



E. Ann Keethers

September 25, 1942 - November 17, 2014

E. Ann Keethers, 72, of St. Anne, entered eternal life on Monday (Nov. 17, 2014) at her home.

She was born Sept. 25, 1942, in Anna, Illinois, the daughter of Walter and Ethel Fern Atwell Knecht. Both of her parents preceded her in death. Ann married Richard Keethers on May 8, 1976.

Ann was a teacher for Kankakee School District 111, primarily second grade. Toward the end of her career, she coordinated the gifted program.

Survivors include her husband; three sons and one daughter-in-law, Chris Keethers, of Petaluma, Calif., Brian Keethers, of San Rafael, Calif., David (Beth) Keethers, of Minneapolis, Minn.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jennifer (Rich) Wierzchon, of Wauconda, Illinois, Rachel (Chris) Smith, of Lexington, Mass.; one sister, Susie Pari, of Wetumpka, Ala.; and six grandchildren, Tiana Reed, Suzanne Keck, Brittany Reed, Andrew Wierzchon, Elise Wierzchon, and Xera Smith.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. Sunday until the 4 p.m. funeral services at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. The Rev. Scott Henley will officiate. Burial will be at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood. Memorials may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network or Kankakee

School District Gifted Program.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (www.pancan.org) or Kankakee School District Gift Program (<http://www.k111.k12.il.us/schools/gifted/default.aspx>).

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 Hoff Road
Elwood, IL 60421

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV **23**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Service

NOV **23**. 4:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of E. Ann Keethers*



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - November 24, 2014 at 10:44 AM

AP

“ *Dick:
So sorry to just hear of Ann's passing. I remember both of you with kindness and wanted to extend my deepest condolences and prayers for your loss.
Ardella Perry-Osler*

Ardella Perry-Osler - December 11, 2014 at 01:52 PM

DM

“ *When you grow up, the question they always ask you is "Who was your most influential teacher?". In my case, it wasn't a teacher that I had as a student, but rather as a colleague, Ann Keethers.*

--Dan Merten

Dan Merten - November 25, 2014 at 08:58 AM

OS

“ *My sympathy to Ann's family . I grew up on Main Ave. I was friends with her mother and father ,they were great people and Ann was just like them. Ann visited my mother in law when she would come to Heritage Lodge . She was a warm and caring person,I am sure she will be missed greatly.*

Oran Skeldon

oran skeldon - November 24, 2014 at 10:50 AM

PT

“ *Phillip Torchia lit a candle in memory of E. Ann Keethers*



Phillip Torchia - November 23, 2014 at 06:39 PM

LB

“ *To Ann's family:
Ann's mother was my eighth grade teacher and made a lasting impression on my life. I also used to dog and house sit for Mrs. Knecht and lived just down the block from her on Grace Street. I mainly knew Ann from her mother and her excellent work with the gifted program in Kankakee. Her life and her family are wonderful blessings to the community of Kankakee and will live on long after her passing. May her spirit live in on in each of us and may she be at peace.*

*With love and prayer,
Lisa K. Bos-Pineiro*

Lisa K. Bos-Pineiro - November 23, 2014 at 04:40 PM

LB

“ My heartfelt condolences to Ann's beloved husband and precious family. The Knechts were such empowering influences on my career choices and I have to say---it was Ethel Fern's support and encouragement from my Aunt Boots beauty shop to the school library--- that helped lead me to teach for living. Ann's template served as such a model and her advisory presence was invaluable. Special note to Sue....though years away from being westsiders at Kankakee High School---great memories of your leadership linger like it was yesterday. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Lana Weiss Brown

Lana Weiss Brown - November 23, 2014 at 03:44 PM

TK

“ Our condolences go out to Jenny, Suzanne, and family during your time of loss. Her passion for teaching is alive in you both.

Tessa Beelow & Evanston KinderCare - November 21, 2014 at 01:01 PM

RR

“ Many great memories. Ann was the consummate planner, organizer and hostess. She reminded us of our "third Friday" get togethers at the City Tap. She planned and made arrangements for our regional trips to Bed n Breakfast lodging and local attractions. Book Club snacks always tasty. A great lady. A life well spent!



Roger Rainbolt - November 19, 2014 at 10:04 PM

JB

“ Mrs. Keethers was my 2nd grade teacher at Taft in 1992 and she made a dramatic impact on my life and education. She was always kind, challenged me and made learning fun. I enjoyed her class very much and her teaching has influenced my teaching career. Everytime I watch "Garfield" I think of her and precious memories from her class. Mrs. Keethers thank you for your kind words and spirit. My condolences to your family. You will trully be missed. Rest Peacefully.

Jerri Butler - November 19, 2014 at 09:14 PM

RP

“ Mrs. Keethers was such a wonderful teacher. I feel very fortunate that my daughter had her for second grade. My sincere condolences to the Keethers family.

Rebecca Pourroy - November 19, 2014 at 07:54 PM

BW

“ Mr. Keethers, please accept my condolences to you and your family. I believed that Mrs. Keethers was one of the finest teachers that my daughter Amanda ever had. She was in her 2nd grade class and encouraged me to prepare to sent Amanda to college. She was a beautiful person and it showed in the way she loved each and every one of her students.

Barbara Wells

Barbara A. Wells - November 19, 2014 at 06:58 PM

ML

“*Dick, my sincerest condolences to you, your family, and those who held her close to their hearts in their special way. I love how she smiles and will remember that wonderful aspect about her. Her heart was one of the sweetest I have known. I wish you times of peace and comfort. Mary Logullo-Moran*

Mary Logullo - November 19, 2014 at 04:55 PM

JP

“*Dear Dick and family, and also Susie, George and I want to send our very real condolences to you all upon the death of your beautiful wife, mother, grandmother and sister. On a personal level, I remember Ethel Fern's pride in her lovely daughter, and, Susie, as her sister I am very sure you will miss her deeply as well. Requiescat in pace...
Jane & George Potter*

Jane Potter - November 19, 2014 at 10:28 AM

DS

My deepest condolences to the family.

Dave Sherman - November 19, 2014 at 04:57 PM

JM

Mrs. Keethers was my supervising teacher for my student teaching experience in the fall of 1986. I learned so much from her; not just about teaching but about relationships with other teachers, custodians, secretaries and principals. She taught me to respect everyone equally and to maintain good rapport with everyone in the building. Will never forget the "hug or a handshake" that she offered up to each student at the end of the day. I incorporate that to this day at the end of the semester with my college students. They all choose the hug just as her kids always did.

Jeanette Martinson (Jay, Lucy and Tad)

Jeanette Martinson - November 19, 2014 at 07:39 PM

SA

*Dear Dick and Family, We send our sincere sympathy on the loss of Ann. She was a very special, kind, classy lady and also a wonderful teacher. May your special memories fill the emptiness in your hearts.
Nick and Shirley*

Shirley Africano - November 20, 2014 at 11:31 AM

SK

Ann's visits to the residents at Heritage Lodge were so meaningful. My mother loved Ann. One of the most cherished position my mother had at her death was a lapel "angel" which Ann gave to her. I wear it often--from here on I will remember both my mother and Ann--two wonderful women, gone too soon.

Sandy Knight

Sandy Knight - November 20, 2014 at 05:27 PM

GP

Dear Dick, Family and Sue, we are sincerely sorry for your loss. Ann was a special lady who always brightened up a room. We enjoyed her company and bright smile. Gordie and Linda Pari

Gordon Pari - November 22, 2014 at 07:24 AM

VL

With Ann I shared the love of Book Club and the love of animals. Ann's quick wit and humor added spice to a great many Book Club discussions. Ann's love for her furry, four legged children, the beautiful "Andi" and handsome Little Joe was apparent as she bid Andi to behave and cradled Little Joe, a little fellow that she and Dick rescued. I will miss you Ann be at peace Dick. Bless you Always.

Virginia

Virginia Lake - November 23, 2014 at 04:52 AM