



Keith R. Burman

November 24, 1929 - April 3, 2012

Keith R. Burman November 25, 1929 ~ April 3, 2012 A Life Well Lived "When it comes your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way. Sing your death song and die like a hero going home." Chief Aupumut 1725, Mohican Keith R. Burman, 82 years young, died on April 3, 2012, following a brief illness at the end of a very full life. He died peacefully in his home in Timnath, Colorado, surrounded by family and looking out over his beloved Rocky Mountains. Keith was a wonderful husband and a great father and friend, who never complained a day in his life. He had an uncanny ability to bond with people quickly, a trait which earned him many friends and admirers. He taught his children many lessons, including how to respect all others, how to work hard and play hard, and the importance a man's word. Keith was born November 25, 1929, in Marshalltown, Iowa, to Ross and Myrtle Burman. He was raised in Burlington, Iowa, where he attended Burlington Junior College and then went on to the University of Iowa, where he was a proud member of the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity and the Hawkeye tennis team. Following college, Keith married Janet Thomason, also of Burlington. Keith served in the Army, and upon his return to Burlington, he and his father purchased L&M Motors. In 1959, Keith found a Chevrolet dealership for sale in Laramie, Wyoming, and moved his family West. Burman Chevrolet eventually acquired all of the General Motors product lines. Keith was a loyal GM man, who never owned

any other make of vehicle. Keith fell in love with Wyoming. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, and he became a die-hard Wyoming Cowboys Fan. He was also an active member of his community, serving as President of the Laramie Downtown Redevelopment Committee, the Laramie Auto Dealers, Wyoming Auto Dealers, and the Laramie Country Club Board. He was also a member of the Laramie Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, City Council, Rotary Club, United Way, and the Cowboy Joe Club, among others. Keith and his wife, Sharon, were married in 1980 in Hanalei Bay on the Island of Kauai, a place which remained dear to their hearts. They added two more children to the Burman clan for a total of six children. Keith was a private pilot who enjoyed his sky-high vantage point of Wyoming and the West from his beloved Bonanza. He also always loved the "art of the deal," and that interest led him to develop real estate in and around Laramie. In the early 80's, Keith began his life as a gentleman rancher and farmer when he purchased the historic Oxford Horse Ranch in Laramie followed by farms in Northern Colorado. Keith's ashes, along with those of his best canine friend, will be scattered in the lake at his cherished fishing ranch near Wheatland, Wyoming. Keith is survived by his wife, Sharon, of Timnath, Colorado; son, David and wife, DeeAnn of Seattle; daughter, Carol Burman Lindly and husband, Steve, Cheyenne, Wyoming; daughter, Sarah Burman Woods and husband, Randy, Westcliffe, Colorado; son, Tom and wife, Kathy of Laramie, Wyoming; daughter, Beth Burman Frazee and husband, Eric, Missoula, Montana; and son, Christian, Fort Collins, Colorado. He is also survived by his ten grandchildren: Kendall Burman Volkman; Blaire Burman; Daniel, Elizabeth, Emily, and Matthew Lindly; Lauren and Madeleine Woods; and Drew and Nathan Burman, as well as nephews, Bob and Steve Ogden and many wonderful friends. Keith was also the very proud great grandpa of Ren Volkman of Washington, D.C. In addition to his parents, Keith was preceded in death by his sister, Beverly Ogden of Phoenix, Arizona, and his former wife, Janet. Keith requested that a gathering in his honor take place three months after his death, in the hope that his family and friends could replace some of

the sorrow in their hearts with joy in remembering his wonderful life.

Therefore, a celebration of Keith's life will be held on Saturday, July 14, at 200 p.m. at the Wildcatter Stadium Club on the University of Wyoming campus. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you honor Keith's memory with a memorial gift to one of the following: Wyoming Children's Society, 314 East 21st Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82001, or the Cowboy Joe Club Scholarship Fund, University of Wyoming, PO Box 3414, Laramie, Wyoming, 82071. A reminder will be published prior to the event. Keith touched thousands of lives and will live forever in our hearts. He was our hero.

Tribute Wall

JG

“ So sorry to hear of Keith's passing, eight years later. From 1965-1974, I lived across the street from the Burmans in Laramie, and both Caroline (Kiki) and Sarah babysat me and my siblings. I used to play with Tommy over at the Burman's house, and we thought it was so cool that Keith ran Burman Chevrolet. Their Mom, Janet, was friends with my Mom, Lois Lyddon. I will always cherish those days in the Park Avenue neighborhood with the Burmans.

Julia (Lyddon) Gourley

Julia Lyddon Gourley - February 24, 2020 at 12:12 AM

HK

“ Ross & Myrtle were our sponsors when we came to America after WWII. I was 4 years old and I still remember Keith playing catch with me and my brother Walter. Years later when I had a family of my own Keith was still my friend and our visits were full of memories of Burlington and those early years as well as hopes for the future. Keith I miss you.

Harold Knudsen - October 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Dear Burman Family, I was so sorry to hear of Keith's passing. I will always remember how positive and kind he was, forever with a smile. He will be truly missed. With sincere & heartfelt sympathy.

Stacy Smith - April 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ We have so many fond memories of Keith as well as the entire Burman family while we were growing up. He was a wonderful man and left a fabulous legacy for sure. All our love to the family.

Family of John and BJ Davis - April 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ To the Burman family: We are so sorry to hear of your loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Bill and Nancy Bennett and Lisa Bennett Moore - April 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ I miss Keith greatly. Chatting and visiting with Keith was always a highlight in my day. We lost a truly great person. He'll forever be in my thoughts.

Andrea Dunlap - April 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ We have so many wonderful memories of Keith, memories we will always cherish, just as we cherish our friendship with you.

Debi Ockers - April 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ I am sorry to read about Keith's passing in the Burlington Hawkeye. I did not know Keith but my Dad, Robert Baker went fishing with Keith in Wyoming on several occasions. My Dad had great fun on fishing trips and our family enjoyed viewing Dad's slides of the fishing trips with the guys. Keith and my Dad both loved and appreciated the beauty of the outdoors. Alan Baker Omaha, NE born in Burlington, IA

Alan Baker - April 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JY

“ I was saddened to hear of Keith's passing. He was such a kind man. I remember so many fun times that we shared as families, and how fortunate we were to run into Keith and Sharon at the Buddy Walk and a Wyoming basketball game in later years. Please know that I am thinking of you.

Julie Wonka Yager - April 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Keith will always be in our hearts and memories of a loving and compassionate true friend. We will miss him so much. Our love and thoughts go out to the family.

Rick & Kris Brown - April 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ Dear Sharon, We were very sorry to hear of Keith's passing. We enjoyed working with him on your home projects. Keith was easy to get to know and fun to talk with. You could tell that he enjoyed life, and it seemed he made the most of each day. Please accept our condolences. We are thinking of you at this difficult time. Rich and Cathy Norman

Cathy Norman - April 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Dear Tom and Burman family, Very sorry for the passing of your father! To keep it short and simple here, he lived a great life - very fulfilling for him and those he loved - good role model for pursuing your dreams and passions! The quote from the Mohican chief says a lot about how he felt about life and death. Prayers for good memories for all of you! In His Peace, Todd

Todd Schutte - April 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Friend is hardly a descriptor of Keith to our family especially in the last few years. His generosity seemed without limits. He definitely taught me to learn from mistakes, speak from the heart, and work/live hard. He will be missed but his legacy will certainly live on!* ”

Dan, Ann, Ellen and Sabina Slater - April 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *I remember Keith from my days growing up in Laramie. My Dad was a GM man as well and he bought many vehicles from Keith. My fondest memories of Keith were the times he bought my 4-H steers at the Albany County Fair. I don't recall how many times he was the high bidder but I do remember making numerous "thank you" posters to hang in the showroom at Burman Chevrolet. He will be missed but he will always live on in our memories.* ”

David Johnson - April 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Our condolences go out to Keith's family. Keith did live life to the fullest. One of the most loved and respected persons that we know. We will miss seeing him at all the Cowboy functions and thank him for all he did for UW, Laramie and Wyoming.* ”

Mike & Karen Schutte - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ *My sympathy to Tom and family.* ”

Kate Harrop - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WL

“ *My sincere condolences to the family. We have lost another true Wyoming Cowboy.* ”

warren loendorf - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ My condolences go out to Keith's family. Keith was one of the most respected and loved person that anyone could know. He gave so much to the University of Wyoming and he will always be remembered for that. Thanks for all he did for the "COWBOYS". I know he will sadly be missed at all the UW Functions. My prayers are with his family.

Charlotte Bruce - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Sarah, I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. My sincere condolences go out to you, Randy, and the rest of your family.

Dennis Woods - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ I first met Keith briefly in 1968, then became reacquainted in 1974 when he was chairing the Airport Board and I had just been appointed as a member, and we became casual friends. We last saw each other a few years ago, when we walked from our cars to a HS graduation ceremony at Moby Gym, and in that brief walk caught each other up on our respective lives. What a decent, caring man! I am so glad I had the privilege to know him. My prayers and condolences for his family.

Cary Alburn - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I was saddened to hear of Keith's passing. He and his family was dear to us, my son and I. My heart goes out to you in this time of remembering a wonderful man.

Kathy Petersen - April 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ I was saddened to hear about Keith. I enjoyed having him as a patient and I enjoyed talking to him when I would see him at the bank or just around town. I was fortunate enough to see and talk to Keith several months ago at the airport in Denver. We had a nice talk. I know he will be missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with the Burman Family at this time.

Roger Boltz - April 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM