



## John J. Keller

December 11, 1931 - January 20, 2018

John J. Keller (“Jack”), 86, passed away of a “broken heart” and lung cancer, Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, surrounded by his loving family. He returns now to the loving embrace of his wife, Floss, who gained her wings just nine short months before him. Jack was a long-time resident of the Oak Valley section of Deptford Township since 1958. He was born Dec. 11, 1931 and raised in South Philadelphia. He attended St. Gabriel’s Elementary School and Edward Bok Vocational High School.

Jack was the beloved husband of the deceased Florence (Floss) C. Keller (nee Simmonds) for 66 years; wonderful, devoted dad of Jack Keller formerly of New York City, Karen Eckert (James) of Barrington, and James Keller (Patricia) of Williamstown; loving “Pop” of Jami Groff (Michael), Katie McLaughlin (Christian), Allison Chando (Matt), Tricia Keller (Ryan), Gabrielle Eckert (Jeremy), and Jimmy Keller, Jr. (Samantha); and the apples of his eye: great grandchildren Casey, Drew and Alexa Groff, and Mackenzie and Evan Chando. Brother-in-law of Eileen Simmonds. Many nieces and nephews also survive Jack. He was pre-deceased by his father, James, his mother, Catherine (Driscoll), and his brother, Jimmy (Ducky).

Jack’s dedication and kindness were illustrated in both his professional and personal life. He was a member of the Oak Valley Athletic association in the beginning years of the program. He managed and umpired for many years.

He was also involved in the formation and development of the Oak Valley Vikings Football Association. Jack was a head coach of the 70-pound squad that went undefeated and unscored upon in regular-season play in just its second season. They went on to win the Eastern League championship with an 11-0 record.

Jack was a corporal in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict, serving as a guided missile systems technician. He was also a member of the American Legion, Post #133 located in Woodbury, N.J.

Jack began his employment at American Gas Meter Co. located in Philadelphia and Somerton, Pa. from 1950-1956 with a break for military service. He was employed as a guided missile systems specialist for the U.S. Army Nike Ajax/Hercules Missile Systems Command from January 1956 through June 1957, located in the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot. Jack transferred to the U.S. Navy Tartar Missile Systems Program as an engineering technician in the Naval Weapons Service office from June 1967 through June 1970, based in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. In June 1970 he accepted an engineering technician position with Naval Sea Systems Command, Planning and Engineering Group for Naval Surface Warfare Ships, located in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard until his retirement in January 1988. Upon his retirement, he accepted a program manager position with Scientific Management Associates in Westville, N.J., which he maintained until October 1996 when he fully retired. He enjoyed spending time with his family, watching sports, and going to various casinos to donate his money and watch stage shows.

Jack was a worldwide traveler and enjoyed visiting many different states and countries in support of his military and civilian careers. Some of his favorite destinations included San Diego, Japan and the Philippines. Jack was a wonderful and committed husband, taking great care of Floss while she struggled with COPD, until she gained her wings in April. Never once did he

let us know that he was struggling with his own health issues, she was his priority. In his final months, Jack enjoyed visiting the St. Padre Pio Shrine in Buena, N.J. because it was there he felt her presence strongest.

Relatives and friends are invited to his viewing Friday, January 26, 2018 from 9am to 10:15am at BOUCHER FUNERAL HOME, 1757 Delsea Drive, Deptford, NJ 08096 followed by a Mass of Resurrection at 11am at Infant Jesus Parish – St. Margaret Church, 334 Beech Avenue, Woodbury Hts., NJ 08097. Interment at New St. Mary's Cemetery, Bellmawr, N.J.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Jack's behalf may be made to the St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Margaret's Parish.

# Cemetery Details

## New St. Mary's Cemetery & Mausoleum

515 W. Browning Road  
Bellmawr, NJ 08031  
(856) 931-1570

# Previous Events

## Viewing

**JAN 26.** 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM (ET)

The Chapel at Boucher Funeral Home, LLC  
1757 Delsea Drive  
Deptford, NJ 08096  
(856) 464-1097  
mark@boucherfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.boucherfuneralhome.com/>

## A Mass of Christian Burial

**JAN 26.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Infant Jesus Parish at St. Margaret's RC Church  
3rd & Beech Streets  
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097  
(856) 848-0047

# Tribute Wall



“ *Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & Gloucester County Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of John J. Keller*



**Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & County Cremation Service** - January 24, 2018 at 04:37 PM



“ *John J. Keller*

November 27, 2022 at 03:45 PM



“ *Oh Daddy -  
Tomorrow is my BIG DAY!!  
I know you and Mommy are watching from above 🙏  
My life is about to change and I hope I have made you proud!  
I wish you were here to celebrate with me tomorrow. I know you'll be there in Spirit but it's just not the same 😞  
I love you and miss you so much. 💔  
I'm taking it that all of these feathers are you and Mommy letting me know that everything is okay 💕  
I love and miss you  
XOXO  
Karen*

**Karen Eckert** - August 25, 2019 at 11:00 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy -

*I need you more than ever!!!*

*I know that you are watching from up above.*

*I know you must be shaking your head at some of the happenings, I did my best and will keep trying to make you proud. There are just some things that are so out of control - I know you are helping but I feel so helpless. 🥺*

*Please watch over our little guy - his big day is next week. Lots and lots of prayers happening. We know you and Mommy will be there to watch over him.*

*Keep watching over Kate too - our little munchkin is growing nicely - 4 more months 💕💕*

*Oh Daddy how I miss you. I still can't believe this is real 💔*

*I love and miss you more than ever.*

*My Daddy - My Hero 💕💕*

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**Karen** - July 19, 2019 at 10:38 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy -

*Another Father's Day and you are not here 💔*

*It's not getting any easier I guess I'm just learning to deal with it.*

*I thank God that I had you for as long as I did - but it wasn't long enough!*

*It still doesn't feel real that you are gone.*

*I still reach for the phone to call you, think to myself "I have to tell Daddy" - then it's back to reality 😞*

*Keep watching over us Daddy. Good things are happening.*

*Our little guy needs you and Mommy to watch over him these next couple months. 😇*

*Kate is doing good and our little munchkin is strong - 5 more months!!!*

*All the kiddies are doing well and are just as sweet as always. They all love and miss you and Mommy - I love hearing them talk about you. We remind them that you will live in our hearts forever 💕*

*I love and miss you every single day.*

*Happy Fathers's Day Daddy - My Hero*

💕

XOXO

Karen

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Karen - June 16, 2019 at 08:54 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy -

*We need you and Mommy to keep watching over that "Someone Someone" 🙏😇*

*We know you both are there and will keep everybody safe.*

*Love you and miss you more and more every day💔*

💕 Karen

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Karen - March 11, 2019 at 09:37 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy - this is a very big week. We need you and Mommy to keep watching over our “Someone Special”. 🙏

Love you and miss you



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**Karen** - March 02, 2019 at 11:03 PM

KE

“ Oh Daddy please watch over us. 😇

We need you and Mommy more than ever to watch over that “special someone” - especially this next week. 🙏

We are all praying so hard and need you and Mommy to help us out.

Love you and miss you so much 💕 😭 💔

XOXO

Karen

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**KE** - February 15, 2019 at 08:36 PM

KA

“ Well Dad - today is one year that you've been gone 😊  
I tried so hard to be happy - the way you would want me to be - but  
it just didn't work 😞  
I even decorated for Valentines Day today because I thought it  
would make me smile remembering how you loved to decorate for  
every holiday. Worked for a little while.  
Then I just went and sat at the cemetary - it made me feel like I was  
with you. I cried my eyes out and poured my heart out to you.  
When I got home you sent me a sign that you were here with me.  
That made me smile. 💕  
This isn't getting any easier Daddy. 😞  
I just miss you so much. 💔  
I thank God for having you as long as I did - but wish it was longer.  
I thank God that I got to spend so much time with you - especially  
that last week.  
I thank God that we were as close as we were and that we talked  
about evverything the way we did.  
I know you know that you were MY HERO - I sat holding your hand  
singing that to you our last days together.  
You wil always be my hero Dad and I will always be your “princess”  
💕  
I love and miss you so much.  
You know what I would give to say “I love you” and to hear you say  
“I love you back” one more time!  
XOXO  
Karen

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Karen - January 20, 2019 at 10:19 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy

*Can't get you out of my head.*

*Christmas came and went without you. 😞*

*Couldn't even bring myself to write.*

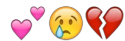
*It's so hard to believe that this time last year was my last week with you. 💔*

*I stayed at your house for the weekend - We watched the Eagles together - Mommy was their "Angel in the End Zone" and we knew she helped them win - we had our "Family Meeting" and came up with a plan together so we could help you and be there with you.*

*Little did we know that would be out last week with you.*

*Oh Daddy my heart is just broken. I love and miss you so so much.*

*XOXO*



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**Karen** - January 14, 2019 at 06:40 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy - your birthday and you weren't here 😞 It's the first one without you and it's just terrible 💔. To celebrate your birthday I went with the Seniors Group - on the Senior Bus - to judge the Christmas Displays. I did it because it made me think of you and all of your great Christmas Decorations. Your house was always like Winter Wonderland! Your house would have definitely won the contest! (I think I am officially old now - hanging with the Seniors!!!) Now Christmas is coming and I am missing you so so much. Nothing's the same anymore.  
I love and miss and NEED you. My heart aches - it's just broken - this week has been so terrible. I know you would never want me to be this sad but I just can't shake the sadness I feel.  
I love and miss you Dad. I need your help to get me through this.  
Love you  
XOXO  
Karen  
💕💕💕💕

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**Karen** - December 13, 2018 at 09:09 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy - it's been 7 months today that you left us to be with Mommy. 😭

As they say

“your wings were ready but our hearts were not “

My heart would never be ready for you to leave us 💔

No Dad the day you gained your wings left a hole in my heart that will never be filled.

We all miss you and can't believe you are not here with us any more.

I just love hearing my Grandkiddies (your Great Grands) talk about you. They loved their Pop & Grammy so much.

Oh Dad - the days I go to pick up the phone to call you, or want to come see you, or go to make you a plate for dinner - I'm reminded that your not here - You won't answer the phone - I can't come see you or hug you and you won't be eating dinner! It just makes me so so sad.

I try to find comfort in knowing that your not hurting and suffering any more but not having you hurts so bad.

I love you and miss you and Mommy so much.

I know you are watching over us - you both are our “Special Angels” - keep watching over us - we need your love and guidance. 😇

XOXO

Karen

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Karen - August 20, 2018 at 09:26 PM

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“ Oh Dad  
I miss you so so much 😞  
It's not getting any easier.  
We can't even go to your house anymore - it use to help me feel a  
little closer to you.  
Give Mommy a hug from me.  
I know you are together and that should make me feel better but . . .  
. 💔  
Love and miss you Daddy  
XOXO

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?? Karen ?? - August 18, 2018 at 08:40 PM

KA

“ Daddy, Daddy, Daddy  
Missing you so much 💔  
Needing you more than ever 😞  
Love you 💕  
XOXO

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Karen - June 20, 2018 at 08:30 PM

KA

“ Oh Daddy -

*So many things are happening so fast!  
I hope you are happy with everything.  
I know you and Mommy are helping us through  
all of this.*

*I'm tryinging really hard to make you proud.*

*Everything I do I think about how you would want it handled - I hope  
it's right.*

*I walk in your house just wanting you to be sitting there in your chair*



*It's so empty and sad there now 💔*

*I love you and miss you so so much.*

*XOXO*



*Karen*



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**karen** - June 02, 2018 at 08:57 PM

KA

“ Daddy

*Not a day goes by that we are not missing you. 💔*

*I hope you and Mommy are doing all the things you couldn't do because she was sick for so long.*

*I feel like you were so cheated Dad. You spent so many years taking GREAT care of Mommy. After Mommy gained her wings and was finally at peace I thought you would get to enjoy your time and do the little things that you couldn't do before. Then before we knew it you were gone too. I know that's where you wanted to be - back in Mommy's arms again.*

*I am so sad and wonder why you had to suffer like that though.*

*I am glad your suffering is over but I miss you so much.*

*One thing that does make me smile is that you got to see Mommy's face when the Eagles won the Super Bowl!!! I said all season that Mommy was their "Angel in the End Zone" - well for that game you were both their Angels in the End Zone" - they needed both of you!!!*

*I love you and miss you more than I ever thought possible Dad,*

*Keep watching over us - we really need it. 😇*

*XOXO*



*Karen*

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**Karen** - March 12, 2018 at 10:57 PM

EJ

“ *Ed and Gloria Johnson purchased the Pretty Pleasure for the family of John J. Keller.*

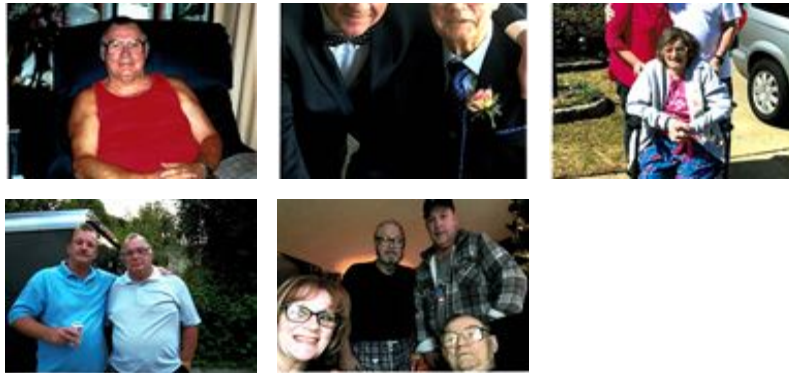


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**Ed and Gloria Johnson** - January 24, 2018 at 09:41 PM



“ 52 files added to the album Life Tributes



Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & County Cremation Service - January 24, 2018 at 03:33 PM

KE

“ Daddy - you are truly amazing.  
You are my HERO.  
You are the strongest most WONDERFUL man in the world.  
I am in shock that you are not here. 💔  
I know you will always be “with us” and watch over us.  
I hope that we can all hang on to knowing that you are out of pain  
and back with Mommy again.  
I know how much you missed her and wanted to be with her.  
Now you are BOTH our SPECIAL ANGELS!!! 😇  
I hope you know how special and loved you are.  
I LOVE YOU  
XOXO  
Karen

Karen Eckert - January 22, 2018 at 10:10 PM

MD

*I remember how much joy Jack got from being with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Christmas Eve was one of his favorite times to sit with them and read *The Night Before Christmas*. He will be missed but always remembered. He is now at peace and pain-free*

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**Marie & Dave Dobisch** - January 23, 2018 at 11:04 AM

RE

*I loved hearing stories and adventures from Jack about the places he'd been but mostly I loved the times I was able to see Jack and Floss with their family...their smiles and laughter lit up the room*

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**Rita Odell Eckert** - January 24, 2018 at 09:51 AM