



Keith Alan Hettel

January 22, 1952 - May 5, 2022

Keith A. Hettel of La Plata, Maryland, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 with his loving family by his side. He was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis in October 2021. He faced this health challenge with grace, courage, and dignity.

Born on January 22, 1952 in Glen Ridge, New Jersey, he was the son of William Hettel and Lois Hettel who predeceased him. Keith received his bachelor's degree from Slippery Rock University PA. and his Masters degree from George Washington University, in Washington D.C.

Keith Came to work for the Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) after a year of teaching in New Jersey. Starting out his teaching career as a fourth-grade teacher, Keith was a helping teacher, vice principal, principal at Gale Bailey Elementary School, he was honored to open William B Wade Elementary school. For the rest of his career, Keith was the executive director then assistant superintendent of Human Resources. He also spent several years as the assistant superintendent of Supporting Services. He retired in June of 2016.

Keith was a long-time member of the Bryans Road volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. He Services included Past President and a member of the Board of Directors. Keith also served on the Charles County Board of Fire

and Rescue Commission for several years. A member of the catholic faith, Keith attended St. Catherine of Alexandria Church in McMconchie.

Keith as a well known in the community for his friendly personality and kind demeanor, but also for his support of all students and staff. Family was a priority for Keith. A husband, father, friend, relative like Keith is such a rare, generous and kind gift. Keith was a person that everyone needs, full of smiles and laughter, love and many unrecognized good deeds.

Keith was a blessed by a loving family and is survived by his wife of 47 years, Kathleen, sons Josh (Julie), Scott (Sheila); beloved grandchildren, Maggie Noah, Eleanor, Hayden, and Adeline, who will dearly miss their grandad.

His brother, Peter Hettel (Laurie) of New Jersey, also survived along with many nieces and nephews, cousins, two aunts, and a multitude of friends. Keith will be dearly missed by many.

A gathering will be held on Wednesday May 11, 2022 from 2-4pm and 6-8pm at the Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department. 3099 Livingston Road Bryans Road, Maryland 20616. Fireman's Prayers will be at 7pm.

Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Thursday May 12,2022 at 10am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 201 St. Mary's Ave, La Plata Maryland 20646. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Bryans Road Volunteer and Rescue P.O. Box 111, Bryans Road MD 20616, or St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church P.O box 278 Ports Tobacco MD 20677, or St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Family located at 4901 Eastern Ave NE Hyattsville MD 20782.

The family asks that you take time with your family and friends, to continue to love each other. Make a toast to enduring friendships both lifelong and beyond.

Previous Events

Gathering

MAY 11. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department
3099 Livingston Rd
Bryans Road, MD 20616

Gathering

MAY 11. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department
3099 Livingston Rd
Bryans Road, MD 20616

Fireman's Prayers

MAY 11. 7:00 PM (ET)

Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department
3099 Livingston Rd
Bryans Road, MD 20616

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 12. 10:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
201 St Marys Ave
La Plata, MD 20646
(301) 934-2261

Tribute Wall



“ *Keith Alan Hettel*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Keith Alan Hettel*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *I moved away a few months ago and just saw this news about Mr Hettel. He was my 4th grade teacher at Dr Brown and Principal at Wade when my kids were there. He was one of my favorite teachers. Prayers and condolences to the family.*

Tracy Harper Curtis - June 21, 2022 at 06:41 PM



“ *Marsha Kaiser lit a candle in memory of Keith Alan Hettel*



Marsha Kaiser - May 14, 2022 at 01:32 PM



So sorry for your loss, Kathy. May warm loving memories comfort you and your family during this difficult time. Thinking of you and keeping you in my prayers.

Marsha Kaiser - May 14, 2022 at 01:33 PM

MH

“ I’m so sorry to hear of Keith’s passing. I had the good fortune to have Him as my first principal in Charles Co. at Gale-Bailey Elem. He was very supportive of my program and helped me understand the families we served at Gale-Bailey. His love of and caring for children was always evident.

Mary Hunt - May 11, 2022 at 05:19 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 11, 2022 at 08:04 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 10, 2022 at 06:03 PM

LP

“ Love, Lisa, Jay, Emma & Paige purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



Love, Lisa, Jay, Emma & Paige - May 10, 2022 at 03:46 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 10, 2022 at 11:51 AM



“ All our love Arlene Sean & Tara purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



All our love Arlene Sean & Tara - May 10, 2022 at 11:04 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 10, 2022 at 07:04 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 09, 2022 at 01:07 PM

EH

“ I was saddened to hear of Keith’s passing. I worked with his wife, Kathy, at Dr. Craik Elementary. Mr. Hettel assisted me with different questions I had as I navigated parental leave and other HR issues. He was always available for questions and advice. My heart goes out to his family and friends.

Eileen Holden - May 09, 2022 at 01:03 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 09, 2022 at 12:33 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 09, 2022 at 09:48 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 09, 2022 at 07:29 AM

KC

“ Mr. Hettel was one of the kindest people I had the pleasure of meeting. He was my principal at Wade elementary and also happen to be a long time friend of my dads. His personality and love for student success is one of the reasons I became a school counselor. Thank you Mr. Hettel for being the example that children unknowingly need. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Hettel family.

Kristan Curtis (Huntt)

Kristan Curtis - May 08, 2022 at 02:55 PM

LL

“ Sharing love, thoughts and many prayers to you, Kathy and Family, on the loss of this kind and gentle giant of what it means to be a man. One of integrity who was able to change more lives than any of us will ever know! I often refer to a quote by Thomas Campbell when I think of men like my Dad, my Tim and now Keith...”To Live In The Hearts Of Those We Leave Behind Is Not To Die”. My love to you all! Linda

Linda Long - May 08, 2022 at 01:52 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Keith Alan Hettel.



May 08, 2022 at 12:50 PM

KG

“ I have known Keith & Kathy since late 60's - we shared many adventures together. My memory that epitomizes Keith, happened in the early 70's - Keith, Kathy, myself & a date traveled from Hasbrouck Hts. NJ to Seaside Park, NJ, for a day at the beach. On the Garden State Pkwy, the '69 Impala developed a water pump failure - we pulled off onto an exit ramp in Seaside Hts. & water let loose everywhere around 8AM. Keith immediately took charge - he walked to the nearest Western Auto store, purchased a rebuilt water pump + tools to use to change out the water pump **ON THE PKWY EXIT!** We emptied the cooler to fill with water to replace the lost water. I would have said "call a tow truck" **BUT**, not Keith - full speed ahead & change that part yourself!

That was Keith - never sit around, just DO IT - I'm sure Nike took that mantra from Keith!

He was the person whom I will always admire - even at the Adirondack Wilderness camp that we both worked - he was known as "Clutch" because he maintained 2 diesel generators & a fleet of trucks/bus/canoe trailers, without any hesitation.

*On a personal level, Keith was a personality "magnet" - knowing him personally, at work together, and in his community, **EVERYONE** admired & enjoyed his gentle demeanor with others, his comical affect **AND** his vivacious love of life. I don't believe I will ever meet another person who excels as a friend, confidant, family man, and partner for his high school love, Kathy.*

*I will miss him every day as will Kathy, his family & friends - however, when I think of him, I will **SMILE**. My wife, Anne & myself, were very fortunate to know Keith & comforted that we experienced his wonderful life force, Kevin & Anne Grace*

Kevin & Anne Grace - May 08, 2022 at 12:03 PM

RL

“ *Condolences to Kathy and the entire family. Keith was a great person that served as a role model for me and other members of the BRVFD. RIP Keith. Rich Lambdin*



Rich Lambdin - May 08, 2022 at 11:48 AM

WS

“ *Keith was one of the good guys. He will be missed.*
Will Stratton

Will Stratton - May 08, 2022 at 07:57 AM

SB

“ *Kathy I'm so sorry for your loss. Keith was a great man and will be missed.*

Shirley Byrd - May 07, 2022 at 10:46 PM

CM

“ I’ve known Keith since I first came to CCPS some 35 years ago... I got to know him over the years as someone to count on, supportive, kind, friendly, funny, and a wonderful person all around. He was always respectful to everyone and never took himself, or anyone else for that matter, too seriously. One of the funniest moments I recall was when the superintendent who came in after John Bloom pretty much “cleaned house” in central office. Keith was lamenting the fact there were more empty offices than occupied, and next thing I knew he was standing on top of one the desks calling out, “Is anybody here?” ...And as people called out, and walked over to him, he then asked if everyone wanted to have donuts on Friday! He brought in boxes of donuts and that started a long tradition of donut Friday at central office. It was great... and that’s the kind of person he was... caring, funny, and making the best of a bad situation! My thoughts and prayers go out to Kathy and family... may your memories give you peace and strength during the difficult days ahead. ❤️

Christine Mais - May 07, 2022 at 09:55 PM

JE

“ Our sincere condolences, love, thoughts and prayers. Keith was a wonderful family man and a gift to the community. We are proud to call him friend.

Rest in the peace of Our Lord, may perpetual light shine upon you. Prayers of strength for Kathy and family.
Keech & Joyce Edelen



Joyce Edelen - May 07, 2022 at 08:34 PM

BM

People like Keith are hard to find. He was a person that cared about people and was not about himself. A genuine man. He will be missed. My condolences to the Hettel Family.

Bill McLaughlin - May 08, 2022 at 07:58 AM

KC

“ Keith hired me as a Special Education teacher in Charles County (I'm originally from Western PA). It was and will always be the best job I ever had-the students, the teachers, everything. I even met my husband at that school. I thank him and owe him for the opportunity. May he Rest in Peace.

Kerry Casarella - May 07, 2022 at 07:48 PM



“ I would see Keith and Kathy walking in the neighbor and so happy and proud with their grandchildren by their sides.

Mary Mudd - May 07, 2022 at 06:15 PM

CA

“ Connie Armstead lit a candle in memory of Keith Alan Hettel



Connie Armstead - May 07, 2022 at 06:02 PM