



## Vicki Keel

February 17, 2019

At the end of Vicki's obituary information is a requested charity in lieu of flowers.

Vicki Jean Cathey Keel was called home to be with the Lord on February 17, 2019. She passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family after an incredible life extended by a lung transplant in 2014. Vicki was born in Dallas, Texas to Ima and Fred Cathey on November 26, 1942. Her family moved to New Orleans, Louisiana when she was a child where she would graduate from East Jefferson High School in Metairie in 1960. She would go on to earn her Bachelor's degree from University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL) in Lafayette and become a member of the Delta Delta Delta Sorority. Later in life she went back to school and earned her Master's Degree in Education at the University Of Houston Clear Lake. Vicki loved being an elementary school teacher for over 25 years. Her favorite grade to teach was 4th grade. She was chosen as Teacher of the Year at both Youens Elementary in Alief and Travis Elementary in Lamar School District. She retired from teaching in 1999 to enjoy the first of her beloved grandchildren, Will.

Vicki married Jim Keel in 1985 and they spent the next 34 years traveling the world and enjoying friends and family. Vicki traveled to over 40 foreign countries and ALL 50 states! She was a member of DAR and UDC as well as a founding member of the Empty Nesters Sunday School class at Foundry United Methodist Church. She loved all sports and especially enjoyed

cheering for her Saints, Aggies, Astros, Rockets and The Woodlands High School Highlanders. Vicki loved animals especially dogs and had a dog her entire life with her sweet Ginger passing away just a couple weeks before her. Vicki had a gift for making everyone feel loved and at home. Her strength came from her faith in Jesus Christ and it was shown in her beautiful blue eyes and bright smile. Following her lung transplant in 2014, she told everyone how God has blessed her with more time to spend with her husband, daughters, grandchildren and friends. Vicki was a steadfast, loyal and loving friend to many. She had many friends she treasured for 50 years and more. She believed each day was the day the Lord had made and she wanted to rejoice and be glad in it!

She is preceded in death by her parents Ima and Fred Cathey and her sisters Colleen Green and Gail Watson.

She is survived by her loving husband Jim Keel, devoted daughters Tracy Bowling and husband Chris, and Leslie Boyle, beloved grandchildren Will Bowling, Brooke Bowling, Ella Boyle and Evan Boyle and compassionate stepson Kevin Keel along with many precious nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in honor of Vicki to the following charities:

Hope Disaster Recovery – an organization formed after Hurricane Harvey to help communities recover after disaster by coordinating volunteer efforts, repairing homes and the spiritual care of families affected by a disaster.

12715 Telge Road  
Cypress, TX 77429  
Hopedrtx.org

The Heart Exchange – 6720 Bertner Ave., MC4-129 Houston, TX 77030 [www.heartexchange.org](http://www.heartexchange.org)



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

The Foundry United Methodist Church  
8350 Jones Road  
Houston, TX 77065

# Tribute Wall

CB

“*Joan and I are late comers to the card group and did not know Vicki for as long as all the others. Some of the things we found out about Vicki - she was an organizer without peer, very well educated but not pretentious, and always cheerful and good hearted. It does not seem possible that she is gone from this world. Our sincere condolences go out to Jim and his family.*

*Joan & Charley Beaver*

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**Charley Beaver** - March 01, 2019 at 05:44 PM

JF

“*Judd, Annemarie, Anthony, and Joey Fruia purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Vicki Keel.*



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**Judd, Annemarie, Anthony, and Joey Fruia** - February 28, 2019 at 02:05 PM



“*Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vicki Keel.*



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February 28, 2019 at 10:47 AM

BM

“ *Brian, Michael, Jane and Michael purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Vicki Keel.*



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**Brian, Michael, Jane and Michael** - February 27, 2019 at 04:38 PM

VW

“ *We have so many wonderful memories of Vicki. Our children growing up together, trips we have taken and watching sports together. Our friendship of over 50 years will be cherished forever. Vicki's faith was unwavering and an inspiration to us. We will definitely miss her. May God bless & comfort her family.*  
*Virginia and Arthur Wilson*



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**Virginia Wilson** - February 26, 2019 at 09:56 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Vicki Keel.*



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February 26, 2019 at 09:25 AM

WS

“ Our deepest condolences for your family's loss. Our hearts go out to you during this difficult time. May God comfort you with his peace. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Love,

*The Smith Family*

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**Walter B Smith** - February 24, 2019 at 10:57 AM

BB

“ Jim, I am so, so sorry to hear of Vicki's passing. I have fond memories of talking to you and Vicki in Foley's one evening long before you two tied the knot. Vicki was a great Alief teacher, and was respected by all. She will be missed. My sympathies to your entire family.

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**Betty Best** - February 21, 2019 at 04:21 PM

KG

“ I will always cherish my years of friendship with Vicki. She was my first friend when I moved to Houston 50 years ago. We shared all of our life events. She was a blessing to all who knew her. My heartfelt sympathy to Jim, Tracy and Leslie and families.

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**Kathy & Larry Gaithe** - February 20, 2019 at 09:50 PM

JF

“ *The years have flown, it seem like yesterday we were neighbors on Highmeadow with kids playing in he yard ! Fifty years of friendship and a lifetime of memories you will be missed and always in our heart, prayers and thoughts.*

*Dorann and Joe*



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**Joseph John Fruia** - February 20, 2019 at 03:57 PM

MS

“ *Vicki's beautiful smile will be greatly missed. She was my inspiration with her faith and love for our Lord & Savior. I know she is resting peacefully in His arms. Our thought and prayers are with you Jim and family.*

*Ken & Mickie Schindewolf*

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**Meredith Schindewolf** - February 20, 2019 at 02:08 PM

DS

“ *So many great memories during our 66 years of growing up and old together. Will be missed*

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**Debbie Sheffield** - February 20, 2019 at 12:45 PM

TB

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



tracy bowling - February 20, 2019 at 09:18 AM

YH

*Mrs. Vicky i will never forget you💕you were like my grandma i thank god because he send you tu my life💕you always have hugs for me and sweet words for me and my family you were the best you will be surly missed theres is nobody more like you WITH LOVE:💕 KEVIN HUERTA💕*

Yolanda Hernandez - February 20, 2019 at 05:47 PM

BH

“ *All of the members of the Samuel Sorrell Chapter, NSDAR mourn the loss of Vicki. She was a treasured member for 12 years. Most recently she served as Historian. She was chairman of the Hospitality Committee for years and greeted each of us kindly at the monthly meetings. She made everyone feel welcome. We miss her terribly and extend our deepest condolences to her family on this sudden and very sad loss.*

*Bonnie Hubly, Regent, Samuel Sorrell Chapter*

Bonnie Hubly - February 19, 2019 at 05:31 PM

GW

“ *Vicki's beautiful smile and her pure joy and appreciation of life itself will be missed terribly by all of us blessed with knowing her.*

*Glen & Suzy Wilson*

Glen & Suzy Wilson - February 19, 2019 at 04:47 PM

CC

“ *What a joy it was to start each day of our Ark Encounter trip last October with a devotional by Vicki. She even had us sing " Deep In The Heart Of Texas" as we crossed over the Texas border.'*



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**Charlie & Meg Crady** - February 19, 2019 at 03:57 PM

JR

“ *Jim and family I am so sorry for your lost Vickie and I became friends when we both had a lung transplant. She will really be missed*  
*Jean Rethwisch*

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**Jean Rethwisch** - February 19, 2019 at 03:23 PM