



Robert Franklin Keen

December 1, 1922 - December 9, 2015

Robert Franklin Keen, age 93, of Brodhead, passed away on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at Wood's Crossing in Brodhead. He was born on Dec. 1, 1922, in Juda, Wisconsin, the son of Arthur and Edith (Asmus) Keen. He married Phyllis J. Guleson on June 26, 1949 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brodhead. She passed away August 22, 2011. Bob graduated as Salutatorian of Juda High School in 1940. He then attended the University of Wisconsin. After his junior year he taught Agriculture, Chemistry, Physics, Mens Glee Club and coached basketball, baseball and volleyball at Juda High School from 1943-47. He finished his degree at UW Madison and graduated with honors in 1948. He then taught at Wilmot High School for a semester before accepting a job at Brodhead where he organized and developed the Vo-Ag Department and the FFA Chapter at Brodhead High School. It was one of the top chapters in Wisconsin. He taught in Brodhead from 1948-1979. In 1979 he returned to Juda to finish out his teaching career of more than 40 years. He received numerous awards, including the Honorary State Farmer Degree, Honorary American Farmer Degree. He was well known for his picture taking ability and his excellent slide presentations at the annual banquets. He always had a photo of a man outstanding in his field. He was a charter member of the Brodhead Jaycees and the Lions Club, a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, serving on the church council, and was President of the congregation when the new church was built. He was also a long time choir member. Bob served on the Green County Board for many years and was active in the Hidden Valleys and Tri-State Tourism organizations. He was a board member of SCLS (South Central Library System) for many years and received their Cornerstone Award in 2010 for exceptional service and dedication. Bob enjoyed following his kids and grand-kids sports for many years. He enjoyed his daughter Heidi's annual musicals at Johnson Creek and watching her sons play football at UW-Whitewater as well as his son Kevin's Monroe Girls Basketball teams. He was also a lifelong Wisconsin Badger Fan. He is survived by a daughter, Heidi (George) Nimm, Johnson Creek, WI; two sons, Kevin (Colleen) Keen, Monroe, WI, Kerry (Nina Ebbighausen) Keen, Minneapolis, MN; ten grandchildren, Scott (Mary) Nimm, Johnson Creek, Sean (Carri) Nimm, Stevens Point, WI, Steven (Brenda) Nimm, Happy Valley, OR, Chad Nimm, Fort Atkinson, Holly (Peter) Best, Mt. Horeb, WI, Heather (Mark) Andrews,

Monroe, WI, Heidi (Andrew) Knapp, McFarland, Eric (Carline) Keen, Baltimore, MD, Laurel (Mark Buenaflor) Keen, and Collin (Erin Gundersen, fiancée) Keen, Chicago, IL; eleven great grandchildren, Isabella, Liam, Hayden, Paxton, Duncan and Nolan Nimm, Eli Andrews, Macey and Fletcher Knapp, Noah Best and Elodie Buenaflor; two step-grandchildren, Morgan McKee and Gavynn Parker. He is also survived by a sister Dorothy Olson of Denver, CO, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, a sister, Mildred June Petersen, brothers, Roland, Arthur, Donald and Jim. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, December 12, 2015, at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brodhead, WI, with Rev. Larry Froemming officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Brodhead. Visitation will be held on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until time of services at the church. Memorials may be made to the Juda or Brodhead High School Ag. Dept.

Tribute Wall

LL

“ Bob was such an amazing man! Always had a smile on his face, and a story of his sweet family to share!! I was so blessed to know him and your family, he's at peace and pain free, but you can guarantee that he will live on forever !!!! As he touched so many lives!!! Loved him !!! Rest in peace Bob!! Gone but never forgotten! love and prayers to you all!
💖always Lindsey (Leslie)

Lindsey (Leslie) - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

PH

“ I've known Bob since he began serving on the South Central Library Board well more than thirty years ago. He was always thoughtful and kind, was a wonderful leader, and had a great sense of humor. I shall miss him deeply.

Peter Hamon - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

RA

“ Bob was my class advisor. My freshman year at brodhead high school . He was a big help to get us organized and ready for the. Challenges , also Phyllis played the bells in the band and I took over he r position on that. She taught me all I needed to know about being in the band and when to hit the high notes really hard. Such wonderful, parents you had and
Condolences to. You all Ruth. And Dick Kamps a

Ruth a,Kamps - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

JK

“ Heidi
So sorry to hear of your dads passing. He and your mom were always so nice when we were at your home during our high school days. We can be thankful God gave us so many years with our parents filled with good memories. Thinking of you and your family.

Joan (Berra) Kurth - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

CS

“ To Bob's Family, Our Mom, Vira Palombi, lived a Woods Crossings, down the hall from Bob, until she passed on 8-28-14, at 96.
We enjoyed visiting with him, as had such a large interesting life. Both of them enjoyed sitting in the sun an talking with every visitor that came to Woods Crossing.

Often I would stop at his room, to get the latest football scores !!!!

He touched many lives an was a great mentor.

Carol Palombi Schultz - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

RR

“ Bob and Phyllis were two of the reasons that Diane and I hated leaving Brodhead!
We really cherish all the good times we had together at school and faculty events. We have never met a more joyful couple to be around - humor always abounded!
Our only regret is that we didn't get together more after we left, but as Heidi can tell you, a music teacher's free time is extremely limited. Our most hear-felt sympathy to all of the Keen family.

Love,
Ron and Diane Rockow

Ron and Diane Rockow - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

KK

“ My deepest condolences, thoughts and prayers to the entire Keen family on the passing of Bob. I was always impressed with his intelligence and professionalism as an Ag Educator, but most remember his patience and encouragement shown to those young instructors entering the field. Sincerest sympathies!

Kevin Keith - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

MK

“ Kevin, Kerry, Heidi, and all,

Our sincere condolences on the passing of Uncle Bob. Great memories from our youth.

Marc and Judi Keen - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

LM

“ Heidi,
Please convey to your brothers also our deep sympathy. We have many wonderful memories of your dad & mother while Lowell served as pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran church in Brodhead. They were both beautiful people & we were blessed to have known them for 5 years. You also were one of my piano students, Heidi, & I was happy that you continued in music as a career. You are in our prayers.

Lowell & Barbara Mays, Madison

Lowell & Barbara Mays - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

MF

“ Kevin and Family

Our sincere sympathies as you go through this difficult time of the loss of your father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mark, Patti, Paige and Austin

Mark Burandt and Family - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

VS

“ My thoughts are with you. Bob was my ag teacher in Juda and a friend that I saw when he would make a cheese run with Heidi. I will miss him!

Vicki Severson(Ahrens) - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

JB

“ We met Bob when my mom moved down the hall at Wood's Crossing a year and half ago. I enjoyed many conversations with Bob and plenty of Badger talk! My mom and I will miss this dear man's smile and positive attitude. Bob was a true gentleman and we feel blessed to have known him. Our sincere sympathy to Bob's family. Judy Belanus & Neva Schubert

Judy Belanus - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

MJ

“ Uncle Bob will always have a special place in our hearts, too.
We have had many good conversations with him.
Lots of pleasant memories of your home.
Blessings to you.

Marilyn and Jack - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

BM

“ He was a great person & friend never missed to say hello to everyone. He will be missed by many. So sorry for your loss.

Barbara Menehan - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

DW

“ Sincere sympathy to the Keen family. Its' difficult to lose a parent and more so at this time of year. Celebrate this joyful season with wonderful memories. Prayers and blessings to all.

Don and Brenda Wahl - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

CC

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Your dad was such a nice man. If I had learned of his passing before today, I would have attended his service. So sorry to have missed seeing you all.

Colet Markham Cook - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

DP

“ Bob Keen Family,

You have my deepest sympathy at this trying time. Bob and I were in Jaycees together and we also put on hog shows together. In fact our wives were even in the hospital delivering baby boys together. I always called Bob when I found a "Snowy Owl" and he did the same. He will be missed by many.

Dean Pawlisch - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM

MB

“ To the family of Robert Franklin Keen;
Although I don't know you personally, I do know the pain that death can cause. I have found God's Word very comforting and helpful in bearing the grief that death brings. Revelation 21:4 assures us that "death, mourning, and outcry from pain will pass away". Please know that your family is in my prayers.

Sincerely;

Your Lake Summerset neighbor;

Mary J. Booker

mary booker - May 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM