



# TRACK TALK

January 6, 2022



Kalamazoo Speedway had hoped to issue Track Talk this week to celebrate a new year by kicking off seasonal skybox rentals, pit stall reservations and letting early birds purchase their grandstand or pit pass punch cards in anticipation of an exciting 2022 season at the Zoo. We also wanted to make a big announcement that the Big Rigs will be back (Saturday, July 30) and highlight a couple of rule changes (OSLM and Street Stock), but instead we find ourselves mourning the loss of two close members of the Kalamazoo Speedway family.



Every driver and fan who has accessed the pit area knew Richard Sieting. Richard, 58, had been hospitalized with COVID and lost his battle with the disease on January 6. Richard, 58, worked at Kalamazoo Speedway for 26 years. His brother, Garry Hale, tells us that Richard had always been interested in working on cars, eventually becoming a race car owner as well as a crew chief. According to Richard's wishes, there will be no funeral service and his ashes will be scattered in Key West. A memorial will be held at Kalamazoo Speedway during the summer. We mourn Richard now and will miss his laughter, his good-natured pranks and the care that he brought to his work at the track come April.

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Kevin Barthel passed away early December 28 at his home following a long and valiant battle with COPD. Kevin made the Vintage Posters and other memorabilia sold at Marty's Gift Shop, was the Speedway videographer and was frequently in the pit area taking photos and meeting with drivers. Kevin had a rich sense of humor, remained an optimist and had been looking forward to his return to the Speedway, his "happy place," in 2022. A memorial will be held at a later time.

**BOWLING FUNDRAISER**

JANUARY 12, 1958 - DECEMBER 28, 2021

**IN LOVING MEMORY  
KEVIN POSTERGUY**

**EASTLAND BOWL  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 16  
2-5 PM**

**\$25 PER PERSON / \$125 5 PERSON TEAM  
SILENT AUCTION - 50/50**

**5570 GULL ROAD  
KALAMAZOO, MI 49048**

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*Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of both Richard and Kevin as we all mourn their passing.*



Photos A. Fisher except for the 2016 award photo and fundraising poster.

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