



David R. Keeler

May 12, 1935 - May 18, 2013

David Robert Keeler, 78, of Royal Oak, MI died May 18, 2013 at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Born on May 12, 1935 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, David married Julia Grace Posthuma in September 1955. David was a retired Michigan State Police Lieutenant and retired Secret Service Special Officer. He was a member of the Royal Oak Missionary Church and had been a long-time member of Columbia Baptist Church of Falls Church, VA. David was a long-time supporter of World Vision, The Salvation Army and Smile Train. Beloved husband of the late Julia Keeler and father, David is survived by, daughters Joanne Kenneth Cash, Barbara Mills, Susan Keeler-Perkins and Beverly Timothy Best; grandchildren Natalie Perkins, Katherine Cash and David and Elizabeth Best. Brother-in-law of Madeleine Anthony VanPortfliet, Regina Al DeKuiper, William Helen Posthuma, Grace Posthuma, Louise Posthuma and Edgar Cavanaugh. He is predeceased by beloved wife, Julia, his parents Loren and Marguerite Meyers Keeler and sisters, Elizabeth Murray, D. Patricia Keeler and Marjorie Cavanaugh and brothers-in-law, Millard and Calvin Posthuma. A memorial service is planned for Wednesday, May 22, at 11:00 a.m. at the Royal Oak Missionary Church, 411 E. Eleven Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067. Visitation will precede the service from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. A second memorial service is planned for Saturday, May 25, at 1:00 p.m. at the Northlawn United Methodist Church, 1157 Northlawn Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Arrangements under the direction of Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorials

may be made to the Royal Oak Missionary Church Deaconess fund or The Salvation Army South Bend, Indiana World Services fund.

Tribute Wall

LC

“ I met Dave and Julie several years ago when they moved into the house next to my parents in Arlington, VA. My parents were immediately taken with how nice the Keelers were. We quickly discovered that they weren't just nice; they were kind, loving, and endlessly patient. They became extended family and my brothers and I were thankful that my parents had such wonderful people next door. Dave was never too busy to take my mother to the drug store to pick up a prescription, or to speak to my dad when he ventured outside to inspect the yard. Julie and my mother became fast friends. I so hoped that Dave would have more time with his daughters but I know that he and Julie are together again, and for that I am thankful. From the Cohen family to the Keeler family, our deepest condolences. We loved your parents.

Leah Cohen - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ We have loved and respected Dave and Julie, having known them during their times living in VA and attending Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, VA. We were always glad when their daughters came to visit them and attend church with them, too. We know that their family members share Dave and Julies's great faith and, although grieving, rejoice in the knowledge that their parents are free of earth's problems and are in the presence of the Lord.

Barbara and Bruce Lehman - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ All of us who knew David and Julia at Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, Virginia are deeply saddened to hear of David's death. He was a wonderful man who meant much to many. May God bless David's memory and all who hold it dear.

Nancy Walker - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Julie was my husband Millard's younger sister. She was always a loving and respectful young lady. When she and Dave dated he was considered "It" in our family. They were married at Julie's sister Jean and Al's home which was next to my home at the time. We loved when they were so special to all. Their four daughters were born and the family just loved them all. We really miss Julie and now Dave. Blessings and peace to all of you. From Aunt Louise and love to all

Louise M. Posthuma - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ We were very sorry to hear of Dave's passing. He was a great friend and neighbor when we moved into Marysville. Dave was the first person I came into contact with when I reported to the St. Clair post as a new troop and he instantly put me at ease. We know he and Julie are now together again, but he will be missed. God bless them and his survivors. Roger & Penny Burns

Roger & Penny Burns - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ KEELER FAMILY MY thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. Dave was exceptional police officer and a good friend. Our paths crossed several times at Jackson, St Clair and in Beltsville Maryland at Secret Service school. Dave was a real gentleman. Jim Smiley MSP ret 91 UofM ret 09

Jim Smiley - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ I first met a member of the Keeler family Dave's wife when I hit a power pole right in front of their home in Spring Lake, Michigan. In 1970 David was assigned to do my background investigation prior to my entry into the Michigan Department of State Police. Background investigations are not the favorite duty of most Troopers. This investigation was rushed by Lansing. Thereby making even more of a bother. I received many calls from neighbors and previous fellow employees as to "what was going on". Also mentioned was the professional and courteous manner in which the Trooper Dave handled the investigation. My Ex wife and I were sitting on a park bench in Spring Lake, Michigan. Dave drove by, stopped and asked if I had "made it." He gave a few encouraging comments and went on his way. We lost contact with each other and last talked when I was a Sergeant at the St. Joseph Post. In my younger days working in a service station in Spring Lake, Michigan I came in contact with many members of the State Police. Dave stands out as one of integrity and professionalism. God be with you in your time of sorrow. George Pravda 78th Recruit School

George Pravda - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ I was a new trooper assigned to St. Clair in February, 1974 and 1975, Sgt. Keeler as he was then a desk sergeant made me feel at home and comfortable at my first post assignment. I found him to be, not only approachable new troopers, fresh out of recruit school, have lots of questions, but affable, gentle, and encouraging. I have often thought of him throughout the years. God bless you in your time of grief. Robert Taylor 86th Recruit School

Robert Taylor - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM