



## Benjamin Edward Keller

Benjamin “Ben” Edward Keller was born November 21, 1937, at Mills, WY, to William and Loretta (Wilcox) Keller. He grew up in Sturgis and Newell. Ben married Eleanor Wood on August 23, 1955, in Belle Fourche, SD. On March 14, 1955, he joined the United States Army and was stationed at Ft. Lewis, WA, where he served as a Guided Missile Crewman. Upon Ben’s release from the Army, he moved his family back to Newell where he resided for the last 58 years.

Ben held several jobs during his career. His main jobs included 7 years at Lambert Lumber Company in Newell, SD. He spent the next 12 years at Dutton Lumber Company in Vale, SD. He retired in 2001 after spending 24 years as a highway maintenance worker for the South Dakota Highway Department. Ben was known as a hard worker who always found something to do with his hands. At the highway shop, he was always known as the “G” Man, the Go Man.

One of his proudest accomplishments was his building of the two homes that he lived in and built himself. When building the 2<sup>nd</sup> home, he always commented that he was going to build this one right and not make the mistakes that he made on the first one.

Ben, 78, Newell, died Monday, May 16, 2016, at the Hospice Unit at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Fort Meade, after a short battle with cancer.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Eleanor Keller, Newell, SD; two sons, James (Debra) Keller of Katy, TX, and their children, Christopher Keller, Katherine Yancey, and William (Wilma) Keller of Anchorage, AK, and their children, Rebecca Becker and Robert Keller; sister, June Kosola, Newell, SD; one sister-in-law, Julie Ault, Torrington, WY; six brothers-in-law, James Wood, Pierre, SD, Robert Wood, Rapid City, SD, John Wood, Edgemont, SD, George Wood, Ft. Pierre, SD, Danny Wood, Pringle, SD, and William Wood, Blundt, SD; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, and special friends.

A memorial has been established to the Hospice Unit at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Fort Meade, SD.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).



*In Loving Memory Of*

*Benjamin Edward Keller*

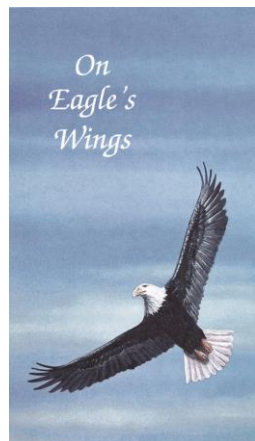
*1937 ~ 2016*

*May the road  
rise up to meet you  
the wind be always at your back  
may the sun shine warm  
upon your face  
the rains fall soft  
upon your fields  
and until we meet again  
may God hold you in the  
palm of His hand*

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Sturgis Vet's Club following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

### **On Eagle's Wings**

And He will raise you up  
on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm  
of His hand



### ***The Broken Chain***

*We little knew that morning that  
God was going to call your name.  
In life we loved you dearly.  
In death we do the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you.  
You did not go alone,  
for part of us went with you  
the day God called you home.*

*You left us peaceful memories.  
Your love is still our guide.  
And though we cannot see you,  
you are always at our side.*

*Our family chain is broken  
and nothing seems the same,  
but as God calls us one by one,  
the Chain will link again.*

### ***In Loving Memory Of***

***Benjamin "Ben" Edward Keller***

#### ***Born***

November 21, 1937  
Mills, Wyoming

#### ***Died***

May 16, 2016  
Fort Meade, South Dakota

#### ***Graveside Service***

Friday, May 20, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.  
Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

#### ***Officiant***

Pastor Darla Dunn

#### ***Military Honors***

Sturgis Veteran's Honor Guard  
SD National Guard Honor Guard

#### ***Interment***

Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota