



Kennon H. Shank

May 29, 1921 - October 13, 2012

Kennon H. Shank, professor emeritus of Speech and Hearing Sciences and former chairman of the department at Indiana University, died October 13, 2012. He was 91 years old.

Born May 29, 1921 in Lac Que Parle county, Minnesota, he was the son of Charles E. and Emma May (Hamilton) Shank. He enlisted in the US Army Air Corp in 1942 at the age of 21 and served in the Philippines during WWII. He was discharged as a Captain in 1946. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Simpson College and Master's and Doctorate from Denver University. In 1995 he was recognized by Simpson College with an outstanding alumni award. He joined the faculty at IU in 1965 and retired in 1986.

Professor Shank was a member of the American Speech and Hearing Association and was named a fellow in 1971. His professional career was spent at Texas Women's University, the University of Oklahoma as well as IU.

Shank believed in community volunteerism. He worked with many organizations: South Central Community Mental Health Center; Bloomington Convalescent Center; Stonebelt Center; Bloomington Hospital Auxiliary; Bloomington Housing Authority among

others. He was a past president of the University Club. He was a member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church. Upon his retirement in 1986 he volunteered 20 hours a week for three years as an administrative assistant to the pastors at St. Mark's.

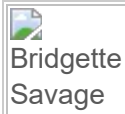
Survivors include four daughters: Kenda Jochim (Thomas) and Janet Smith (Stephen) of Bloomington, Donna Lobdell (Greg) of Ft. Wayne, and Pruda Trujillo of Farmington, NM; ten grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren and special friend, Sharon Keener of Bloomington. His wife, Marion Prouty Shank and sister Edith R. Shank preceded him in death.

Memorial services will be held at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on Sunday October 28th at 4:00 p.m. Because of construction in front of the church, please see this website for updates on directions: www.stmarksbloomington.org

Memorial contributions may be made to Bloomington Hospital Foundation (Hospice or Volunteers in Medicine).

Allen Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Friends can send condolences to www.allenfuneralhome.org

Tribute Wall



“ *Bridgette Savage sent a virtual gift in memory of Kennon H. Shank*



Bridgette Savage - July 20, 2025 at 03:00 PM

BZ

“ *We are thinking of you. I know that Kennon's passing leaves behind a large emptiness--I hope that the many great memories your family made together will gather there to comfort you.*

Bridgette Z. Savage - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

RA

“ *We are very sorry for the passing of Kenda's dad. We remember him for his funny jokes and gentle smile. We are also sorry that we can't be at the memorial on Sunday since we will be out of town. May his soul rest in peace. With our sincere condolences, Raja and Rula Hanania*

Raja Hanania - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

JU

“ *Kennon's interest and concern for people has been passed on to his daughters, his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren. What a legacy of generations that continues to reach beyond themselves and into the lives of others. I am one of the 'others' indirectly enriched by Kennon's long-reaching influence. I grieve with you for your loss.*

Julie Voorhees - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

KF

“ During my teenage years we were neighbors of the Shank family. Being a classmate of Donna's, we spent a significant amount of time at her house. With more than a little envy I observed a loving home life. I watched as the love and respect this family had for each other created an environment to be cherished. Little did I know God was using this family to give me the tools I needed to create that same wonderful home life I have so cherished with my family. Professor Shank was an angel in my path to whom I will always be indebted. I am so grateful to God for using him to touch so many lives. My prayers are with his family.

Kathy Hancock Floyd - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

DN

“ May your cherished memories give you comfort at this time of loss. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Dottie & Nevin Raber - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

GC

“ What a wonderful man...I am sure it will be very difficult to be without him. However, he was truly blessed to have accomplished so much, but most of all to have been the patriarch of such a great family. I feel so fortunate to have been able to spend some time with him at the reunion, just chatting away, sitting on the couch like old friends.
My thoughts are with all of you.

Gretchen Oestreich Cozzolino - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

TE

“ *In Sympathy*

I worked at BCC many years ago and Kennon volunteered on the Board of Directors at BCC. He was always very nice and friendly to everyone he had contact with. He did a lot of good work for the patients and employees of BCC. I also recently would see him volunteering here within the hospital - always with a smile. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.
Terri Denson - IU Health Bloomington Hospital

Terri Denson - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

CO

“ *We have had the great pleasure of having Kennon with us as a volunteer and as dear friend - he touches lives and makes a difference in every setting. We are blessed to have enjoyed this time with him as a volunteer and will treasure our memories of his great smile and wonderful sense of humor. Thank you family for sharing this great man with us - he has touched our hearts. From his IU Health Bloomington Hospital Volunteer family.*

Connie Hill - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

LY

“ *We are thinking of you - each and all - and treasuring the many happy memories we have of times with Ken and Marion in Bloomington. What a difference they made in our lives! So sorry we can not be with you on Sunday.*

With all best wishes,

Lynne and Ron Schuetz and Family

Lynne Schuetz - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM

ST

“ Kennon's Family and Friends:

The day I met Kennon and Marion was a beautiful fall day, much like today. They had hired me through a fundraiser at St Mark's to help rake leaves. We had a wonderful conversation and began a friendship that lasted many years.

Kennon was a kind and thoughtful man. He was a friend and mentor. My condolences to the family on the passing of this very special person.

Steve Moore, MD

Steve Moore - March 22, 2013 at 08:17 AM