



## Joseph Reginald Keene

April 17, 1926 - November 12, 2021

Joseph Reginald Keene age 95, WWII Combat Veteran was serving in the Pacific at Iwo Jima when the flag was raised. He went to be with his Lord on Friday, November 12, 2021. Mr. Keene was a charter member of Rolling Hills Baptist Church where he served many years as a deacon, choir director, and Sunday School teacher. His hobbies were gardening and wood carving. He loved sharing the walking sticks he made. He is predeceased by his parents, Jerry and Ruby Keene, sister June Stephens and his wife of 71 years, Dorothy Keene. He is survived by 3 daughters, Faye Lee (Jim), Sharon Rosian (Ted), Barbara Martinez (Richard- deceased) and his brother, Kenneth Keene (Janice). 6 grandchildren: Kimberli Brinegar, Julie Wilkerson, Brian Malone (Jennifer), Scott Rosian, Phillip Rosian (Wendy) and Carissa Vannoy (Justin); 12 great grandchildren: Branden, Kalin, Nathan (Samantha), Sophia, Molly, Frankie (Hailey), Brady, Orin, Garrett, Jacob, Jared and Jordan. 5 great great grandchildren: Jesse, Rubie, Halle, Autrey, Lincoln, and many other loving family members and friends. A celebration of life gathering will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers please make a contribution in memory of him to Rolling Hills Baptist Church, 840 Permento Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32221. Arrangements by Corey-Kerlin Funeral Home 1426 Rowe Avenue.

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Jacksonville National Cemetery**

4083 Lannie Rd

Jacksonville, FL, 32218

**NOV**

**16**

**Graveside Service**

10:00AM - 10:30AM

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Jacksonville National Cemetery

4083 Lannie Rd, Jacksonville, FL, US, 32218

# Comments

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“ From your oldest grand~There would not be enough space or time to share here the impact you had and will continue to have in my life. My Papa has been a daily part of my life... always. From birth to just a few days ago, we stayed in touch and had the deepest of conversations about life and purpose. He was a teacher no matter what we were doing. One of the most important virtues I recall from very early childhood was to pray about everything. he would say "big or small decisions, buying a dress or whatever it may be, pray about it and the Lord will direct you" I took that to heart and I truly pray about most anything or anyone that crosses my path or thoughts. He taught with such visual stories with that calm, strong confidence that would help shape the mind in a positive direction. I understand Deuteronomy 6:7 because Ive lived my whole life with this gift from my Papa & Nana. "and the words of the Lord which I command thee, shall be in your heart, and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down and when you rise up."

The years we lived together on the farm, I learned about unconditional love and nonjudgmental care for others, being accepted, acknowledged regardless of mistakes or wrong choices. Papa offered this to not only his family but others. I recall one story of when he worked in the prison system as an auto mechanics teacher. he told me about inmates and talked about them just like any teacher would a student. He didn't look at them for what they had done wrong but for the purpose and potential they have as a living soul. He invested in them and many went on to be released and have their own families and businesses...because someone cared enough...

so many very early memories very vivid even at age 2 1/2 in church, in the yard, in the home, talking while we worked with my grandparents. Love was so present and God knew I needed this as a foundation that would help me through many traumatic times in my life.

I'll close with one more life lesson. In Jr high Papa signed me up for track. I don't know how but the coach came to me and recruited me to run hurdles.(Papa's suggestion) He faithfully drove 30 min one way to pick me up from practices and was at all my meets. It was the toughest sport I ever participated in. Lap after lap training, thinking I could not go another step, much less scale another hurdle! But with his faith in me, running beside me at times encouraging me on; I always made it. So today, we all have to face difficult challenges, this is a life lesson that can help us all. I go back to those track days often hearing Papa, "you can do it". and I am telling each of you, so can you!

Lamentations 3 :21-23 I recall these things to mind, therefore I have hope. Because of your mercies, I am not consumed, Your compassions they fail not, they are new every morning. great is Thy faithfulness.



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Joseph Reginald Keene.



November 15, 2021 at 06:56 PM

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“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph Reginald Keene.



November 14, 2021 at 10:30 AM

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“ I have so many wonderful memories of the times I spent at the Keene family home with everyone on Sundays after church. So many memories at the different events held at the church or even out at the Keene property such as Easter egg hunts or New Year's Eve camp fires. Reginald and Dot were a huge presence in my life, and will always hold a special place in my heart. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family

**Elaine Harper Arp** - November 14, 2021 at 10:24 AM