



Keith Holeman Howell

MAY 16, 1923 - DEC 25, 2015



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Keith Holeman Howell

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Decatur-Keith Holman Howell, 92, of Decatur, passed away Friday, December 25, 2015 in Decatur Memorial Hospital.

Keith was born May 16, 1923 in Beecher City, Illinois, the son of Homer L. and Ina E. (Holman) Howell. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II. Keith received his bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University and his master's degree from Iowa State University. He began his teaching career at Beecher City High School in 1946 and taught there for nine years. He then moved to Decatur in 1957 and was the science teacher at Johns Hill Junior High School where he retired in 1983. Keith was a member of Northwest Christian Church, NEA, IEA, IRTA, PTA, and Beecher City Masonic Lodge #665. He enjoyed watching game shows and Illini basketball. He married Violet Drees June 25, 1948. She preceded him in death September 24, 2006.

Keith leaves behind his children Homer L. Howell, Alan T. Howell and wife Gail, Kerry Songer and husband Larry, Rita DeVore and husband Bruce, grandchildren Justin DeVore and wife Brittany, Rachel Smith and husband Gary, Stephanie Mays and husband Clark, and Julie Howell, step-grandson Kerry David Songer, seven great-grandchildren, and special friend Willie Snow.

Keith was preceded in death by his parents and wife.

The family would like to give a special thanks to the nurses and staff at Keystone Gardens, Imboden Creek Living Center, and Decatur Memorial Hospital for all of their compassionate care.

Services to celebrate Keith's life will be 10 AM Wednesday, December 30, 2015 at Northwest Christian Church, 1306 N Stanley Ave, Decatur. Visitation will be from 5-7 PM Tuesday, December 29, 2015 at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home and for thirty minutes prior to the services at the church. Family requests casual attire. Burial will be in Graceland Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Northwest Christian Church



Obituary

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or the Alzheimer's Association.

The family of Keith Holman Howell is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.

Video Tribute for Keith H. Howell:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/J4XK8CS8L8R5BYH7>



Tribute Wall

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RD

Rita Devore posted:

Gary, Thank you for sharing your story of Dad's influence. It is so gratifying to know he touched your life in this way!

January 5 at 4:23 AM

RD

Rita Devore posted:

Dave, thank you for sharing the influence Dad had on your life!

January 5 at 4:22 AM

RD

Rita Devore posted:

Thanks you for your kind words about Dad!

January 5 at 4:21 AM

RD

Rita Devore posted:

Thank you Mark for your kind words

January 5 at 4:20 AM

RD

Rita Devore posted:

Thank you so much. I remember meeting you, Roger. I think it was at the Beecher City class reunion. Thank you for the kind words about Dad!

January 5 at 4:20 AM

RD

Rita Devore posted:

Thank you so much, Tena. I remember meeting you with my mom. Thank you for your kind words.

January 5 at 4:18 AM



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TM

Tena Matas posted:

I'm so sorry to hear the news about your Dad passing. I first met him in 1972 when I stated substitute teaching at John's Hill Junior High and I learned that I had an additional connection to him since my Mom was a cousin to his wife. My mother was Daisy Hopper Durbin and I had met Violet previously at family reunions. In addition, Violet was a Home Economics teacher as was I. Keith and Vi were both great teachers and awesome people. I'm so sorry for your loss and sorry I missed the funeral. I didn't see the obituary until one of my cousins told me about him passing after the funeral was over. I enjoyed viewing the pictures you posted. Tena Matas

January 1 at 5:54 PM

RP

Roger And Karen Perkins posted:

Keith was a high school science teacher in Beecher City and influenced my choice of science as a career. I fondly remember his family and send our condolences to his children.

December 31 at 3:02 AM

DM

Diane Brady Muss posted:

Johns Hill Jr High science teacher...Yes I still remember him from 8th grade...A most pleasant kind Teacher!!

December 30 at 3:49 PM

MH

Mark Hubrich posted:

SORRY, FOR YOUR LOSS. MR HOWELL WAS WAS MY SCIENCE TEACHER. A GOOD ONE AT THAT! I COULD NEVER FIGURE OUT HOW HE HAD US TO BLINDFOLD US AND HAD US TO FIND AN OBJECT. IT WORKED. I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. BUT, I ALWAYS KNEW HE WAS A GOOD PERSON. MARK HUBRICH

December 30 at 10:15 AM

MH

Mark Hubrich posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Keith Holeman Howell

December 30 at 10:05 AM



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DW

Dave White posted:

Mr. Keith Howell was an exceptional teacher. He was my 7th grade science teacher and I was lucky to have him for a teacher. He taught me the importance of critical thinking. He shared his love for science and got it when students enjoyed his love for science and critical thought. I am happy he lived a long life and hope he rests in peace. God Bless.Dave White

December 29 at 2:12 PM

GT

Garry W. Tipsword posted:

Keith, was my science teacher at Beecher City. He was instrumental in my continuing education beyond high school.. If it had not been for this man, I would not have furthered my education after military service.So that you understand this, I was a high school drop out.One of the last of The Greatest Generation.I will make a donation to the Legion Post 535 for the Memorial Wall in his memory.Sincerely, Garry W. Tipsword!

December 29 at 7:33 AM

JA

Jean Aberle posted:

Alan and familySorry about your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.It would be great to visit with you, but I am in Florida until April. Take care. Blessings, Jean Aberle

December 28 at 8:28 AM

KS

Kim Schroeder Schmidt posted:

So sorry to hear about your dad.....take care.Kim Schroeder Schmidt

December 27 at 4:07 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Keith by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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