



Keith A Fingerhut

February 10, 1936 - June 1, 2024

Keith Allan Fingerhut, 88, died Saturday, June 1, 2024 surrounded by his family. He was born February 10, 1936, in Chicago, IL to the late Helen (Jacobson) and Joseph Fingerhut. On June 1, 1957 at SS. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in North Judson, IN he married his high school sweetheart Janet M Metzinger.

As boys, Keith and his late brothers, Kenny and Jerry started working for their parents at the Fingerhut Bakery. Keith's passion for baking continued his entire life. He was proud that the bakery continues today through his two sons, Greg and Doug. Over his many years in the bakery business he developed long lasting relationships and they employed many people from the community. Many still enjoy stopping by today to say hello. Keith always said that Janet was an instrumental partner in the success of the business.

Keith graduated from North Judson High School in 1954. He participated in multiple clubs and was a star athlete in football, basketball, and track. He continued his education at the University of Alabama while playing football. Keith completed his college career at St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, IN where his football team won the NAIA National Championship (Aluminum Bowl) and he earned a degree in Business.

Keith would say he and Janet's biggest accomplishment in life was their family. Five children, Julie, Doug (Vicki), Greg (Valerie), Penny, Beth (John), 13 grandchildren; Suzann, Weston, Joshua, Nolan, Neven, Christian, Morgann, Mitchell, Abigale, Allison, Adelaide, Madeline and Lydia and 12

great grandchildren (with two more in the oven). Keith and Janet loved hosting all the holiday gatherings at their house. Especially Easter, where over 40 years ago Keith started a family tradition, the Great Basketball Fingerhut Shoot-Out. His other hobbies included attending musicals, listening to music, and golfing. Keith and his long time golf partner, Jerry Sullivan, were avid golfers who liked to finish their rounds with a Manhattan.

Visitation, Wednesday, June 5, 2024 from 4:00-8:00 pm CST at O'Donnell Funeral Home, North Judson, IN Rosary recited at 7:00pm

Funeral Services, Thursday, June 6, 2024 at SS. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church North Judson, IN 10:30am CST with burial following in the St. Jacobs Cemetery in North Judson, IN

Memorial Contributions may be given to Parkview Haven, Francesville, North Judson - San Pierre Athletic Department, Knox Athletic Department or a charity of the donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

Saint Jacob Cemetery

500 West
North Judson, IN 46366

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 5. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

O'Donnell Funeral Home, Inc.
302 Lane Street
North Judson, IN 46366
(574) 896-2149

Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 6. 10:30 AM (CT)

SS Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church
Keller Avenue
North Judson, IN 46366

Tribute Wall

LW

“ *Fingerhut family-- you are North Judson to US!
The bakery was and is our Joy of North Judson... You all work to make it happen.
Janet, what a life you have had with your husband. Sad for your loss.
Julie my friend thinking of you and you loss of your dad we always want one more day.
To the rest of the family our sympathy in this time of your great fathers passing.*

Linda Warren - June 09, 2024 at 08:14 AM

RC

“ *Keith was a big influence on a lot of people. I worked at the Bakery for 10 years (except for 2 years in Army) and stayed in the Bakery Business as my career when I moved to Atlanta. My wife, Arvilla, and I enjoyed time with the family when we visited the area. Our love and sympathy to Janet and the entire Fingerhut family. Richard Cox*

Richard Cox - June 06, 2024 at 05:13 PM

JG

“ *John Gause purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.*



John Gause - June 06, 2024 at 08:46 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.*



June 05, 2024 at 08:21 AM



“ *Dr. Kathryn Stuart and team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.*

Dr. Kathryn Stuart and team - June 05, 2024 at 08:21 AM



“ *Sharon J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.*

Sharon J. - June 05, 2024 at 07:25 AM



“ *Timothy C. purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.*



Timothy C. - June 04, 2024 at 10:14 PM



“ *Timothy C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.*

Timothy C. - June 04, 2024 at 10:14 PM

JL

“ Jesse & Meg Johnston and Charissa Lucas purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Jesse & Meg Johnston and Charissa Lucas - June 04, 2024 at 06:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



June 04, 2024 at 02:47 PM

JM

“ John and Tammy Morikis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.

John and Tammy Morikis - June 04, 2024 at 02:47 PM

SS

“ Sorry to hear the news as Mr Fingerhut was always someone I enjoyed talking with while he was telling stories and smoking his pipe. The Fingerhut family and bakery will be in our thoughts and prayers. Steve and Anita Sergi

Steve Sergi - June 04, 2024 at 02:29 PM

AP

“ Amber Cowell & Nathan Phillips purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Amber Cowell & Nathan Phillips - June 04, 2024 at 02:11 PM

NK

“ Nick & Kara, Kayla & Alex Kuhn purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Nick & Kara, Kayla & Alex Kuhn - June 04, 2024 at 11:38 AM

SK

“ I have many fond memories of Keith and the Fingerhut family. We grew up next door to Fingerhut bakery, so we visited there frequently. I remember Helen singing "Mary Ann, Oh, Mary Ann" to me when I came in the store. That was a popular song at the time! We Kriss girls also spent time watching Keith and his brothers at work in the bakery watching them through the window between our house and the bakery. As years passed and Beth and John settled in Fort Wayne, Keith and Janet would come and visit me when they were in town. I always smiled at Keith's comment about knowing someone famous from North Judson as I was president at University of Saint Francis. My prayers are with Janet and the family at this time. Wish I could be there! Peace, Sister Elise (Mary Anne) Kriss

Sister Elise Kriss - June 04, 2024 at 10:29 AM

MK

*My sisters and brother have a special love for the Fingerhut Bakery and the people who operated it! It was a real treat to be able to have a roll after our daily mass when we attended St Cyril and Methodius School. (Sister Mary Anne Kriss was in my class!) Whenever I know we're going back to Judson the 1st thing I do is call the Bakery and put in my order for rolls, coffee cake and a housky!
My Uncle(Bob Smrt) drove the Fingerhut truck for several yrs and were good friends with Keith and Jerry.□
God bless your family and thanks for the wonderful memories!
Marsha Kletz(Smrt)*

Marsha Kletz - June 10, 2024 at 11:26 PM

AF

“ Annette Kachnik Bradford and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Annette Kachnik Bradford and family - June 04, 2024 at 09:50 AM

AF

“ Annette Kachnik Bradford and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.

Annette Kachnik Bradford and family - June 04, 2024 at 09:50 AM

KF

“ Kate and Bill and Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Kate and Bill and Family - June 04, 2024 at 09:09 AM

DC

“ Deanna (Dilts) Carpenter purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Deanna (Dilts) Carpenter - June 04, 2024 at 08:16 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



June 04, 2024 at 07:51 AM

LM

“ Love, Angie Mata purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Love, Angie Mata - June 04, 2024 at 03:24 AM

SC

“ Steve and Sally Doleza, I Dow and Leslie Carter purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Steve and Sally Doleza, I Dow and Leslie Carter - June 03, 2024 at 09:21 PM

PG

“ So sorry for your loss. He will be missed by many. Prayers to your family

pat goin - June 03, 2024 at 09:03 PM

KD

“ Janet,
My prayers and sympathy to all your family.
May God bless Keith and may he rest in
peace.
God Bless you all



Kevin W. Diener - June 03, 2024 at 07:33 PM

MF

“ Matt and Becky Bailey and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Matt and Becky Bailey and Family - June 03, 2024 at 07:22 PM

MF

“ Matt and Becky Bailey and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.

Matt and Becky Bailey and Family - June 03, 2024 at 07:22 PM

LK

“ Love Kim, Kelly and Kris. purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



Love Kim, Kelly and Kris. - June 03, 2024 at 06:48 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



June 03, 2024 at 04:56 PM

FF

“ From the Moore and Reading family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith A Fingerhut.

From the Moore and Reading family - June 03, 2024 at 04:56 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Keith A Fingerhut.



June 03, 2024 at 02:33 PM

CP

“ So very sad to hear about Keith's passing. Whether in the backyard or into the bakery we were always greeted with a huge smile!! He was one of a kind and is going to be deeply missed. Prayers to all of the Fingerhut family. North Judson lost a very special man! May Keith rest in peace. ❤️

Courtney (Wunder) Poehl

courtney poehl - June 03, 2024 at 11:36 AM

ER

Sorry to hear another classmate has said, his final goodbye and not see you next Oct”. We will miss you, Keith at our “70th” the first Saturday in October 2024.
God's prayers and blessings Janet and family!! 🙏🙏❤️📺❤️📺

Evonne “Leslin”. Robertson - June 03, 2024 at 11:55 AM

RK

A true Gentleman.
Thoughts and prayers..

Rusty & Kim Kerns - June 04, 2024 at 10:58 AM

DP

I haven't lived in Judson for years but whenever I visited & saw Keith he always had a big smile & a hug for me. Treated me like I had never left town. He was one of a kind & he will certainly be missed. He & Janet were a match made in Heaven. God received a special guy for sure. R.I.P. Keith. 🙏🙏🙏

Dianne Pfost - June 04, 2024 at 11:44 AM

DC

Thinking of the Fingerhut Family at this sad time. Keith was a great man and leaves an amazing and beautiful family and legacy (not too mention a pretty good butter cream coffee cake :) !). So many wonderful memories of family holidays, meals, pool parties. May he Rest in Peace in God's arms. Love and Prayers from Dan and Debbie Carson and the entire Carson Family in Massachusetts.

Dan Carson - June 06, 2024 at 12:17 PM