

As a tribute to Keith for the lives he forever influenced, and to Cecile, his beloved wife of 57 years, the Olde Knights'/Alumni Luncheon has initiated this tribute fund. You may donate to the Keith and Cecile Gordon Memorial Fund by returning to the website.

We have lost two beloved members of the Hillsdale High School Community.

Keith Gordon passed away in September 2014 and his beloved wife Cecile passed away in February 2019.

Keith devoted his entire career to Hillsdale and its students, joining the staff in 1958 and retiring in 1990. He taught Industrial Arts, served as department chair, coached tennis, and most importantly was a friend, mentor, and colleague to so many.

After retiring, Keith remained connected to Hillsdale, staying in contact with numerous former students, organizing monthly breakfasts at Nini's for retired Hillsdale teachers, administering and presenting OKL scholarships, enjoying school events, and perhaps most notably, being a founder and the soul of our annual Olde Knights' Luncheon, now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year.

For more than 30 years Cecile taught various grades at Sunnybrae, Baywood, and George Hall Schools in the San Mateo Foster City Elementary District. We would love to hear from any Knight Alumni who were blessed to have both Cecile and Keith as their teachers!

Keith's friend and teaching colleague, Tom Brignand, offered this message in his memory:

*"To All in Keith Gordon's Wide Circle of Friends:*

*With much sorrow, we send out this official notice that Keith Gordon died suddenly and unexpectedly of a "cascading" stroke on Sunday, September 14, 2014. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family.*

*Keith left adamant instructions that there be no services; his wishes will be honored. Still, we're certain that a toast with a fine single-malt scotch, in his honor and as fond farewell, would have pleased him greatly!*

*In the meantime, we send heartfelt sympathy to all who knew the privilege of Keith's friendship and camaraderie. He was as humbly grand a man as they come.*

*With a single malt Scotch in hand, from one heart-broken friend,"*

His former students shared many reflections. These are but a few:

**Paul Bogel:** I still remember the skills learned in shop – some of which involved tools and proper technique. The lessons were always more about life, growth, and self-reliance than the project in front of us. Your legacy lives on. God bless. **Kevin Walsh:** Mr. Gordon, a great shop teacher and a funny guy too. . . I still use my dustpan all the time. I often think my ALL CAPS printing is directly linked to Mr. Gordon's mandate that we write that way. **Sam Spiteri:** R.I.P. We were lucky to have Mr. Gordon help us grow. **Cliff Cassin:** He taught me so much stuff. It is because of him that I went into the line of work I do. **Todd Anderson:** Thank you for the things you taught me, and most of all, thank you for influencing my life in the most positive way – teaching me self respect. **Ryan Edwards:** Many of my greatest memories of HHS were playing for Coach on the Tennis Team. He taught so many lessons beyond tennis which I still use to this day in my life and career. . . so fortunate to have kept in touch with him over the years. R.I.P., Coach. You will be missed. **Kelli McComb Suchy:** We will all raise a glass in his honor at the Hillsdale High Olde Knights' Luncheon!

