



## Hensley "Buzzy" Kieth, Jr.

July 9, 1934 - March 13, 2016

Hensley Oen "Buzzy" Kieth, Jr., 81, of Houston, formerly El Campo, passed away March 13, 2016. He was born on July 9, 1934 in Louise, TX to the late Hensley Oen Kieth, Sr. and Letha Walton Kieth.

He attended Sam Houston State University and played baseball for the Bearkats. He received his BBA from SHSU in 1957 and his Masters of Education in 1964. He started his teaching and coaching career at Edna Junior High School from 1958-1959. From 1959-1964 he was the Varsity Football Assistant, Head basketball and Head baseball coach at Louise High School; 1964-1969 he served as a Varsity Football Assistant, Head baseball coach, and Head basketball coach at El Campo High School; he became the Athletic Director and Head Football coach at El Campo High School in 1970 and remained in that position through the Spring of 1985. In 1985 he became the Athletic Director and Head Football coach at Pasadena Dobie High School and retired from there in 1995.

Buzzy was honored with many awards and accomplishments throughout his lifetime, including: Coached State Tournament Basketball Team in 1961, Assistant Coach 4A Football State Finalists in 1967, Coached 4A State Baseball Champions in 1968, Texas Sports Writers Association Baseball Coach of the Year in 1968, Outstanding Young Educator of El Campo in 1969, Author of the UIL Two-Team Playoff system, originally referred to as the Kieth

Plan, Personalities of the South Selection in 1970, Texas High School Board of Directors from 1972-1975, Chairman of the South All-Star Selection Committee from 1976-1977, President of the Texas High School Coaches Association from 1981-1982, Committeeman for 5A Football All-Star Selection, Life Member of Texas State Teachers Association, Texas High School Coaches Hall of Honor Inductee in 1986, Texas High School Coaches Association Football Advisory Committee from 1990-1992, Tom Landry Award for Excellence in Coaching in 1991, and Texas High School Hall of Honor Selection Committee from 1999-2002.

He was a Deacon at First Baptist Church in El Campo, an active member of Sagemont Church in Houston, Director of El Campo United Fund, and served as President of the El Campo Rotary Club from 1975-1976.

He is survived by his loving wife, Suzanne Page Kieth of Houston; daughters, Sherri Fitzpatrick and husband Tony of Friendswood and Terri Quinn and husband Paul of El Campo; son, Bill Kieth and wife Robin of Manvel and grandchildren, Austin, Will, and Sidnee Jo Fitzpatrick and Chris, Chad and Collin Quinn.

Buzzy was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Bev Murray, Billie Walters, Eloise Elston and Denny Jo Kieth.

Family will receive friends from 5 pm to 7 pm Friday, March 18 at Triska Funeral Home. Funeral services begin 10 am Saturday, March 19 at First Baptist Church of El Campo with Rev. Rick DuBroc officiating. Burial will follow at Garden of Memories with military honors under the auspices of the American Legion 251.

Pallbearers are his grandchildren.

Memorial donations in honor of Buzzy may be made to First Baptist Church.

Triska Funeral Home, El Campo, 979-543-3681

# Cemetery Details

## Garden of Memories

US Business 59 and CR 358  
El Campo, TX 77437

# Previous Events

## Family will receive Friends

MAR 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Triska Funeral Home  
612 Merchant Street  
El Campo, TX 77437-3440  
(979) 543-3681  
triskafh@sbcglobal.net

## Funeral Service

MAR 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
210 Depot Street  
El Campo, TX 77437

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the Keith family. As the daughter of a Coach I have an understanding of the bond that holds men who came before and after a mere career. Those relationships are cemented in admiration, respect and yes, love. Husband, Coach, Father, Grandfather and friend. We were all so fortunate to have lived in his presence.*

*God bless each of you as you carry your wonderful memories eternally in your hearts. I shall always remember him with admiration and fondness.*

*Camille Dowden Holm*

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**camille dowden holm** - March 18, 2016 at 06:00 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Hensley "Buzzy" Kieth, Jr..*



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March 18, 2016 at 01:01 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Hensley "Buzzy" Kieth, Jr..*



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March 18, 2016 at 12:42 AM

AS

“ Buzzy was one fine person and coach. It was always a pleasure to coach against him. His teams were always first class! The coaching profession lost a good one. Aubrey Schulz

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**aubrey schulz** - March 17, 2016 at 03:19 PM

MS

“ I was saddened to hear of Coach Kieth's passing.

*I'll always remember him as being friends to all students in high school.*

*No matter how many years passed since I graduated he would always remember my name when we chanced to meet.*

*Deepest condolences to his family.*

*Martin Strarup*

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**Martin Strarup** - March 17, 2016 at 01:30 PM

LW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Keith family. Coach Keith was an inspiration to us all. Thank you coach for being you.  
Lisa Webb

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**Lisa Webb** - March 16, 2016 at 11:08 PM

RA

“ Coach Buzzy Thanks for the lessons and guidance you gave so many years ago. You have many lives. Mrs. Keith, Bill, Sherri, and Terri I am so sorry for your loss. I lost my dad about two years ago, it very hard at first, but it gets easier. I will have ya'll in my prayers.

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**Randy** - March 16, 2016 at 09:06 PM

BH

“ Terri and Sherri, I am so sorry for your loss. Your dad was a great guy and will always be remembered by everyone in the coaching world. I still remember you girls when you were here in college. I would love to see you both. You and your families are in my prayers.

*Bobbie Hilliard*

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**Bobbie Hilliard** - March 16, 2016 at 03:45 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Hensley "Buzzy" Kieth, Jr..



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March 16, 2016 at 12:22 PM

BS

“ I will always remember what Buzzy said to me after my mothers death. He said she has made it, she has crossed over. Buzzy was an inspiration to all who knew him. He will be missed! Betty Shiflett

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**Betty Shiflett** - March 16, 2016 at 08:52 AM

WP

“ "RIP" Coach Kieth, you did good

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**William Robert Bob Poncik** - March 16, 2016 at 07:10 AM

LP

“ My heart breaks for you. I will pray for you and your family. May God watch over you and give you strength.

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**Laura Prihoda** - March 15, 2016 at 09:44 PM

GR

“ God's peace Coach to you and your family! Thanks for 2nd chances, moral principles and expecting the best out of everyone. You taught young men life lessons and I no longer hang out with the dogs, nor my children or grandchildren...you know what I mean, God Bless!

Gary Hauser '73 Ricebirds - March 15, 2016 at 09:29 PM

PH

“ Phil & Diana Huvar lit a candle in memory of Hensley "Buzzy" Kieth, Jr.



Phil & Diana Huvar - March 15, 2016 at 06:54 PM

JP

“ Coach Keith was my math teacher at Louise High School. I was Not a lover of math and still not! He said he would give us an extra 10 points if we could answer the following question: How do porcupines make love? I was so distraught because I needed that 10 points and could not give the answer, which was: Very Carefully! I have never forgotten that, had to be around maybe 1965ish? A lovely, honorable man and family. The world is a better place because of Coach Keith!

Judy Bridges Peter - March 15, 2016 at 05:47 PM

JT

“ Our hearts are saddened by this news. Please know that each one of you, Suzanne, Sherri, Terri, Bill and your families, are in our thoughts and prayers. Buzzy was such an inspiration to so many, including our family. The years our families sat together at the El Campo and then Dobie football games, cheering our teams on (including the coaches - our husbands/fathers), were some of the most memorable times. A true Christian man, gifted in so many ways. The Thiele family is honored to have been a small part in your journey. We love you and are going to miss you, our friend. Coach Butch & Judy Thiele; Steven, Sarah, Marin, Maya, & Tessa Thiele

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**Judy Thiele** - March 15, 2016 at 04:50 PM

GE

*I'm saddened to learn of Coach Kieth's passing. Our prayers are with you at this time Mrs. Kieth, Sherri, Terri, & Bill. What a wonderful man and a wonderful family man. God bless his soul and rest in peace Buzzy. Thank-you for all the wonder memories.*

*Gilbert & JoAnn Escamilla*

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**Gilbert Escamilla** - March 15, 2016 at 05:14 PM

FK

*Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the Keith family at this time. May God comfort you and give you peace.  
Dan and Fran Kyle*

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**Frances A Kyle** - March 15, 2016 at 06:47 PM

BB

*Am sure that there is a glorious reunion going on in heaven. My husband, Max Brod, considered Buzzy his lifelong friend. Am sure they are talking football at this very moment. May he rest in peace in the arms of the angels, and may God bring peace to his family  
Bobbie Brod*

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**Bobbie Brod** - March 15, 2016 at 09:04 PM

DF

*What a good person and a great coach, we will miss you coach, class of '68.*

**Daniel Falcon** - March 15, 2016 at 09:14 PM

KA

*Thinking of all of you at this time of loss. Coach Keith was such a class act and a true Christian man. I loved teaching with Suzanne at Northside - a loving and fun lady! God's peace and blessings be with this wonderful family.*

**Kathleen Appling** - March 16, 2016 at 08:46 AM

RS

*Buzzy, My good friend, thank you so much for all the fun and good times playing golf. I was so bad and you still invited me to play. I've missed seeing you these past years. Thanks again for all the great football games you coached. Hope there are lots of fig newtons in heaven, cause I know how you love them.*

**Roy Shiflett** - March 16, 2016 at 09:04 AM

RR

*Coach Keith was an inspiration to me and all who knew him. I will never forget him and what he thought me.*

*Ricebird class of 1969*

**Ramiro Rodriguez** - March 16, 2016 at 09:25 AM

PP

*Such a gentleman with a quite gentle spirit. We know you are enjoying Heaven!*

**Paula & Randy Pennington** - March 16, 2016 at 11:45 AM

WL

*I was so lucky to begin my coaching career under Coach Keith. He was the best. Our thoughts are with his family.  
Leon and Carla Lovelace*

**William L. Lovelace** - March 18, 2016 at 01:12 PM

MN

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the Keith family. He was an inspiring coach and great teacher.*

**Mark and Angela Newbould** - March 18, 2016 at 07:12 PM

SS

*To the family of Coach Keith, I am so sadden of the news of Coach's passing. Please accept my deepest condolences and know that he brought many great memories to many and a smile to all. Coach touched everyone he crossed paths with and treated everyone equally. He is now an Angel with a very big wing span. Know that each one of you, Suzanne, Sherri, Terri, Bill and your families, are in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless you all.*

**Simone Sanders** - March 23, 2016 at 10:58 PM

BT

*I am years late putting this in because I had never been informed of his passing. I was blessed to play under Buzzy in 1961 in Louise Tx. where he led us to Class A State championship Tournament in Austin Tx. (we lost but it was a great experiennce) I personnally owe him a great thank you for guiding my life through all my years and I never had the opportunity to thank him. His first year of coaching us we where all practicing and we started shooting from the halh court line. Why he picked me out among all the others was the best advice given to me in all my life. He ask me if those where the shots I was going to do in a game. Of which I replied No Sir. His comment to me was then why do it. His simple response made good sense to me. My life was led by his Question to me and I remembered that all these life long years. If it's not going to do you any good or better yourself, THEN DON'T DO IT.*

**Bob Tatum** - February 09, 2022 at 07:17 PM