



Ernest W. Keen Jr

July 31, 1960 - October 3, 2025

Ernest W. Keen Jr., 65, of Knox, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Friday, October 3, 2025, at his home following a brave battle with cancer.

He was born on July 31, 1960, in Knox, Indiana, to the late Ernest and Juanita (Ketcham) Keen Sr., and lived in the area his entire life. On August 31, 1985, Ernest married the love of his life, Dellarae “Della” (Elder) Keen, and together they built a beautiful life filled with love, laughter, and faith.

A hardworking man, Jr made his living as a contractor and took pride in a job well done. He was happiest when surrounded by his family or working with his hands. He enjoyed riding his Honda 750 Shadow, wood working of all kinds, and loved his tractors, especially the cub cadets. He cherished watching the sun rise over the ocean in Florida and sharing time with his loyal German Shepherd, “Shep.”

Ernie was a man of strong faith and a proud member of New Life Church in Hamlet, where he was baptized on Father’s Day in 2023—one of the most meaningful moments of his life. Above all, he loved his family deeply, especially his grandchildren, who brought him endless joy.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Della; two sons, Ernest “Trey” (Kayla Goble) Keen III and Travis (Ashley) Keen; his grandchildren, Keegan, Kyrin, Kash, and Makayah Rae; and his siblings, Eric (Monica) Keen, Crystal (Jack) Hammon, and Kevin Keen. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. CDT on Thursday, October 9,

2025, at New Life Church in Hamlet (7460 E. 500 North, Hamlet, IN). Funeral services will follow at 3:00 p.m. CDT at the church. Burial will take place at Fletcher Cemetery.

Ernest will be remembered as a hardworking, God-loving man whose legacy of love, faith, and family will live on in all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Della Keen in memory of Ernie during this time Thank you.

Cemetery Details

Fletcher Cemetery

700 E County Road 700 N
Hamlet, IN 46532
(574) 315-0922

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 9. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

New Life Church
7460 E. 500 North
Hamlet, IN 46532

Funeral Service

OCT 9. 3:00 PM (CT)

New Life Church
Hamlet, IN

Burial

OCT 9 (CT)

Fletcher Cemetery
700 E County Road 700 N
Hamlet, IN 46532
(574) 315-0922

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ernest W. Keen Jr.

October 08, 2025 at 11:01 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ernest W. Keen Jr.



October 08, 2025 at 11:01 PM



“ Judy&john K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ernest W. Keen Jr.

Judy&john K. - October 08, 2025 at 05:35 PM



“ Your my forever one &only And gave me the best 40 years of my life and two sons,together we build a amazing life .I miss you honey but I know you are free of sickness and pain..remember to save me a spot cause we will be together again ❤️. I will always love you

Della keen - October 06, 2025 at 11:33 PM



“ Nina and Steve McCoy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ernest W. Keen Jr.

Nina and Steve McCoy - October 06, 2025 at 08:17 AM

NM

“ *Nina and Steve McCoy purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ernest W. Keen Jr.*



Nina and Steve McCoy - October 06, 2025 at 08:17 AM