



## James Lowel Keitzer Jr.

June 20, 1945 - January 24, 2018

James Lowel Keitzer, Jr. of Rolla, Missouri passed away Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at the age of 72. James was born on June 20, 1945 at the Hart Hospital in Salem, Missouri to the late James Lowel, Sr. and Helena (Halbrook) Keitzer.

James was united in marriage to the love of his life, Martha (Wilson) Keitzer on August 13, 1967; this union was blessed with one daughter.

James was an entrepreneur; he owned and ran a medical equipment business for many years. He was also an inventor and very talented craftsman, who always took pride in his work. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend who will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved him.

James is survived by his wife of fifty years, Martha Keitzer of the home; daughter, Amanda Harrold and fiancé Jim Brumley of St. Louis, MO; brothers, John (Janet) Keitzer of Willard, MO and Keith (Judy) Keitzer of Republic, MO; sisters, Cherri (Dennis) Halbrook of St. James, MO and Julianna (Jonathan) Halbrook of Rolla, MO; thirteen grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

In addition to his parents, James was preceded in death by one brother, Eric

Keitzer.

Graveside service for James Lowel Keitzer, Jr. will be held at the Brookshire Cemetery, Rolla, Mo on Monday, January 29, 2018 at 1:00PM.

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Lowel Keitzer Jr.*

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January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *James Lowel Keitzer Jr.*

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January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM

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“ My Dad. I will always remember his strength and his drive to be successful. He had amazing talent as a craftsman and was meticulous about every single detail. At one time he was the most sought after upholsterer in the area because his work was impeccable. He never let anything leave his shop unless he deemed it perfect, even if it meant losing his profit by tearing it down and redoing it at his own expense. He taught me the importance of paying attention to detail. That is the difference between someone who does something as a job and someone who does something with a passion for creating something beautiful. Even as a child I would sometimes stare in amazement at an antique sofa that came in his shop looking like it should be at the city dump, that he had transformed into a work of art. He had an incredible work ethic that is unmatched by anyone I have ever encountered in my life. I can barely recall him ever taking a day off. He worked when he was sick, he worked when he was injured and in pain, he even managed to fulfill orders 2 weeks after bypass surgery in 2003. He was the most honest person I have ever known. If you asked him his opinion on something, you would always get the truth, even if it was not what you wanted to hear and he knew it. I honestly cannot even recall a little "white lie". I'm sure that there were some but nothing comes to mind. I remember when I was a teenager and a friend would call that I didn't necessarily want to speak to, I would whisper, "Tell her I'm not home!", and he would say, "Here she is." and hand me the phone. I would get mad at him and he would say, "I'm not going to lie for you!" And he never ever did. His resilience in response to the loss of his legs will always amaze and inspire me. He worked tirelessly in rehab to build his strength back. And as in all aspects of his life, his drive to succeed afforded him almost complete independence despite his inability to walk. He was physically "strong as an ox", as he would say, right to the very end, and that's the way he would have wanted it. I am proud to have him as my father, I love him dearly and I will miss him every single day for the rest of my life but I know in my heart that he is in a better place now and he is in peace.

**Amanda Keitzer** - January 28, 2018 at 10:51 PM