



## Albert J. Kallfelz Jr.

May 22, 1935 - November 24, 2020

Albert J. Kallfelz, Jr., 85 of Camillus passed away Tuesday at home following a long illness. Born in Syracuse, he graduated from Smith Technical High School and Syracuse University's College of Engineering. During and after his college years, Al served in the New York National Guard. His family owned the former Kallfelz Brothers Baking Company, one of the largest commercial bakeries in upstate New York. He was a communicant of St. Joseph's Church in Camillus.

After graduation, he worked at Smith Corona as a mechanical engineer, and shared some patents on typewriter design. When the company moved to Cortland, Al joined Carrier Corporation, where he spent the rest of his career. At Carrier, Al shared several more patents on machines that built air conditioners.

As a boy traveling with his parents on business and pleasure trips, Al developed a life-long interest in railroads. That passion led to his membership in the Central New York Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Except for a brief interval, he served as chapter president for more than 50 years, possibly making him the longest serving leader of a NRHS chapter. He was instrumental in the Central New York Chapter's purchase in 1966 of Martisco Station in the Town of Camillus from the New York Central Railroad, and worked tirelessly on the station museum since. In addition, he offered

encouragement and guidance as a mentor to generations of young train enthusiasts over the years.

For many years, Al was an Emergency Medical Technician with WAVES Ambulance. He had been a caregiver to his mother in her later years.

A special memory for Al was his 1994 trip to his family ancestors' homes in Germany.

He was predeceased by his parents Albert and Theresa Kallfelz.

Survived by cousins, Carl J. Batcharie Jr. and wife Calista, Marlitia Mrotek and husband Paul, Elizabeth Kaufmann and husband Bill; eight 3rd cousins; and his Railroad family. His big heart was filled with encouragement for the next generation of train enthusiasts and it will be sorely missed.

Private services will be held at Assumption Cemetery, Syracuse.

A celebration of his life will be held at later date.

Arrangements by B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee St. Camillus, NY 13031.

Contributions in his memory may be made to CNY Chapter, NRHS Inc., PO Box 229, Marcellus, NY 13108 or online at [www.cnynrhs.org](http://www.cnynrhs.org)

Please sign his guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)

# Tribute Wall

RC

“ Sincere condolences to all. Enjoyed several interesting conversations with Al and couple of times doing so in the museum going through the old maps in the flat files. May he RIP.

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**Robert Crysler** - December 03, 2020 at 12:08 PM

KH

“ I first met Al around 1965 on one of the first CNYC fan trips. We worked together on many projects including painting the depot at Martisco, painting cars at the State Fair, setting up displays, planning fan trips, working on our motor car and lots of other activities. Al was always fun, great sense of humor, and a consummate organizer. Last time I saw him was at Martisco running a Bobcat a few years ago. The railroad community has lost one of the last giants in preservation. High green, Al.

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**ken hojnacki** - December 03, 2020 at 11:41 AM

KC

“ Al was a classmate at Smith Tech class of 1953. I do remember him as a railroad fan back then.  
My condolences to Als family & friends.  
Kaylin Cramer

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**Kaylin Cramer** - December 02, 2020 at 03:01 PM

RM

“ Al was my friend, mentor, confidant and teacher for all of my years in the Chapter. We took the Sales Tables and HO Modules to many venues and enjoyed eating out while at a show. He was a very capable engineer and knew much about railroading and lore. If you gave Al a problem he could figure it out. I will miss him very much. The Chapter will not ever be the same with out him Rest in Peace my Friend

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**Robert McNamara** - December 01, 2020 at 07:06 PM



“ I had the privilege of working with Al for several years at Carrier. At the time I met Al, and for all the years leading up to his retirement, I knew him as “the head of the tube mill”. Al was highly respected, and the tireless force in charge of developing, manufacturing, and improving the very specialized heat transfer tubing used the heat exchangers of large chillers. This tubing was at the very heart of these large machines, and Al played a significant roll in keeping Carrier on the cutting edge of this technology. One breakthrough moment came in the mid to late 70’s when Al and a colleague came up with a revolutionary approach to leap ahead in heat transfer technology with a patent (U.S. 4,159,739) for a new type of heat transfer surface. This basic design has been the foundation for advanced heat exchanger surfaces still in use today. In this regard, Al was one of the true pioneers in the industry.

*In spite of his accomplishments, I remember Al as a cheerful, humble, and enthusiastic guy, always willing to take time to mentor and teach others, and help out wherever he could. Beyond his engineering expertise, however, I have to say that whenever I think of Al, the first image that comes to mind is of him wearing his train engineers cap, giving kids a ride on a not-so-miniature train at the State Fair grounds around Christmas time. My own kids enjoyed riding on that train, and I will always remember Al in that way. He was a truly fine human being, and we all suffer a loss at his passing.*

*Ed Huenniger  
Retired Carrier Product Development Engineer*

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**Ed Huenniger** - November 30, 2020 at 03:33 PM

CP

“ When I was a youngster I visited Martisco with my parents. Al was generous and welcomed me into the Chapter as Junior member. He fueled my love of trains and interest in history and for years was a marvelous mentor. With his guidance I worked on the station, some of the cars the Chapter had and took a number of fan trips.

*That encouragement not only led to many years of railfanning, but eventually led me to a career working on rail projects in NY State.*

*Al was a unique individual and he will be missed. Thanks Al for all you gave me!*

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**Charles Poltenson** - November 30, 2020 at 11:52 AM

JL

“ If you would like to make a donation to the CNY Chapter NRHS in Memory of Al here is the link. [https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\\_button\\_id=VH8J29D2VSTU4](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=VH8J29D2VSTU4)

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**Josie LeMay** - November 30, 2020 at 07:47 AM

IZ

“ On behalf of the Oswego valley railroad association inc. I send our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Al. Al has been a huge supporter to our group and he will be missed.

*Godspeed my friend*

*Izzy Vosseller*

*President*

*Oswego valley railroad association*

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**Izzy** - November 29, 2020 at 07:27 PM

MW

“ In 1969 at the New York State Fair Carriage Building train exhibit, I first met Al who very happily gave me information to join the Central New York Chapter of the NRHS. I was 13 years old and he fueled my railroad interest. From that point on, Al and I became good friends and traveled many places over lots of years--Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, Indiana, Vermont, Utah and a number of Canadian provinces. We had great times. Al was a good man who helped many people--young and old--get interested in railroading and rail history. One year, he hosted a gentleman and his son from Finland in his home after becoming pen pals with them because his name and address were found in a coat pocket his mother donated. He was instrumental in starting up our annual Train Fair held at the New York State Fairgrounds starting in 1975.

Many of our chapter members have their special memories of being a part of Al's life. For us, history repeated itself when Al and our son, Joseph, started working on many of the chapter projects as well some traveling. Al was Joseph's Confirmation sponsor. Not only did we see Al during railroading activities, he was at our wedding, we shared meals and saw him at mass at St. Joseph's Church every week. My family and I are part of the chapter that will cherish many memories--the National Convention we hosted in Syracuse, annual train fairs, chapter meetings, railroadiana sales and annual banquets. We will always picture him working at Martisco Station and talking with everyone as children got on and off the inch-and-a-half train ride at the annual Train Fair. Thank you, Al; you will be missed.

Joe and Mary Lou Weinberger

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Mary Lou Weinberger - November 29, 2020 at 11:40 AM

BP

“ Al Kallfleiz was truly a great gentleman and you got to know him very well. I would see him time to time at either the Great New York State Fair at the Historic Train Exhibit that is on display at the fair grounds. or at the Central New York Chapter's Model Train Fair when I would go. He was very instrumental in many ways with the chapter as a member and as president of the chapter. I am happy to a be a member of four chapters including the Utica and Mohawk Valley and the Central New York. As this chapter mourns the loss of a great gentleman who worked tirelessly to make things happen for the chapter to really function like it does. I know the Central New York Chapter will find ways to keep his memory alive at some point in time possibly dedicating the Antique Train Display a the New York State Fair Grounds in his memory. A truly great man I got to enjoy saying hello to at what ever chapter event that was going on along with some my home chapter has had throughout the years. I know I will miss him and so will other chapters of the National Railway Historical Society will as well.

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**Bradford Paulson** - November 29, 2020 at 12:05 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments** - November 28, 2020 at 10:19 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments** - November 28, 2020 at 07:57 PM

PM

*Worked with him at WAVES Ambulance on Friday night. Will be sorely missed.*

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**pam stroup masters** - December 06, 2020 at 09:39 PM

CS

“ *Al was one terrific man. I remember seeing his train collection several times. To set up all his trains, he had the patience of a saint. Al was my Friday night WAVES driver for many years. Rest in peace Al, you will be missed*

*Arne & Chris Sandness*

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**Christine Sandness** - November 28, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ 10 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments** - November 28, 2020 at 03:09 PM