



Edward Keys

October 25, 1920 - March 29, 2018

Edward Keys, 97, lifelong resident of Mooresville and well-known Morgan County farmer, was released of all earthly ailments and granted his last wish at 11:50a.m., on Thursday, March 29, 2018, when he was reunited with his loving wife, Leona in heaven, just 26 days after her passing. One of two children born to the late Ernest and Matilda (Page) Keys, John "Edward" was born at home on October 25, 1920, where he remained to live and work on the homestead all of his life.

With a strong work ethic, Edward was instilled with the farming trade at a very young age. He grew up helping his father on the farm, where he diligently worked long hours raising dairy cattle and using horses to till the land. A gentle giant with a heart of gold, he attended Mooresville High School, from where he graduated in 1940. After the conclusion of WWII, the Keys family purchased their first car, a Model A Ford in 1928 and later, a Massey-Harris tractor in 1946. A man of few words, Edward was a burley yet sensitive, hardworking, John Deere loving country boy. He possessed a strong personality and deservingly so, he was set in his ways. After losing his father in the spring of 1968, Ed was united in marriage with Leona Mildred Owen on November 26th in Hinkle Creek Friends Church near Sheridan; to whom he had previously known for 15 years. A perfect match, Edward and Leona were two peas in a pod; working as a team to raise livestock and sowing the land on the farm. Having found each other later in life, the two never conceived

children, yet shared nearly 50 faithful years of marriage. They selflessly spent their spare time helping neighbors and friends with their farm. Over the years, they developed several family-like relationships through church and farming.

Equipped with nearly a century of knowledge, he witnessed the movement from horses to tractors and cars. An, honest, loyal, Christian and Friend, he was a member of the West Union Friends Church and frequently attended Meetings at Bethel Friends in Mooresville. He held many positions in the church, the Western Yearly Meeting and was a past member of Farm Bureau, where he received the Award of Merit and was acknowledged for several outstanding accomplishments in resource conservation. Leading a resourceful life that was full of purpose and meaning, he was a simple and humble man. A job well done, he was a devoted servant of God, Leona, his livestock and farm ground.

Along with his parents and the love of his life, Leona, he was preceded in death by his brother, Melvin Page Keys; paternal grandparents, Fletcher and Sarah (Briles) Keys; maternal grandparents, Pleasanton P. and Mary (McCollum) Page; and step-mother, Bessie (Reeves) Keys. Survivors include his cousins, Eric Levin of Mooresville, Tom Mundy of Indianapolis, Jerry and Gary Brown of Cicero; adored neighbors and family by choice, Steve and Julie Gregory of Mooresville; wonderful caretakers, Mel Hadley, Gemma Hardy, Marnie Owen, Charloom Geldenhuis and Karmal Faull; caring friends and country neighbors, Ronna Lee, Jim and Holly Satterly, Albert Illg and family of Mooresville, along with a small circle of loyal and loving Quaker Friends at church.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7pm, on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. A Church Celebration of Life Service will begin at 11am, on Wednesday, April 4, 2018, in West Union Friends Church (across from the funeral home) with burial following on church

grounds in West Union Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Monrovia FFA or to the perpetual care fund at West Union Cemetery. To share favorite story, send an online condolence or light a candle in his memory visit www.lightmemorial.com

Cemetery Details

West Union Cemetery

2038 W. SR 42
Monrovia, IN 46157

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 3. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel
585 East Main Street
Monrovia, IN 46157
(317) 996-2101
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

Service

APR 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

West Union Friends Church
39.585635, -86.466392
Mooreville, IN 46158

Tribute Wall



“ 93 files added to the album Life Tributes



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - April 03, 2018 at 02:20 PM

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“ A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM CHARLOOM:

Thanks to Edward, along with everybody who cared for him and helped him and Leona during their last years on earth, I got to experience the ebb and flow of the seasons and how to live alone with them. Like a River that runs through it there was always his eagerness to go to church, his joy when hearing Leona sing, his pride at the quilts she made, how hard she worked, supported him and managed everything on the farm when she still could.

The beginning of each year would start with waiting for the snow, frost and rain to stop, finding the right time to plant. Getting the soil ready for planting, He got me to be a vegetable gardener. Checking on the cattle and counting the delightful little calves. Driving the gator with him and Leona through the Gregory's Orchard. We enjoyed watching the apple and peach blossoms. When the tiny apples grew bigger, he was always amazed at how many there are, and tried not to it. He just couldn't get enough of them!

I enjoyed his childlike joy at the start of the strawberry season and how he just couldn't stop eating them. Then waiting for the peaches and apples to get ripe – just the way he liked them. Of and how he loved the peaches! He taught me what Persimmons are, exactly when to eat them, inspired me with recipes from Tom to bake delicious pudding with them. Thanks to him I experienced the continuous God given wonder of the fountain at Martinsville.

He taught me about walnuts, when they start falling so he can pick them up and haul them, getting his work ready for the winter when he would be “working on the Walnuts” nearly every day. His slogan, “I want to work” – and I am pretty sure that we all know by now, that “exercise is not work.”

I will forever be grateful to God, Edward and all of you who allowed me these and many more opportunities and experiences that enriched my life so delightfully.

-Charloom

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - April 02, 2018 at 02:51 PM