



## Keith William Hepp

September 13, 1964 - July 16, 2020

Keith William Hepp, passed Thursday, July 16, 2020 in West Chester, Ohio at the age of 55. He is survived by his children, Meghan, Emi, and Andrew, parents, Gerald (Gloria) Hepp, siblings, Colleen (Shaun) Horan, Brian Hepp, Denise (Mark) Laudenslayer, Christopher (Johanne) Hepp, and William (Candy) Hepp. Instate Saturday, July 25, 2020 at Holy Family Catholic Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Road, Novi from 10:30 AM until time of funeral liturgy 11:00 AM. This is a story about Keith Hepp. His first job was with a CPA firm, Plante & Moran, located in Southfield Michigan. He worked for the firm in the early 80's. At the time he was a high school student. He was hired to do odd jobs, including shredding paper. That was how he got his reputation as someone who almost burned down the firm's office.

Back in those days, computers produced large volumes of fan-fold reports. It was a significant chore to shred all those reports. Keith was a very gregarious individual who would rather tell jokes than perform menial jobs. So, he devised an automated system for shredding the paper. He simply fed the top sheet of a fan-fold pile into the shredder and let the shredder pull the paper into the machine. This freed up Keith so he could go talk to someone. Unfortunately, the machine heated up and started a fire in the paper. (He didn't get fired but he did earn the mentioned reputation.)

When Keith finished high school, he went to Xavier University in Cincinnati. He earned his bachelor's degree and passed the CPA exam. He went to work for Arthur Anderson, a CPA firm, in Cincinnati for a couple of years. Keith experienced a partner getting fired when the firm lost a client and he decided his fortunes would be better elsewhere. As typically happened throughout his life, while there Keith developed some lifelong friends.

Keith's next employment was at Cincinnati Bell. While he was doing well, he felt he could do better by starting his own consulting business. One of his clients, Healthbridge, convinced him to set aside his consulting operations and to work for them full time.

Healthbridge is a non-profit entity in the medical records industry. He worked up to the

position of CFO and was responsible for negotiating multi-million-dollar contracts with the federal government and others. He served on the board of many organizations, including serving as chairman of a national board in the medical records industry.

As too often happen in success stories, Keith died on July 16. He unfortunately contracted legionnaire disease.

We are very sorry to have lost him. We have received many requests for something that will create a memorial tribute for his life. We therefore have joyfully created the Keith Hepp Scholarship Fund at Xavier University in Cincinnati. If you are interested in contributing, please mail a check to:

Xavier University  
1507 Dana Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45207

In the memo line please write "Keith Hepp Scholarship Fund"

# Cemetery

---

## Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

25800 W 10 Mile Rd  
Southfield, MI,

# Events

---

**JUL** **Instate** 10:30AM - 11:00AM

**25**

---

Holy Family Church

24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI, US

**JUL** **Liturgy** 11:00AM

**25**

---

Holy Family Church

24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI, US

# Comments

---



“ Jerry and Gloria, I share your deep sadness to hear of Keith’s untimely passing. Keith worked with us shredding our confidential papers at P&M when he was in high school. I remember him being quite the character; full of life and enthusiasm. I must say I don’t remember the shredding fire, it must have been frantic. From what I read here, Keith found his way in life helping others find their own success while he was building his own. He has left this world far too young. May the memories you hold most dear comfort you in the days ahead when you miss him most. My sincere prayers to all the family. May he rest now in the glory of God.

Donna Darnell

Donna Darnell - August 09, 2020 at 01:59 PM

---



“ I was deeply saddened to learn about my friend Keith's passing. We have been friends since elementary school, we were in each other's weddings..and although we hadn't actually seen each other in a number of years, the bond was always there...I will never forget when my father passed away 29 years ago..Keith drove through the night from Cincinnati to be there for me. To Mr. and Mrs. Hepp and all of Keith's siblings, my heartfelt condolences to all of you. I wish I could have been with you to support you at this terrible time...and to Keith, rest in peace my buddy..I will never forget you!

Alan Zusman

Alan Zusman - July 26, 2020 at 01:43 PM

---



“ Jerry and Gloria,

I was so saddened to learn of Keith's passing. May your strong faith help sustain you at this difficult time and joyful memories of Keith ease the pain of his loss.

God Bless You!

Joe Cunningham

Joe Cunningham - July 24, 2020 at 05:28 PM

---



“ I first met Keith when he entered his freshman year at Southfield-Lathrup High School. We were in the band together and became fast friends. I still remember trying to get in to see "The Exorcist" at the theater in the Prudential building (I think that was the place) and being turned away because one of the guys we were with looked too young to the ticket taker (after they sold us the tickets!). Although Keith was the youngest, he was not the person they identified as being too young which we thought was hilarious. We did get our money back, though. We roomed together on the Band trips and Keith always kept us laughing. Mostly, I remember the evening and late night calls with him over the telephone. He would always suggest I look at things from a different perspective, listen intently to whatever I said and never shied away from being straight while injecting humor. One of his favorite sayings was, "Let me put it this way....." I lost track of him over the years, but never forgot him nor never will. I am so sad that he has passed, but am glad that he is no longer suffering. To all of his family and friends, please accept my deepest sympathies.

**David Benedict** - July 24, 2020 at 02:14 PM

---



“ I had the pleasure of working with Keith over the past couple years. Keith always treated me fairly and enjoyed our conversations. All around great man and he will be deeply missed. My heart and prayers got out to his family.

Sincerely  
Dan Lane and the Converge technology family

**Dan Lane** - July 24, 2020 at 01:28 PM

---



“ Jerry and Gloria, Peggy and I would like to express our deepest sympathy and prayers for your son Keith. We did not know he was a CPA and that he worked for P&M in administration when only a teenager. As Peggy reminded me this is your second loss of a child which is always an extremely sad event in any family. God bless Keith and the rest of your family in this very difficult time. Bill & Peggy Matthews

**William L Matthews** - July 24, 2020 at 12:25 PM

---



“ I was blessed to have Keith as a friend growing up. We attended the same church, participated in Boy Scouts and kept in touch through high school. Keith was always a true and genuine person who cared about others. He was one of a kind. I also remember that he had a very deep faith, and I have no doubt that he is in heaven, with the Lord. The world was a better place with Keith and he will be missed. So long for now, my friend.

**Pete Thomas** - July 23, 2020 at 10:52 PM

---



“ It was a great privilege to work with Keith through his leadership role at HealthBridge since we met back in 2007. His laugh and congeniality always made one look forward to our next meeting and were present even in an email. He will be missed. And I say again to his Mom, "He's a good boy". Peter Muir

**Peter Muir** - July 23, 2020 at 05:41 PM

---



“ Keith was friend, colleague, confidant, and a brother to me in so many ways. We shared so many things over the last 15 years that I cannot recount them all – but all bring a grin to our faces. His leadership style and his character were unassailable and unique. He truly was larger than life - one of life's most unforgettable characters and leaders. He blended affability and humor with the ability to be very direct, especially on topics that might have some controversy or tension surrounding them. I shall miss our late evening calls and the problems we solved together along with the many moments of laughter we enjoyed - it was and is our best medicine. The kindness Keith demonstrated with our daughter Jillian is unforgettable. We all miss him so very much. Rest in peace my friend. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of Keith's family and his many, many friends. Peace be with each of you and with all of you. Brother Keith, we'll see you on the other side. Cheers! Dick and Gaylene Thompson

**Dick Thompson** - July 23, 2020 at 02:15 PM

---



“ Keith was friendly, quick to laugh and always a gentleman. He seems to have left many, many great memories for everyone to share! Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends and coworkers at this difficult time. The Traut Family, dujours



Sue-Ellen Traut - July 22, 2020 at 10:06 PM

---



“ To the Senator, aka Uncle Keith. As I read through many of these comments left about you, I am struck by, but not at all surprised by, what an extraordinary friend you've been to so many people. You were a great friend to my parents, and you became a great friend to me during my time in Cincinnati. I'll never forget the tour you gave me of Cincinnati prior to my matching there for medicine residency and how thoughtful and generous you were. You loved Cincinnati, and you helped me love it, too. I felt at home there because I knew you were always a phone call away. Your intermittent "check-ins" and Precinct steak dinners truly kept me sane during my residency. I will so miss your genuine kindness, honesty, intelligence, and incredible sense of humor! I still owe you a Skyline Chili, my friend. See you on the other side, and cheers to you, dear Uncle Keith (with a gin martini, of course!).



Jillian Thompson - July 22, 2020 at 08:35 PM

---



“ It is with a heavy heart that I mourn the loss of a good man. His incredible wit is already greatly missed. I remember his kind approach in addressing issues, his vast knowledge and his dedication (and late nights) to ensure the job was completed. The family is in my prayers for healing. I raise my glass in one last toast to Keith...

Teresa Rivera  
SHIEC member

Teresa Rivera - July 22, 2020 at 06:57 PM

---



“ To the Senator, an inside joke, what great memories from golf to cocktails to experiences with former partners and child raising. Your wise counsel, sense of humor and smile made you someone that was fun to be with outside of business. In business, you were sharp, gave credit to others and didn't have a mean bone in your body. And I also was able to share my faith to you and yours to me. That is why I know you are at the right hand of our Lord Jesus Christ. RIP my friend and I will see you on the other side.-David Dieterich

David Dieterich - July 22, 2020 at 02:02 PM

---



“ 14 files added to the album The Health Collaborative



Amy Goetz - July 22, 2020 at 01:50 PM

---



“ Please know we share in your sorrow of losing a really good person and colleague, Keith. He always took his work seriously, but never himself. He was kind, patient, witty, smart and as a colleague said, "Every conversation I had with Keith I liked." I always walked away from our interactions feeling better, more educated, and with a grin on my face because of a funny joke or statement he made but never at the expense of others. We all will miss him dearly. Julia Taylor (colleague, The Health Collaborative)

Julia Taylor - July 22, 2020 at 01:43 PM

---



“ 13 files added to the album The Health Collaborative



Amy Goetz - July 22, 2020 at 01:35 PM



“ I am deeply saddened by the sudden loss of Keith. It doesn't seem possible with his larger than life personality. It feels like a very cruel joke. I had the immense gift of being able to work with Keith in the healthcare industry for over 10 years. During that time, he became my colleague, my mentor, and my close friend. He helped me with so many challenges and was never short on making me laugh and finding the humor that aligns itself with the healthcare world. I participated in several golf outings with him and one of his favorite lines was "Place your Bets, Place your Bets!!!"...as other such lines from Caddy Shack, etc. Keith was instrumental in helping me make the switch and taking a bigger role to build an entire medical staff at a new hospital to be built...West Chester Hospital, which now makes me sad, as that was his final destination. I no longer work there, but I am devastated by this great man's loss and am praying for his eternal peace and asking God to bring comfort and courage to all of his family and children especially Meghan, Emi and Andrew. Sincerely, Paula Hawk

**Paula Hawk** - July 22, 2020 at 12:54 PM

---



“ 14 files added to the album The Health Collaborative



**Amy Goetz** - July 22, 2020 at 11:49 AM