



Colonel Ret Thomas E Keller

May 14, 1933 - December 14, 2015

KELLER, Thomas Ent, COL RET, Passed away on Monday, December 14, 2015, at University Hospital, San Antonio, surrounded by his family. He was born on mother's day, May 14, 1933, in Danville, PA to Madeline and Ent Keller. At age five, his father died suddenly and Tom was sent to Girard College in Philadelphia, PA A male orphanage where he remained until graduating. Tom received a full-paid four year scholarship to any Ivy League College of his choice. He chose the University of PA where he could be near his family. After graduating from college he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. Semper Fi. His first assignment on the Battle Ship New Jersey found him leaning over the side of the ship and turning very yellow. Realizing that sea life was not for him he got out of the Marines and taught public school in Philadelphia. He loved teaching, chaperoning the sock hops and the kids, but something was missing. As he always jokingly said, when he returned to the Marine Corps recruiter's office, "They didn't need a 'few good men.'" He then joined the U.S. Army, Medical Service Corps, as a 1st LT in the Regular Army. His Army assignments included; Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, TX where he met his wife, Ginney. After a world wind courtship of four months, they were married at Dodd Chapel, Ft Sam Houston, TX with family and friends present. They moved to Bowie, Maryland, where he was assigned to the U.S. Army Surgeon General's Office, in Washington, DC; Vietnam 2 tours; United States Army Command and General Staff College, Ft Leavenworth, KS; Medical Battalion Commander, Ft Devens, MA; Personnel

Manager, Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Ft Gordon, GA. He retired from the Army in 1984 after 28 plus years of service and moved to the Shenandoah Valley in Waynesboro, Virginia, to start work as an English Teacher and Soccer Coach for Fishburne Military School. The cadets very quickly dubbed him "Col TEK" and his baby daughter "Baby TEK." After leaving Fishburne, Tom spent his spare time with his horses, reading and family. He is survived by his wife, Ginney; his sister-in-law, Joyce Otto; two children, Ginger Leigh Fenerty and husband, Mike; Brooke Victoria Keller, Baby TEK and her finance' Paul Toscano. Grandchildren are Scott Thomas Moores and Ian Michael Moores. Tom will be remembered as a bright shining light by all his loving nieces, nephews, friends and family from Maine to Texas. A memorial service, with Full Military Honors, will be held Saturday, January 23, 2016, 13:00 hours 1:00 P.M. at Oak Hills Mortuary, 8332 Fredericksburg Road, San Antonio, Texas 78229. In lieu of flowers, Tom has requested that donations be made to the "Wounded Warrior Project." Simper Fi!

Tribute Wall



“ He was a very kind man and a patient man. I was a cadet at Fishburne and if I knew then what I know now I would have appreciated him much more at the time. Rest in Peace.

Bradley Taylor - March 02, 2023 at 12:15 AM

BK

“ To my favorite Uncle. You've been asking Nancy & I when we were going to get married since we were 15. Nancy & I really miss you!! You taught us how to ride horses, you taught us to be fearless in a dangerous world. Although we have moved around the globe, Australia, Manchester, Penn & Penn State, you were our guiding star! Nancy & Max send their greetings from Snohomish, WA and I from Ardmore where I live with my son, James & my Mother is in Bryn Mawr at Baldwin, still working three jobs & helping me with James. We salute you!! Unfortunately Dad passed away on April 27th, 2018. I just starting grieving him this fall. Hope to hear from the family.

All my love,

Bonnie

Bonnie Keller-Garcia - February 20, 2020 at 09:22 PM

BK

Hi Bonnie I'm so sorry I haven't seen these sooner!! Please reach out to me at texasgurl81@gmail.com I have only heard a today has told me about you all 🤔🤔

Brooke Keller - December 29, 2021 at 08:45 PM



Hi Bonnie, can you contact Fishburne Military School and ask for Bev? We are trying to get ahold of your family to let them all know that we are honoring Colonel Thomas Keller next year with a memorial brick in the quadrangle. Thank you.

Bradley Taylor - November 28, 2023 at 06:52 AM

JW

“ *I would like to offer my condolences for the loss of Col. Keller.*

I am a graduate of Marple-Newtown High School in Newtown Square, PA. I have been asked to locate an English teacher, Thomas Keller, who left the school to rejoin the military. We are having our 55th Class Reunion on Saturday, September 28th here in Newtown Square. If Col. Keller is the same person as our 9th grade English teacher, would you please share that information with me.

Thank you.

Jeffrey R. White

Past State President

Vietnam Veterans of America

PA State Council

P. O. Box 433

Newtown Square, PA 19073-0433

610 633 9409 cell

jeffrey.r.white@outlook.com

PA State Council website

www.vva-pa.org

VVA National website

www.vva.org

Jeffrey White - April 09, 2019 at 10:47 AM

KK

“ Thought I would just add to his life's obituary, Tom Keller had four other children through a previous marriage, three sons and one daughter. Although the men in the family have died of illness, the woman survived to be successful, charming, strong, and caring individual.

Kathy Keller - August 21, 2017 at 09:17 AM

MH

I want to add how proud I am of Col. Keller's first wife and his surviving child from that marriage. They had many struggles after Col Keller left, including the tragic deaths of his 3 sons, but are thriving now. It's a shame this obituary failed to mention them.

Meg Hart - August 21, 2017 at 01:33 PM

CK

Col. Keller was a great man and a wonderful Uncle - one of the funniest people I ever knew. My dad, his older brother James Keller passed away today and I hope Tom, Jim and Bob are together somewhere having fun.

CJ Keller

CJ Keller - April 26, 2018 at 06:30 PM