



Leon Keele

June 28, 1945 - October 21, 2019

Kenneth Leon Keele, 74, of Texico, passed away Monday, October 21, 2019, at his home.

He was born June 28, 1945, in Jefferson County, Illinois, the son of Kenneth E. and Nova Louise (Ayers) Keele. On June 23, 1995, he married Carol Keele, and she survives in Texico.

Mr. Keele attended Climax One Room School and Field Grade School, and graduated from Mt. Vernon Township High School. He was a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, in Iuka, Illinois, and was a veteran of the Illinois National Guard. He was a former trustee of Field Township, a former member of Northeast Water Board, a former road commissioner for Field Township, and a member of the Jefferson County Antique Tractor Club. He drove a school bus for over fifty years, and enjoyed camping, and doing things with his family.

In addition to his wife, Carol Keele of Texico, he is survived by seven children, Alan Keele of Texico, Pamela Maxey and husband Jason of Texico, Michael Randall and wife Melissa of Beaumont, California, Susan Bundy and husband Jeff of Dix, John Randall of Mt. Vernon, Ronald Randall and wife Armendy of Texico, and Curtis Randall and wife Stephanie of Theresa, New York; twelve grandchildren, LeAnna Cagle and husband Zac of Centralia, Drake Hess of Mt. Vernon, Morgan Bundy of Dix, Victoria Randall of Riverside, California, Logan Maxey and wife Ashton of Florida, Amy Maxey of Texico, Melody Randall of Beaumont, California, Tate Bundy of Dix, Lola Randall of Salem,

Jolie Randall of Theresa, New York, Makayla Randall of Texico, and Avery Randall of Beaumont, California; one brother, Tom Keele of Texico; one sister, Elaine Keele of Jackson, Missouri; a mother-in-law, Dorothy Tate; special friend, Darren Mitchell; and pal, Scrappy.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth E. and Louise Keele; father-in-law, Charles Tate; and a daughter-in-law, Lana Keele.

Funeral Services for Mr. Keele will be held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, October 24, 2019, at Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, on 161 Extension, in rural Iuka, with Randy Hayes and Steve Hamson officiating. Burial will follow at Union Chapel Cemetery in Texico. Graveside Military Rites will be accorded by American Legion Post #141. Visitation will be held Wednesday, October 23, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the church. Memorial gifts may be made to the family, in care of Carol Keele, and will be accepted at the service, or by mail, to the Osborn Funeral Home, P.O. Box 130, Dix, Illinois 62830. Online condolences may be made at www.osbornfuneral.com, or on the Osborn Funeral Home's Facebook page.

Cemetery Details

Union Chapel Cemetery

Texico, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **23**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Iuka, IL

Service

OCT **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Iuka, IL

Tribute Wall

SS

“ Carol, I am just now seeing this! I'm so very sorry for your loss. May God comfort you in this dark time.

Sonja Shorb - October 25, 2019 at 02:37 AM

DF

“ Dear Carol, our deepest condolences are sent fir you and the family. Good people always seem to leave us much too soon. Thoughts and prayers, Mike and Diane

Diane Flowers - October 24, 2019 at 10:46 AM

CM

“ Thanks to Leon, my brother and I along w/ many other kids made it safely to school and back home for many years. I remember getting to sit on the heater next to him some days going to school back in the early seventies. A good man, and very sad to hear of his passing. Heaven's gain is our loss... another light in the community has left us. Tears... . He's with the Lord now and doing very well. :) Thank you Leon for all you did for everyone. Condolences to all the Keele family. God Bless and take care. Chris Marlow.



Chris Marlow - October 24, 2019 at 02:59 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leon Keele.



October 23, 2019 at 12:25 PM

JB

“ Jeannie Bain, Sandy and Gig and Sonya Bain purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Leon Keele.



Jeannie Bain, Sandy and Gig and Sonya Bain - October 22, 2019 at 10:22 PM

KW

“ My husband, Danny Williams, worked with Leon for 14 years at Cusumano and Sons. He always had kind words about Leon. Said he was the best driver and person he knew. When Danny told the folks that Leon delivered to of Leon's passing, there were many tears shed. Danny really liked Leon and thought the world of him. It's a sad day for those left here on earth and those in heaven gained an angel. God bless Leon's family in your time of grief.

Karen and Danny Williams - October 22, 2019 at 03:31 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leon Keele.



October 22, 2019 at 10:39 AM

LD

“ Leon was one of a kind. A gentle man with a kind heart, he always had a funny story to tell. Always had me laughing. We never worried about our girls because we knew Leon would get them to school and back home again safely. Thank you Leon for your dedication and service to children, you went above and beyond your duty to keep them safe. Your love for them showed in your kindness and patience. May God hold you in his ever loving arms until we meet again. In Christian love, Richard & Lisa Donoho & Family

Lisa Donoho - October 21, 2019 at 11:54 PM

DS

“ Loved Leon, he was such an awesome friend. He drove the bus not only for me, but a couple of my brothers, and then my own daughter. He will be missed emmensely by all who knew him . Leon was one of a kind.

Darlene Sherman - October 21, 2019 at 10:55 PM

JH

“ Leon was not only my two children's bus driver for 8 years, he was also a friend. I met Leon when I was 12 years old. And I always loved hanging out at his mother's house when I was a teenager. I was very happy when my children started school to know that Leon would be their driver. I've never known a person more patient with children than he was. He was a man close to the land and to his Lord. I'm positive I'll see you again in heaven, Leon Keele.

Joey Hanks - October 21, 2019 at 10:43 PM

RM

“ Leon was a great bus driver for my son's Andy and Jeff. So sorry to hear about his passing. Prayers for his family

Robin McDowell - October 21, 2019 at 10:21 PM