

**CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

BRYAN K. BARNETT, MAYOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 9, 2020**

**Media Contact: Maria Willett
willettm@rochesterhills.org
248-841-2545**

**Former Rochester Hills Mayor, Kenneth Snell,
Passes Away**

Snell Served as Mayor from 1995-1999

Rochester Hills, Michigan: Former Rochester Hills Mayor, Kenneth Snell, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2020. He was 65. Snell was the City's third Mayor, serving from 1995-1999, and as a member of Rochester Hills City Council from 1984-1991 and again from 1993-1995. He was City Council President for two years during this time.

During his tenure at Rochester Hills City Hall, Mayor Snell is credited for embracing technology, honoring the past and leaving a mark on the future. He influenced the city's digital footprint by ensuring that all office employees had their own computer, making Rochester Hills an early adopter of technology among municipal governments at the time. He signed the "Deed of Gift" from the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University that deeded the Red House across the street from the Van Hoosen Farmhouse at the Rochester Hills Museum to the city, a remarkable gem within our community and on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, Mayor Snell started Rochester Hills' popular "Festival of the Hills" celebration, now in existence for over 20 years.

In a statement, current Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan K. Barnett said, "Mayor Ken Snell dedicated more than a decade of his life to public service in our city. We are indebted to him for his leadership, the commitment he made to our residents and the legacy he left in our community. Godspeed, Mayor Snell."

In Mayor Snell's honor, Barnett has ordered flags to be lowered to half-staff at all city buildings through Sunday, September 13, 2020.

The quote from Abraham Lincoln under Mayor Snell's photograph in the auditorium at Rochester Hills City Hall reads: "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end do our duty as we understand it."

Visitation for Mayor Snell will be held on Friday, September 11, 2020 from 2pm to 8pm at First Baptist Church of Rochester, 6377 Orion Road in Rochester Hills. The funeral will take place on Saturday, September 12, 2020 at 11am also at First Baptist Church of Rochester in Rochester Hills. Following the funeral, a procession and burial will be at Van Hoosen Jones -Stoney Creek Cemetery at Tienken and Sheldon Roads.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Mayor Snell's name may be sent to the First Baptist Church of Rochester - Global Missions Program at 6377 Orion Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48306. The Global Missions Program was a program to which Mayor Snell donated often.

About Rochester Hills, Michigan

Established in 1984, the City of Rochester Hills is a prosperous community offering residents and businesses superior services. Voted one of the top places to live by several sources including CNN Money magazine, Rochester Hills is committed to sustaining its position among the nation's preeminent places to live, work and raise a family. Through the city's focus on health, education, and technology, the community continues to attract forward-thinking leaders and businesses.

###