



## Edwin W.J. Keil

August 30, 1926 - November 8, 2023

Edwin William John Keil, 97, died of pneumonia on November 8, 2023, in Lake Forest, Illinois.

Ed was born on August 30, 1926, the eldest of four children born to Edwin F.L. Keil and Adeline Stelk Keil, in Oak Park, Illinois.

World War II ended Ed's high school days, as he obtained his mother's permission to join the US Navy. He attended pre-flight training school and wanted to eventually fly PBYS, but the war ended before he started flight training.

He attended University of Missouri on the GI Bill, studying journalism. He went into advertising, and was living in New York City, working for the Leo Burnett agency, when he met his future wife, Ruth Adams. She was one of the "girls" in the support team for the Arthur Godfrey Show and Ed handled their ads. Ruth and Ed were married in 1952 and had three sons, raised in Highland Park, Illinois. They were members of Trinity Episcopal Church in Highland Park for many years.

Ed had a 55 year-long career in advertising and marketing. When he was 76, he was approached by a British firm, asking if he would sell advertising for a group of construction-related magazines. He agreed, and as a result he went

to many exciting conferences like "Concrete World." After he finally retired, he attended Lake Forest College and earned a Masters of Creative Writing degree.

Ed's family got used to his habit of "chatting up" waitresses, nurses, mechanics, anyone he interacted with on a regular basis. He knew where they had grown up, where their kids went to school, what the kids were currently doing, and the like. He loved talking to people.

He was predeceased by his brothers Laurence and Andrew. He is survived by his wife Ruth; his sister Adeline "Peggy" Keil Koukos of Lincolnshire, Illinois; his sons Mark of Andover, Massachusetts, Todd of Vernon Hills, Illinois and Edwin of Indian Hills, Colorado; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A private family gathering will be held after the holidays to honor Edwin William John Keil.

Interment & services will be private.