

## **In Memoriam**

**Kenneth L. Keller**

**February 4, 1928 – January 6, 2014**

Kenneth L. Keller was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He graduated from Purdue University in 1950 with a Bachelors degree in physical education and mathematics. That same year Ken married Marian Robison. He taught in Bluffton for a while, then joined the Air Force. While serving in the Air Force, Ken completed a Bachelors degree in meteorology and spent four years as a weatherman in various assignments, including one in Fairbanks, Alaska.

After leaving the Air Force, Ken Keller returned to Indiana where he worked as a teacher, educational administrator, and coach, and pursued his doctorate at Purdue University. After earning his Ph.D. in Educational Administration, in 1967 Ken and his family moved to Fort Wayne when he was offered a position with the newly established institution of higher education known as Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. Ken's work evolved along with the university. Beginning as an Assistant Professor and Assistant Dean of Administration, over the next three decades Ken trained teachers and principals, served as department chair, and coordinated the teacher licensure office. IPFW Education faculty valued him for his versatility and ready sense of humor. Administrative staff members recall that every Friday morning Ken showed up with a box of freshly made donut holes to share.

Ken Keller also was active in his church and in the community. At Forest Park United Methodist Church, Ken served as lay leader where he was largely responsible for planning and securing funding for the church steeple. He was actively involved in the United Methodist North Indiana Conference, served on the Red Cross Board of Directors, and served as chair of the Allen-Wells Red Cross Chapter. He was fond of sports and especially followed the teams at IU and Purdue. Ken was a dynamic force in local educational honor societies, including Pi Lambda Theta, where he served as a mentor to young educators.

“Dr. Keller was a very active man, even after his retirement from IPFW,” wrote Dr. Miles Edwards in an email dated January 15, 2014. Citing Ken Keller as his mentor and inspiration, Miles email continued: “Thank you Dr. Kenneth Keller for your educational leadership and vision ... you will be missed!”

Dr. Ken Keller retired from IPFW in 1993. He is survived by his wife Marian, daughters Krystal and Kimberly, and two grandchildren.