



John McKinley

May 31, 1921 - November 8, 2011

John McKinley, a long time Bloomingtonian, died 11/8/2011. He was born May 31, 1921 in Knox County, Indiana to Lester and Emma Caroline Meier McKinley. He is survived by children Lee McKinley of Bloomington and his wife Maria, Nancy Davis of Sierra Madre, California and her husband Scott, and Allen McKinley of Des Moines, Iowa and his wife Paula. He is also survived by 6 grandchildren; Ryan McKinley of Bloomington, Adam McKinley of Seattle, Washington, Susan McKinley of Indianapolis, Kate Greer of Madison, Wisconsin, and Nicholas and Mallory McKinley of Des Moines, Iowa. He was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Maxine Shake McKinley, and a daughter Ann. John was a life-long scholar who attended Hanover College prior to WWII, and after the war, Indiana State Teacher's College, where he received a Bachelor's degree. He received a Masters degree in English, and doctorate in Adult Education at Indiana University. His career was devoted to teaching and expanding the knowledge of group dynamics and team-based learning. He wrote several textbooks in the Adult Education field, and co-authored the "Indiana Plan," which became a national model for Participation Training. This design has been used extensively in North America as well as Japan, Australia, and Denmark. He was the founding father of the Commission of Professors of Adult Education, which comprises the academic leadership of the

profession. He retired from Indiana University as a distinguished professor in 1982. He later published a collection of poems with his son Lee and grandson, Adam. John loved Bloomington and the small towns of southern Indiana. He mastered the guitar and played with "Pop Korn and the Kernels" in some local speakeasys during the Great Depression. He was a kind and gentle man, much loved by his family and students. His family is grateful for his life and impact on their lives and the memories he left with them. Camping everywhere east of the Mississippi is just one of many that his children will cherish. He did not like ceremonies and requested no funeral. There will be a public reception however, and a reading of his poetry at Deer Park Manor on Sunday, November 13 from 2- 4 PM.

Tribute Wall

IH

“ Lee, you and your family have my deepest sympathy. There should be comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten.

Ihor Boyko - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

VV

“ Dear McKinley Family,
We are so sorry to hear of your loss. While we did not know Mr. McKinley personally, we are both fond of his son Lee, who shared high school experiences with us, and can well imagine that the character and integrity of the son came in many ways from his father. You will be in our thoughts.

Vince and Valri Chiappetta

Vince and Valri Chiappetta - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

ME

“ Lee: So sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. My thoughts are with you and your family.
Melody Taber Volland
Class of '69

Melody Volland - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

ML

“ So sorry to hear about your dad. He was a special person.

Mary Lou Nierzwicki - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

AN

“ I send my thoughts and sympathy on the death of John. I only met him in January of this year when I started going out to Bell Trace to be part of the writing group of which John was such an important member. He was funny, kind, encouraging and with a marvelous sense of humor. I knew that he was a professor but until I read his obituary I did not know the extent of his achievements. But in the writing group he was just one of us although offering piquant observations. His limericks were wonderful, and his sense of fun infectious. I will miss him greatly and remember with pleasure that I had the privilege to have met him.

Antonia Matthew - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

DE

“ Lee,

*I am sorry to hear of the loss your father.
My thoughts are with you and your and your family.*

Dennis

Dennis Long - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

JM

“ Lee, As a former patient of yours, I just wanted to say I am sorry to hear of your loss. I never met your father. Solely judging by your dedication and compassion, I'm sure he was a great man to raise such a great son. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Jim Mullikin - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

SU

“ I worked with Dr. McKinley in the mid to late 60's and thru part of the 70's. It was my first job out of high school and I was just 18. I worked at the Bureau of Studies in Adult Education w/ 5 professors and he was one of them. Being just out of high school and he was probably in his early 40's, I thought he was so debonair looking w/ his pipe. He was so nice to me and I only have the fondest of memories of him. My thoughts and prayers are will you all at this time.

Susan Truelock - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM

HD

“ Sorry to hear of your loss, thoughts and prayers to your family.

Harry and Donna Carson (Knox Co. In.)

Harry and Donna Carson - October 26, 2015 at 04:21 PM