



James Woodrow (Woody) Kinsey

September 27, 1922 - January 20, 2010

James Woodrow (Woody) Kinsey, born September 27th, 1922, passed away on January 20 after a long illness. He was the first of four brothers all born to Ordie and May Kinsey on a small farm north of Bolivar located near Huron.

After graduating from Goodson High School in 1941, he entered the Army/Air Force in December of 1942. After completing basic training, the Army/Air Force assigned him to the 583rd Signal Air Corp located in the Pacific Asian theatre. He participated in five land invasions, including New Guinea, the Philippines and the East Indies. He was preparing to be part of the invasion force of Japan when President Truman signed the surrender treaty with the Japanese. He in turn became part of the occupation force on mainland Japan.

After the discharge from military service in 1945, he found employment as an assistant at Carver Jewelry Store. While serving at the jewelry store, he met Ernestine Stewart. They were to marry five years later in August of 1950. By 1946 Woodrow had completed an Associates Degree from Southwest Baptist and started what became a 35 year career as an educator mostly in the Bolivar School Systems. During that 35 year span, he first taught in the high school classroom teaching classes in the social sciences; in the later part of his career he was promoted to assistant principle and principle until his retirement in 1982. During the course of those 35 years he went on to earn a Bachelors Degree from Southwest Missouri State and a Masters Degree from

Drury College.

Woodrow's organizational ties included a membership in the First Baptist Church for 45 years, serving as a Sunday School teacher and a lifelong member of the Rotary Club where he served as President. Other civic clubs included the Junior Chamber of Commerce and American Legion. A contribution Woodrow made to many civic organizations in the Bolivar Community was preparation and cooking of several thousand broilers.

Woodrow took great pride as a charter member of the World War II Memorial on the national mall in Washington DC and had the opportunity to visit this site twice during the past decade.

He was politically active serving as on Polk County Committee of the Democrat Party and participated directly in many of the activities of the party including accompanying his wife to two separate Democrat Conventions in 1980 and 2008. One special event for both his wife and he was attending a reception at the White House hosted by President Carter.

Woodrow found popularity among his students over the years he served on the faculty as students time and again selected him as senior class sponsor, which resulted in over a dozen trips to Washington DC with the senior classes.

Woodrow most importantly will be remembered as a wonderful husband and Father by his son and wife. He is survived by his wife Ernestine of 59 years, a son Timothy Stewart Kinsey and wife Cynthia in Leesburg, VA, three children: Rachael of Honolulu, Hawaii, Jacob and Rebecca both of Leesburg, VA. A brother Tom Kinsey and wife Lee reside in Springfield, while a second brother Don and wife Nancy reside in St. Louis. Further survivors include a sister-in-law Harlene Easter of Bolivar and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the St Jude Childrens Hospital would be appreciated.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, January 24, 2010 at 1:00 PM in the Butler Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Billy Russell officiating. Bob Martin will be giving a Eulogy. Burial will be in the Greenwood Cemetery in Bolivar. Military Honors will be conducted by the AMVETS Post #114, Flemington, MO

A Visitation will be held on Saturday Evening from 6-8 PM in the Butler Chapel.

Friends may sign the guest book or send private condolences at www.butlerfuneralhome.com

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *James Woodrow (Woody) Kinsey*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *James Woodrow (Woody) Kinsey*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Mrs. Kinsey,*

I was so sorry to hear of Mr. Kinsey's death. I will keep you in my prayers.

Carol Wollard - January 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ernestine,*

I always enjoyed seeing both you and Woodrow at the BHS Hall of Fame diners. Woodrow was a great teacher and example for the students of Bolivar. He will be missed. Our prayers will be with you in your loss.

Allen Hines

Allen Hines - January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ After reading the memorial from Woodrow's funeral I am truly honored and proud that he was my Uncle. He was a very kind and nice man and I will have many happy memories of him, my dad and Tom joking around and making everyone laugh. I hope you will always remember the good times and I want you to know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mignon Gannam - January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ Blessings on the Kinsey Family in their time of grief.

Hugh and Twila Smith - January 26, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Ernestine:

*Although I know words offer small comfort in your hour of sorrow, I do wish to express my sincere sympathy to you on the loss of your beloved husband, Woodrow
He is a person I have know for many years & his close relation with my Uncle Ray Chappell.*

Leola (Chappell) Smith - January 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Mr. Kinsey! A 'backbone' of Bolivar High School--so well respected. He was good to all of us. Then church--First Baptist. He set such an example.

Just a great guy that the three Paden boys, John, Charles and James will always remember. May the Lord give you strength, Mrs. Kinsey. Proverbs 3:5-6 Charles Paden

Charles Paden - January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Ernestine and Timothy I was saddened to hear of Woody's passing.

My Condolences,

*Cathy A. Haralson
Class 1970 BHS*

Cathy A. Haralson - January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Woody and I were roommates at Parkview, which made my stay more pleasant, he was a good person.

We are sorry for your loss and extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

Bill and Anna(Haralson)Graham

Bill and Anna Graham - January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Mrs. Kinsey and Tim, I would like to express my deepest sympathy. You both are in my thoughts and prayers.

I will always remember Mr. Kinsey at a time when "the kids really did come first" be it in Driver's Ed, on the Senior Trip or just a meaningful conversation.

Class of 1969

Linda Jones Sivils - January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VE

“ May it help in your time of sadness to know I am thinking of you and share your sadness.

*Mr. Kinsey was a favorite teacher and I know he will be missed.
From a 1957 grad.*

Vera(Laird)Sullivan - January 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ We were so sorry to hear of your lost and you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Jim, Jane & Jennifer Otradovec - January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ In our minds and memory of Woodrow, he will always be remembered as the one who taught us to drive, as the sponsor of our senior class and one of the members on our senior trip.
Ernestine and Tim, you have our sympathy of your loss.

Dannie & Mary Jane Hubbert - January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ Mrs.Kinsey and Tim,
I am sorry for your loss. Mr. Kinsey is fondly remembered from Bolivar High School days. My prayers and thoughts are with your family at this time.

Sharon Whitman Easter (Class of 1970)

Sharon Whitman Easter - January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ We're so sorry for your loss of Woodrow. Our prayers are with you.

Scott and Kathy Gallivan - January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HR

“ *“Woody” was a tribute to Bolivar and his country, He will be missed by everyone who knew him.*

Harold & Mary Jo Reynolds - January 23, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *We will miss him at all our political events. Our sincerest sympathies are extended to you.*

Joe & Sue Cowen - January 22, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ *To Ernestine and family,
We are both sorry to hear of your loss. Woodrow was a fine man and a friend to everyone he met. He will be missed by family and friends alike.*

God Bless to you all.

Pete & Jo An

Peter V Howe & Jo An Campbell - January 22, 2010 at 12:00 AM