



Mr. Frank Johnson Keel Sr.

March 13, 1933 - April 21, 2021

Frank Johnson Keel, Sr., 88, of Tallahassee, passed away on Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare.

The third son of the late George Lloyd Keel, Sr. and the late Flora Frances Farrier, he was born in Tuskegee, Alabama on March 13, 1933. Also preceding him in death is his wife of 58 years, Barbara “Bobbie” Jean Kelly Keel; and siblings, George Lloyd Keel, Jr., James Davie “Dave” Keel, Ronald “Ronnie” Keel, Gloria Dianna Keel Watson and Olin Douglas “Doug” Keel.

He is survived by his children, Frank Keel, Jr. (wife, LaShelle) and Jeff Keel (wife, Johnna); grandchildren, Madeline, Michaela, Bryant, Kelly and Aislyn.

He proudly served in the United States Army from 1953 until 1955. Following his military service, he earned a Bachelor’s of Science in Education from Florida State University. He taught at Hartsfield Elementary School for a period after graduation before teaching at Rickards High School from 1964 until 1967 where he coached basketball, football and baseball. He coached football at Godby High School and served as head baseball coach from 1976 to 1991. As head baseball coach at Rickards and Godby High Schools, he accumulated over 300 career wins.

He was a dedicated member at Seminole Baptist Church and enjoyed the

company of his grandchildren, his cats, and working in his yard.

Visitation is from 10:00 until 11:00 AM, Monday, April 26, 2021, at Seminole Baptist Church, with the service beginning at 11:00 AM. Interment follows at Tallahassee Memory Gardens. Face masks and social distancing are required. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to either Seminole Baptist Church or Moffit Cancer Center. Online condolences may be expressed at www.abbeyfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Tallahassee Memory Gardens

4037 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 562-1518
<https://www.abbeyfh.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 26. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Seminole Baptist Church
3330 Misson Road
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Service

APR 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Seminole Baptist Church
3330 Misson Road
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tribute Wall

BH

“ *A favorite teacher.....was one of the best at Rickards High.*

Barbra Faircloth Harless - April 28, 2021 at 03:29 PM

MR

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Coach Keel's passing but I am so, so happy that he and Miss Bobby are together again, in heaven, with Jesus...It can't get any better than that.*

I can't tell you how big an influence that Coach Keel had on me and the life I've been blessed to live. All I can say is that I certainly wouldn't have had the same quality of life or career that I've enjoyed the past 30 years without his foundational influence and encouragement from 1974 to today. He was the best.

Frankie and Jeffie...thanks for sharing your dad with me!

Love you all,

*Matt Robinson
Godby class of '78*

Matt Robinson - April 26, 2021 at 12:58 PM

BS

“ I first met Coach Keel when I was in the 5th grade at Hartsfield Elem school. We were reunited at Rickards High School when I began the 8th grade. He was my baseball coach for 3 years until he left Rickards in my senior year, I was never more disappointed to see him go. He was like a second dad to me. I will always remember him as a great coach and even a better man. Miss ya Coach. Billy Stephens

Billy Stephens - April 26, 2021 at 09:42 AM

SR

“ I was so happy to finally see Coach Keel a couple of years ago at aRHS gathering. I was so excited to hear he had told his children and grandchildren about extending kindness in being a stand in father, along with Coach Gaskins, to myself and Shirley Herring to accompany us to the Father Daughter dance in HS. Both our fathers had passed away a couple of years before. What fun we had. I tried to play his kindness forward as I became a teacher and spent special times with various students. Thank you Coach Keel for sharing your heart with so many of us impressionable students. Susan Pelfrey Russell

Susan Pelfrey Russell - April 23, 2021 at 12:54 PM