



J. Keith Varney

August 6, 1917 - April 19, 2013

J. Keith Varney, Ph.D., of Springdale, Arkansas formerly a resident of Silver Lake, Ohio, passed away April 19, 2013.

He was born August 6, 1917 at Jewell, Kansas to George W. Varney and Minnie Chance Varney. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Robert, Howard, Halbert, and Richard, and one sister Velma Varney Roberts, and a great grandson, Theodore Benshoof.

He attended a one room elementary school south of Jewell and the Jewell Rural High School. He earned his BA from Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kansas, and his MA and Ph.D from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. While attending graduate school, he served as a research assistant with the Nebraska School Administrators Association and the next year he was a part-time instructor on and off of the campus.

In 1953, Dr. Varney was appointed to the position of Assistant Director of the University School, at Kent State University, Kent Ohio. In 1958, he was the director of the KSU Cleveland Extension Center, Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1961, he was appointed Assistant Dean of the College of Education. And in 1972, he left the administrative position to teach full time as Professor in the Department of Educational Administration. During this period, he served two years as chairman of the Department of Educational Administration and

developed a curriculum for the preparation of administrators in higher education. Dr. Varney retired from Kent State University in 1984.

After retirement, he became a licensed realtor with his wife, Alice, and was appointed to serve on the administrative board of the Akron Area Board of Realtors. Dr. Varney served on numerous community boards and committees. From 1965 - 1971, he was on the Summit County Family Services Board of Directors and served as President for three years. He was an active member at The Church in Silver Lake and served on every committee associated with the church. His passion was classical music, opera and books, and attended numerous performances through the years, particularly the Akron Symphony Orchestra, and concerts at Stan Hywet Hall.

Dr. Varney and his wife Alice, relocated to Springdale, Arkansas in 1998, to be near his daughter Joan and her family. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Alice Fetrow Varney, daughters, Cheryl Herzfeld of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; and Joan Bader (Joe) of Springdale. His three grandchildren, Anna Herzfeld Benshoof, (Bruce), Baltimore, Maryland; Scott Bader (Rene), Springdale: and Tyara Bader Kelly (Robert). Jacksonville Alabama. And six great grandchildren, Lauren Bader Johnson, (Simon), Lowell, AR, Rachel Bader, Springdale, AR, Brian Kelly and Samantha Kelly, Jacksonville, AL, Nicholas and Zachary Benshoof of Baltimore, Maryland. And special niece, Jeanne Strang.

He graced our lives with his presence and will be sorely missed by all those who loved him.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at Sisco Funeral Chapel of Springdale. Burial will follow in the Bluff Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Church in Silver Lake, 2951 Kent Road, Silver

Lake, Ohio 44224.

To sign the guestbook online please visit www.siscofuneral.com

Tribute Wall



“ *J. Keith Varney*

January 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *Joan, after reading your father's obituary it is easy to see why you have some many positive and beneficial personal traits. My thoughts are with you and your family in this time of your loss.*

Bair - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM



“ *Joan, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.*

Tracy Kremer - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM



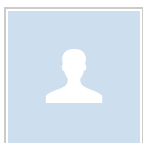
“ *Joan, I am so sorry for your loss. Please accept our deepest sympathies. The DiTomaso Family.*

Richard DiTomaso - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM



“ *Joan I am very sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Raegan Guest - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM



“ *Joan, Please accept my condolences, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM

TH

“ *Joan and family I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Tony Hardin - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM

DD

“ *My prayer is that God would comfort the family in this time of loss. May God bless this family as they mourn.*

David Dunn - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM

DF

“ *Joan & Family,
I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.
Dan*

Daniel P. Frankl - May 29, 2013 at 05:00 PM



“ *Joan & Family,
I want to extend my deepest sympathies to you and your family, I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers as you go through this difficult time.*

Sincerely,

Candice Blair

April 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.*

Ashley Chesshir - April 22, 2013 at 12:00 AM