



Mr. David Vandervelt Keene

November 28, 1944 - June 20, 2021

Mr. David Vandervelt Keene, age 76, of Cocoa, FL, died Father's Day, Sunday, June 20, 2021.

Mr. Keene was born on, November 28, 1944 in Lowell, MA, the son of the late Vander Velt Keene and Helen Jane Lane Keene Reutter.

He graduated from Miami Edison Senior High School in 1963. He attended Miami Dade Jr. College and then went on to graduate with a BA at the University of South Florida in Tampa. He was an educator for 33 years working in both Dade and Brevard County schools. He touched the lives of many students, and the teachers remember him as Poet Laureate. He worked at Seminole Elementary, Naranja, Charles Drew, Meadowlane, Fairglen and Atlantis. He enjoyed working with language; spoke Spanish and taught himself German. He worked part time as a teacher of English as a Second Language with students in his elementary school and also with adults in the community.

He was active in his faith and was brought up in the Baptist Church in Miami, became a Mormon during his young adult life, and later a member of the Episcopal Church worshipping at Gloria Dei in Cocoa, Holy Trinity in Melbourne, All Saints in Clinton, S.C. and was currently a member at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Cocoa, FL. He served through the years on the

Vestry, was an active member of the Order of Saint Luke's Healing Ministry, and especially loved the years he was able to touch the lives of his own sons and other youth through youth leadership.

Survivors include: his wife of 55 years, Mary Ann Dunlap Keene, sons; David Vandervelt Keene, Jr., Cocoa, FL, Daniel Christopher Keene, Cocoa Bch, FL, and Damien Christien Keene (Angelika), Cocoa, FL, sisters; the late Judith Mozelle Keene Hickman (Erie), Cape Coral, FL and Sharon Elaine Keene Newman (Robert), Mooresville, N.C., 3 grandchildren; Dylan Lee Notvest, Titusville, FL, Sierra Marie Keene Lavorsi (Joseph), Cocoa, FL, and Hannah Henry, Orlando, FL, great grandchildren; Hannah, Maddy, Conner, and Hunter Lavorsi.

Details of the Celebration of Life Service for David will be held on Saturday July 10th at 2pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Cocoa. .

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Vitas Hospice www.vitas.com in memory of Mr. Keene.

Funeral Solutions in Sharpes, FL is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL **10**. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
4 Church Street
Cocoa, FL 32922

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. David Vandervelt Keene*

January 30, 2023 at 03:36 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. David Vandervelt Keene.*



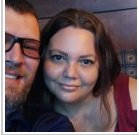
July 09, 2021 at 07:59 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. David Vandervelt Keene.*



July 06, 2021 at 10:14 AM



“ I could never begin to tell how much Uncle David means to me. He gave me insight when we disagreed, encouragement when I needed it...prayed with me when I didn't feel close to God. He and Aunt Mary visited when my children were born, came to almost every birthday party they have ever had, and he even spoke at my wedding. He will be dearly missed, but I am SO glad that he is no longer in pain, and he is sitting in heaven in complete peace. ❤️



Jennifer Roberts - June 29, 2021 at 08:59 PM

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“ Mr. Keene followed me along through, fourth and fifth and even sixth grade as my homeroom teacher at Meadow lane elementary. he spoke into my life and was a huge influence on the man I became. I will never forget some of the fondest times we shared together while waiting for the school bell to dismiss the class. he supported me in everything I told him that I wanted to do. He was and always will be one of the most important men of my life and he will be missed by many. My gift to remember him by is the memorial page that I am sharing with you all.



mark osborn - June 28, 2021 at 10:45 PM