

Phillip N. Keller, 86

Phillip Newell "Nuke" Keller, 86, of Deep River, died Tuesday morning, Oct. 16, 2001, at the Brooklyn Community Estates in Brooklyn.

Funeral services were Friday, Oct. 19, 2001, at 10:30 a.m. at the Deep River Christian Church with Pastor Connie Wacht officiating.

Casket bearers were Matt Wallace, LaVerne Doty, Ed Zimmerman, Neil Widmer, Austin Keller, Richard Icenbice, David Stevenson, Richard Geiger, and Donnie Ross.

Members of the Morrison - Schrader American Legion Post 296 of Deep River performed the military graveside rites.

Interment was at the Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River with all arrangements by Watts Funeral Home of Montezuma.

Following the graveside service, relatives and friends were invited to the Deep River Community Center for lunch and fellowship.

Nuke was born Oct. 18, 1914, at Deep River, the son of Nelson Howard and Lenora (Haag) Keller. Nuke graduated from the Deep River High School in 1932. For several years he operated a trucking company with his family. He also did concrete work in the Deep River area. Later he operated the DX service station with his brothers Wayne and Jack.

Nuke was united in marriage to Betty May Cain on Feb. 3, 1940, at Lancaster, Mo. To this union three children were born. Newell

was a veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Navy from Aug. 31, 1943, until his discharge on Dec. 16, 1945.

Newell returned to Deep River where he and Betty farmed. He enjoyed camping and picnicking with his family. He also enjoyed dancing and woodworking. Nuke played softball as a young man and continued to love the sport watching his sons and grandsons play.

Nuke was a former member of the Deep River volunteer Fire Department. He was a member of the Deep River Christian Church and the Morrison - Schrader American Legion Post 296 in Deep River.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Betty who died Aug. 11, 1984; two grandsons, one in infancy and Todd Philip Keller; two brothers, Wayne and Jack Keller; and three sisters, Jean Elliott, Kaye Bruns and Helen Icenbice.

Nuke is survived by his children, Ken and Bonnie Keller, Joan and Kenneth Wallace and Joe and Valerie Keller, all of Deep River; grandchildren, Nancy Keller, Kristi and Ric Chaney, Matt Wallace, Marissa Keller, Austin Keller, and Jolene Keller; great grandchildren, Jessica Wallace, Brooke Keller, and Blake Keller; his sister-in-law, Grace Mohr Keller of Florida; nieces and Nephews; and other relatives and many friends.

MR October 24, 2001