



Shirley "Sam" Keene

April 9, 1939 - January 29, 2016

Shirley "Sam" Oran Keene, 76, of Monrovia, passed away on Friday, January 29, 2016, at Hendricks Regional Hospital, in Danville. He was born on April 9, 1939, in Spencer and grew up in a large extended family with 14 siblings.

Sam worked as a machinist at General Motors for 30 years; retiring in 1991. He was a member of the UAW Local 933 and the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Plainfield. Sam had a green thumb and liked hunting deer, ginseng and mushrooms. When the weather was nice, he enjoyed being outdoors and with his special eye for morels, Sam often won many bets by finding the largest mushroom in family contests. An honest, respected and blunt man, Sam did not have a filter and everyone knew exactly where they stood with him. Sam married Marlene Kepler and together they spent 19 years together.

A man who lived life to the fullest, his family claims that he lived more, in the 76 years of his life, than most people could have lived in 200 years. In October of 1976, Sam met his match and after three short months of dating, he moved to Monrovia and married Nancy Finchum; to whom he was blessed to share the last 39 years with. Always putting his children and grandchildren first, he was a devoted provider for his family and truly enjoyed spending time together. Sam, Nancy and the kids have many cherished memories together including the time spent at the cabin in Owen County riding quads, gatherings for the Indy 500, and special trips to the riverboat, Atlantic City and Vegas.

He was preceded in death by his father, Otis Keene; mother and step-father, Frances (Campbell) and Earl Sperling; son, Michael Keene; half-siblings, Clarence, Clyde, Leonard, Cletus, Gail, Leona, Violet, Mary and Betty.

Survivors include his loving wife, Nancy (Finchum) Keene of Monrovia; children, Sam Goodman of Linton, Rick Keene of Mooresville, Jay Keene (wife, Jeni) of Indianapolis and Jeannie Nungester (husband, Brian) of Avon; siblings, Nina Chapman (husband, Jack) of Florida, Jeannie Wood (husband, Pete) of Kentucky and Otis Keene of Camby; half-siblings, Mary Arthur (husband, Dave) and Allen Bean (wife, Jeanette) both of Florida; grandchildren, Erica Keene Lynch (husband, Robert) of Monrovia, Nicole Keene of Indianapolis, Joel Brown (wife, Amanda) of Brownsburg, Dustin Lamb of Indianapolis, Shelby Lamb and Alexxis Nungester both of Avon; great grandson, C.J. Shockley of Monrovia; former spouse, Marlene Kepler of Speedway.

Family and friends are invited to gather and encouraged to dress comfortable for food and fellowship from 3 to 6pm, on Sunday, February 7, 2016, in the Monrovia Festival Building, 50 S. Walnut Street, Monrovia. A brief memorial service to celebrate Sam's life will be held during the gathering at 3:30pm and will be officiated by Pastor Darrell Dennis.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to help locally fund and support heart and cancer research (envelopes will be available at the gathering). Funeral and Cremation arrangements have been entrusted to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. To share a favorite memory, send the family an online condolence, or light a candle in his memory visit www.lightmemorial.com.

Previous Events

Friends & Family Gathering

FEB 7. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Monrovia Festival Building
50 S. Walnut Street
Monrovia, IN 46157

Celebration of Life

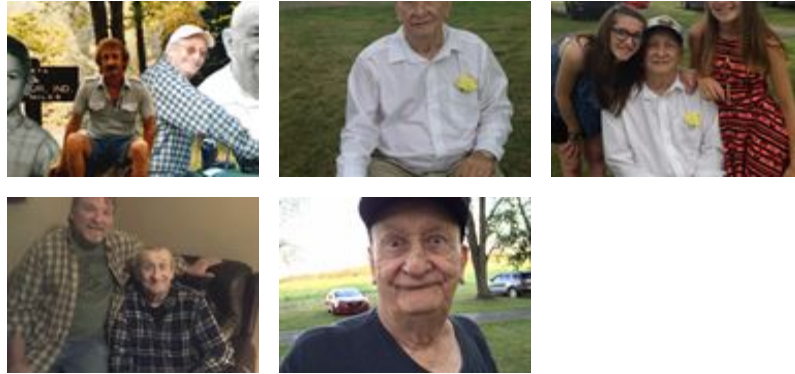
FEB 7. 3:30 PM (ET)

Monrovia Festival Building
50 S. Walnut Street
Monrovia, IN 46157

Tribute Wall



“ 120 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - February 06, 2016 at 06:47 PM

SL

“ Steve Long lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



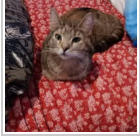
Steve Long - February 03, 2016 at 06:44 AM

MD

“ Michael Dearduff lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Michael Dearduff - February 03, 2016 at 06:43 AM



“ Jennifer Bertram lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Jennifer Bertram - February 02, 2016 at 10:16 PM



“ Nicole Keene lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Nicole Keene - February 02, 2016 at 04:41 PM



“ Gayle Richards lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Gayle Richards - February 02, 2016 at 02:12 PM



“ Nancy, I am sorry to hear about Sam. You are in my thoughts. I wish I could be there Sunday but I don't get out much as I walk with cane and mostly home bound.
But I will be thinking of you

Sheila Gray

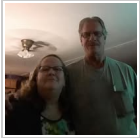
Sheila Gray - February 02, 2016 at 01:26 PM

TB

“ *Terri Bonnewell lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene*



Terri Bonnewell - February 02, 2016 at 01:09 PM



“ *Kelly Fastenau lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene*



Kelly Fastenau - February 02, 2016 at 10:52 AM

RK

“ *Rick Keene lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene*



Rick Keene - February 01, 2016 at 09:24 AM

PP

“ *Paula Patterson lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene*



paula patterson - February 01, 2016 at 09:22 AM

LC

“ *Libby [Atwell] Cox lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene*



Libby [Atwell] Cox - January 31, 2016 at 08:32 PM

LC

Sorry for your loss, Jessica and Nancy

Libby [Atwell] Cox - January 31, 2016 at 08:33 PM

LC

Sorry for your loss Erica...

Libby [Atwell] Cox - January 31, 2016 at 08:35 PM

TP

“ *My condolences to Nancy and family. May God bless and comfort. Terry Powell*

Terry Powell - January 31, 2016 at 06:47 PM



“ *My grandmother Faye Powell was a sister to Sam's father Otis. I don't believe I ever met Sam, but I know my father Hubert Powell (deceased) knew him. Sending my sincere sympathy to family and friends.*

Jude L Powell - January 31, 2016 at 05:57 PM



“ Jude L Powell lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Jude L Powell - January 31, 2016 at 05:53 PM

FH

“ So sorry to hear of Sam's passing. Dan & Faye Helton

Faye Helton - January 31, 2016 at 03:40 PM

DM

“ Our sympathy, Kent and Donna McPhail

Donna McPhail - January 31, 2016 at 01:03 PM

TB

“ Tony Bradley lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Tony Bradley - January 31, 2016 at 07:32 AM

SG

“ Sam R Goodman lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene



Sam R Goodman - January 31, 2016 at 07:13 AM

DM

“ *Enjoyed his yard sales during the Monrovia Festival*

David E Minardo - January 30, 2016 at 09:49 PM

CK

“ *Please delete the last message I let seri do it! From Curtis Kopetsky! I am going to repost!*

Curtis Kopetsky - January 30, 2016 at 07:16 PM

CK

“ *Curtis is sitting here talking about Sam and all the fun time during hunting season!
E especially the time Sam was out of the ceiling fan light go out at the cabin. And Sam got up to change it and somehow the ceiling fan came on... Boom boom boom Flapan him in the face. Rick laugh so hard he about Peed his self. And there was another time when Kurt had a hotdog and is Robin at a crawl Sam's lips and he woke up to Kurt zipping his pants. Got up and said he was going to whip his Hiney.*

Curtis Kopetsky - January 30, 2016 at 07:02 PM

CK

Ok I am going to repost this right! One time during hunting season Sam had a light out on the ceiling fan. And Sam got up to change it (did not turn the fan part off) and he tried to move his head back but the fan kept going around and smacking him in the side of the head. Boom boom, boom!! Rick and Curtis laughed so hard😂😂. There was another time Sam was napping and Curtis had a hot dog and was rubbing a hot dog on SAMs lip (while he was sleeping) and Sam woke up and Curtis stood up like he was zipping his pants up. He got up like he was going to kick his rear end😂😂😂 Rick was cracking up so bad!

Curtis Kopetsky - January 30, 2016 at 07:35 PM

JS

R,I.P. Uncle Sam, Some of my fondest memories of childhood, were spent at Uncle Sam's house, playing with my cousins. Uncle Sam always had a smile on, when he always had open arms with hugs and kisses. All my Love, God Bless

Jo Jo Starnes - January 31, 2016 at 10:38 AM

LE

“ *Lori Eubanks lit a candle in memory of Shirley "Sam" Keene*



Lori Eubanks - January 30, 2016 at 06:56 PM