



## Keith Ivan Brown

July 4, 1941 - October 9, 2016

Keith "K.I." Ivan Brown, 75, of Springport, passed away on October 9, 2016 in Lansing following an unexpected illness. He was born on July 4, 1941 to Austin and Irene (Wilmore) Brown in Winchester, Indiana. He grew up in the St. Mary's Ohio area where he graduated from St. Mary's High School, in 1959. Keith met Gretchen Bogan at Bowling Green University while performing there on his trumpet. They were later married August 6, 1961.

Keith entered the U.S. Air Force following high school serving during the Vietnam War as an electronics technician until his retirement as a Master Sergeant. He continued his service teaching electronics to others around the world as an employee of S.A.I.C. One of his most memorable positions was instructing the Saudi Navy. After his retirement from S.A.I.C. he came to work for the accounting firm of his son-in-law, John Vanator, CPA in Eaton Rapids. As a service family, his wife and children loved the experiences living in different parts of the world even though it meant that there were long periods of time where they were separated from Keith.

Keith loved traveling with his family both during his years in the service and after to destinations around the world. Many of those destinations were coordinated around his various assignments. In his spare time Keith enjoyed fishing, and tinkering with anything mechanical. Keith will always be remembered by his family and friends as a humble person who never had a

bad thought for anyone. His "wicked" sense of humor endeared him to many that he met throughout his life.

Keith is survived by his wife of 55 years, Gretchen Brown; two daughters, Kym (Randy) Stidham, Laura (Howard Latham) Tamayo; son-in-law John D. Vanator of Olivet, MI.; three grandsons, Kody Michael Stidam, Joseph Daniel Vanator, and Jacob Timothy Vanator. He was preceded in death by daughter, Heidi Sue Vanator, grandson, Guy Vanator, granddaughter, Jordan Vanator, father, Austin Brown, mother, Irene Brown.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2016, 1:00 pm at the Family Bible Church, Marshall, with Pastor Kris Tarkiewicz, officiating.

Memorials are suggested to the Krabbe's Disease and Fisher House Foundation. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences online in Keith's Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

OCT **22**. 1:00 PM.

Family Bible Church, Marshall

# Tribute Wall



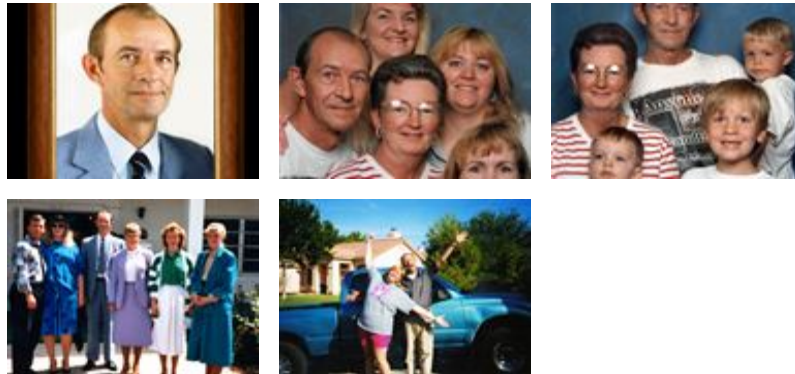
“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Keith Ivan Brown*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - October 20, 2016 at 01:10 PM



“ *53 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - October 20, 2016 at 01:00 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Keith Ivan Brown.*



October 10, 2016 at 09:05 PM