



Elroy Kinder

January 22, 1934 - December 30, 2022

Elroy Frederick Kinder passed away December 30, 2022 at The Missouri Veterans Home, in Cape Girardeau.

Elroy was born January 22, 1934, at home, southwest of Gordonville, Cape Girardeau County Missouri to Roy Lester and Alma Clara Krueger Kinder. He was baptized at the home of Anna and Elmer Hamilton, Morley Missouri, by Reverend Elmer Koerber on March 17, 1934. He was confirmed in 1959 by Reverend William Opitz at Hanover Lutheran Church.

He attended the one-room Liberty School in grades 1 and 2, the Marquette School in grades 3 through 8, the College High School, graduating in 1951. After working at the Sunny Hill Dairy for 2 years he entered the U.S. Army on July 14, 1954, completed basic and advanced basic at Camp Chaffee, near Fort

Smith Arkansas. He served 18 months in Ludwigsburg, near Stuttgart, Germany, as Company Clerk, then Battalion Personnel Clerk with the 5315 Quartermaster Company, 7 U.S. Army. He attained the rank of Specialist three with a letter of commendation from his company commander.

After his reassignment to the U.S. Army Reserve on June 15, 1956, Elroy attended Southeast Missouri State University, earning a Bachelor's degree in Education with majors in the Biological Sciences and minors in Geology and

History.

He was employed by the St. Louis Corps of Engineers for seven years in the District Headquarters located in the old post office building, Boatmen's Bank building and Frisco building in downtown St. Louis. His duties included evaluating Civil Service examinations for various Corps positions, eventually working as Management Analyst in implementing District administrative operations to computer systems beginning with the punch card method of data analysis.

He was employed as a Biology teacher in Pattonville, Mo, Sikeston, Mo and Cape Girardeau, at L. J. Schultz middle school. He served as graduate assistant at Southeast Missouri State for several summers while earning a Masters of Science degree in guidance and counseling in 1973. He also worked part time with the adult education program. He retired from teaching in June of 1992 after 30 years of service.

While working in St. Louis, June 17, 1961, he met his future bride, Mary Susan Sciortino, a nursing student at St. John's Hospital School of Nursing. Susan is the daughter of Joseph and Gladys Sutton Sciortino of Cape Girardeau. On September 8, 1962 were married at the St. Mary Cathedral in Cape Girardeau.

Since retiring he was employed as Administrative Assistant to Reverend Jeffrey Sippy at Hanover Lutheran Church. He was a member of Hanover and served as Bible class teacher for 25 years and as congregation chairman, elder, member of the Board of Education and congregation secretary. He was active

on the
Old Church Committee which administers the historic church and school. He researched and prepared the nomination of the buildings to the Register of Historic Places, receiving the award in 1987. In addition to the nomination he has researched and written the history of Lutheranism in Southeast Missouri and the History of Hanover Lutheran Church and its impact on the spread of Lutheran churches in this area. Other writings include many "bits of history", from oral history interviews with older members of Hanover and community. He has edited and contributed to "Arnsberg", a history of that North Cape County village and the St. John Lutheran Church of Arnsberg, now long since disbanded. He edited and wrote more than 200 monthly newsletters from the late
1980's until 2004.

He has been a friend to the Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis, receiving
three prestigious awards for his work in writing the histories of Lutheranism, the
preservation of local cemeteries and old churches. He received a most appreciative letter of commendation for his work in helping
secure the noted Pastor Henry Gerecke letter of World War II Nuremberg Trial and was
involved in the transportation and presentation of the letter to the Institute. He also served three years on the
Cape Girardeau Historic Preservation Commission in the late 1990's. He served as Scoutmaster for Troop 8, Trinity Lutheran Church in Cape Girardeau, from 1982 until 1986. He worked as Science merit badge counselor
and guided several scouts, including his two sons, David and John, through the

Eagle Scout program. He served as nature director for two summers at Boy Scout Camp Lewallen near Silva, MO. In 1985 he was the Camp Director overseeing all camping and scouting activities for over 800 scouts from the southeast Missouri and bootheel areas.

Elroy has served as chairman of the German Evangelical Cemetery Association

near Dutchtown, MO, Thompson Cemetery Association near Gordonville, MO, for over 50 years, Arnsberg Cemetery Association near Friedheim. All are family

cemeteries that have been restored, preserved and provided for with donations

and the establishment of perpetual care funds. He has written detailed histories

of each. Other cemeteries that he worked to preserve are the Old Hanover Cemetery, Shady Grove cemetery east of Dutchtown, and the Krueger Cemetery, located behind Hanover Church on the bank above Cape Lacroix Creek.

Retiring from the position at Hanover in 2004 he and Mary Susan sold their home and property in September 2006, located at the southwest corner of Bloomfield and Mount Auburn and moved to a smaller home four blocks east on Bloomfield Road . He has been active in family businesses; Kinder Motor Company, First Auto Credit, EF Kinder Properties, JJK Development, AnimalDecor.com <<http://animaldecor.com/>> and Home place Collectibles and Antiques.

He had numerous interests and hobbies including genealogy, served many years

as chairman of the annual Kinder Reunion, he loved to go to Capital Sand and watch the "trucks" and all the activities . The Bollinger mill, Castor River, Lake Girardeau, and especially liked to drive past his birth and home place West of

Cape., he enjoyed photography, nature study, travel and collecting antique clocks, tools, tractors and vintage farm equipment. He proudly displayed his collection of historic Bibles and two sets of 50 volumes of 1700's Martin Luther's Works.

He was an avid reader and researcher in the latest knowledge of our planet and our place and was very much informed and without doubt on Intelligent Design, beginning of human life from time of conception and the Holy Bible being telling "the way to go to heaven" and his love of science as telling "the way the heavens go."

He cared for his dear wife Mary Susan and he will join her at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery at Bloomfield Mo.

The love of Elroy's life, Mary Susan, departed this life in 2014. He was also preceded in death by his parents; two sisters Lorene Keller, Arlene Kight; and daughter-in-law, Cheryl Kinder.

Survivors include two sons: David Kinder; John Kinder; two daughters: Kathy Kinder (Jeff Overbeck), Jill (Chris) Haman; one grandson: Jared Kinder (Caitlin Benecke) dear friends: History Center, Cliff Overbeck, Jeff Sippy, and "best buddy" Pastor Zack Strong.

Special thanks to the Missouri Veterans Home in Cape, and Crown Hospice for the caring for Elroy.

Funeral service will be January 17, 11:00 AM at the National Veterans Cemetery at Bloomfield Mo. Pastor Zack Strong officiating. Interment will be in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery at Bloomfield Missouri.

Memorials may be made to Christ Church of the Heartland Cape Girardeau or Trinity Lutheran School, Cape Girardeau.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Bloomfield Cemetery

Bloomfield, MO 63825

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bloomfield Cemetery
Bloomfield, MO 63825

Tribute Wall



“ *What a heck of a guy! He was so involved in the SE Missouri community, especially cemetery causes!!*
Doug Obermann

Doug Obermann - March 20, 2023 at 02:44 PM

CB

“ *Elroy was a kind man. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

Christy Bollinger - January 13, 2023 at 02:15 PM

CD

“ *My wife, Cindy, and I met Elroy and the Kinder family in about 1990. We were newly married in November of 1989 and were in search for a church. We visited a number of Catholic and Lutheran Churches. We were referred by Vicki and Jim Frank to visit their church which was Hanover Lutheran. It was the warmest and most, genuinely, friendly church. That attitude was because of Pastor Jeff Sippy and people like Elroy Kinder. Elroy was just a kind man who loved God, his wife, his family, his country, and most everyone he met. We soon after joining Hanover had Lauren and Valerie. David and Cheryl Kinder had Elroy and Susan's first grandchild in between the births of our girls. Jared is a fine man and I see Elroy's mannerisms in Jared. I also see them in David, John, Kathy, and Jill. Elroy lives in the lives of all of his children and in Jared. Rest In Peace Elroy. My prayers and condolences to all of you!*

*Love,
Cindy & Chuck Drewett*

Chuck Drewett - January 10, 2023 at 05:35 PM

JS

“ Elroy and our family go back to 1950's at Foursquare Church as well as he and my husband worked together at Sunny Hill Dairy and Restaurant. What memories we had as well as he was a teacher for one or more of our sons in school. What a wonderful friend and fellow believer. You are still blessed as a family - what a legacy his life is to all of you. David - sorry about the loss of your wife just a few days before your Dad. That has to be hard. Praying for you and the whole family. Jeannette McDowell Stone (James Stone's wife)

Jeannette Stone - January 09, 2023 at 05:49 PM

JS

“ We are so very sad to hear of Uncle Elroy's passing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the whole Kinder family.
Jennifer (Meeseey) Saless and family.

Jennifer Saless - January 08, 2023 at 10:43 PM

MT

“ My sympathy to the Kinder family. I so enjoyed the many visits with Mr. Kinder on Saturdays at the History Center in Jackson. I treasure all the local history he shared with me. I know he has touched many lives. He is rejoicing at the feet of Jesus!

Margaret Tallent - January 06, 2023 at 11:46 AM