of 18 he enlisted in the US Army. During his 21 year career as an Atomic Demolitionist and an Army Combat Engineer, he served three tours in Germany, (Stuttgart, Berlin, and Bayreuth) and was also stationed at various US Army Installations including Ft. Sill, Oklahoma; Ft. Leonard Wood, MO; Rose Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN; Ft. Riley, KA; and Pittsburgh, PA. In 1990, he was deployed to S.W. Asia in support of Desert Storm/Desert Shield. Kip retired as a First Sergeant in 1996. Kip was also proud of the fact that in his immediate family his father, himself, a daughter, a son, two sons-in-law, a grandson, and a granddaughter also served in the military. Their service included the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines Corps. Combined they have served over 100 years and counting. It has been a great honor and privilege to have been a part of the United States military.

Medals that Kip earned included Meritorious Service, Army Commendation, Army Achievement, S.W. Asian Service Medal, Humanitarian Service, Kuwait Liberation, French Commando Badge, and Drill Sergeant Identification Badge, among others.

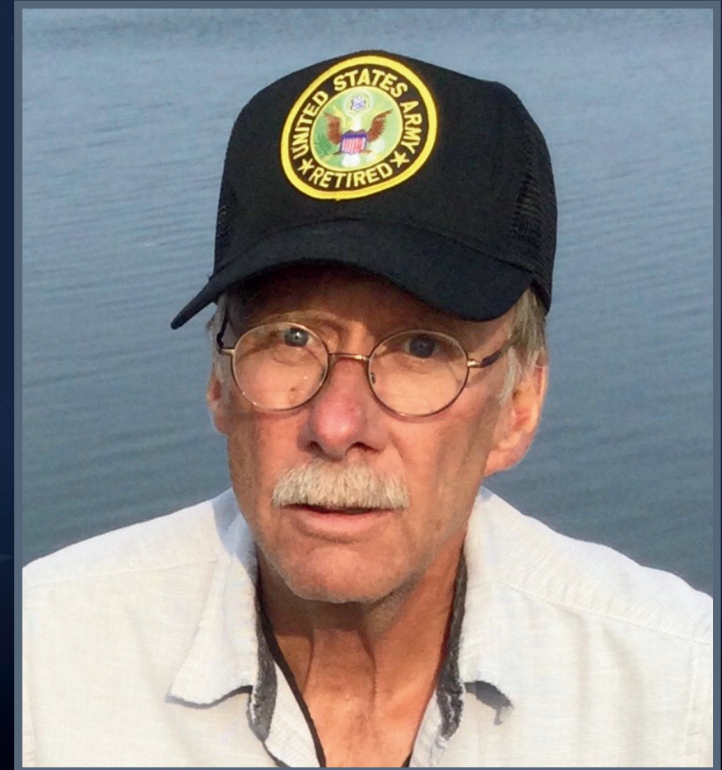
On October 29, 1977, he married Barbara Eva Kuntz at Orrin, ND. They have three children and nine grandchildren. Rolanda Deeds, (Eric), Manhattan, KA, and their children Emily and Alexander; Alysia Campani, (Jeff), Grand Forks, ND, and their children Reid, Lucia, and Dominic; and Lance (Nicoleta) Berentson, Minot, ND, and their children Taylor, Addison, Lana, and Cristina.

In 1996 Kip retired from the US Army and moved his family to Fargo, ND. While in Pittsburgh, PA, he attended The Dean Institute of Technology and completed a welding course. He went on to work at Mid America Steel and Case IH in Fargo. He ended his working career at the Fargo Post Office as a city carrier.

He enjoyed deer hunting and large mouth bass fishing. You could find him relaxing at Brewer Lake whenever he had the chance.

Kip is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, and three sisters, Gwen Wall (Ron) and Jan Nahinurk (Dwight) of Bottineau, ND and Mae Berentson of Kalispell, MT.

IN LOVING MEMORY



KIP BERENTSON

NOVEMBER 23, 1955 - JUNE 14, 2026

THE FINAL INSPECTION

The soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.

'Step forward now, you soldier,
How shall I deal with you ?
Have you always turned the other cheek ?
To My Church have you been true?'

The soldier squared his shoulders and said,
'No, Lord, I guess I ain't.
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.

But, I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand.
There was a silence all around the throne,
Where the saints had often trod.
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

'Step forward now, you soldier,
You've borne your burdens well..
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell!

~Author Unknown~

KIP TRYGVE BERENTSON

PRAYER SERVICE

7:00 P.M. THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026

BOULGER FUNERAL HOME & CELEBRATION OF LIFE CENTER
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
DEACON BRUCE DAHL, **PRESIDING**

FUNERAL SERVICE

11:00 AM FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026

NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
FATHER JOE BARRET, **PRESIDING**
OLIVIA DESING, **VOCALIST**
LAVONNE RUSTAD, **ACCOMPANIST**

PALLBEARERS

MICHAEL KUNTZ - FRANK KUNTZ - LARRY KUNTZ
BILL KUNTZ - KEN KUNTZ
DARRYL KUNTZ - WAYNE KUNTZ

MILITARY HONORS

GILBERT C. GRAFTON AMERICAN LEGION POST #2
ACTIVE DUTY ARMY FUNERAL HONORS DETAIL

FINAL RESTING PLACE

FARGO NATIONAL CEMETERY
RURAL HARWOOD, NORTH DAKOTA

