



## James Keating,

December 25, 1926 - December 15, 2013

On Sunday, December 15, 2013 James Lindley Keating peacefully joined his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, from his home outside Crystal Springs, MS. A memorial service will be held at Stringers Funeral Home in Crystal Springs on Wednesday, December 18, at 11:00 AM, with visitation scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM. James was born December 25, 1926, to John Ingram Keating, Sr. and Sadie Elinor Worrell Keating at Sharon, Mississippi. He was preceded in death by his parents, his older brother Bill, and his twin brother Jack. Last year he lost Reen, his best friend and his devoted wife of 60 years. At Sharon, the family owned and operated a dairy farm and a country store. Both were lost in the depression. In 1935 they moved to Crystal Springs and joined with thousands of other vegetable farmers to help the town become "the Tomatopolis of the World." During this time, James became active in high school sports and was named co-captain of the 1945 Crystal Springs Tigers A€™ football team. He joined and was an active member of First Baptist Church and his Sunday School class. As a youth, he represented his church in an area speaking contest held in Vicksburg. After graduating from high school, James was drafted into the United States Army and received Basic Infantry Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. He and his outfit were sent to Japan, where he served until receiving his honorable discharge in December of 1946 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. James earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Mississippi State College in 1952 and entered the Air Force at Brooks AFB, Texas, in August of that same year. The next year, he

was assigned to the Personnel Officer School at Scott AFB, Illinois. Following graduation, he served in Germany, Korea, and Japan. While in Japan, he met 1st Lieutenant Maureen Heath from Goose Creek, Texas. They married a year later. With the multitude of air bases worldwide, James and Reen always felt it was a miracle of the Lord that brought them together at Johnson Air Base in Japan. In 1958, Captain Reen Keating left the Air Force to return to teaching. A short time later James received an assignment to the University of Puerto Rico AFROTC. Reen began teaching at Fort Buchanan where they lived. Both received their private pilot and Ham radio licenses that provided much pleasure, travel, and excitement over the next several decades. From there, James was sent to Biggs Air Force Base in El Paso, Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls, and Davis Monthan AFB in Tucson. While in Arizona, James earned a master A€™s degree and Rene her second master A€™s degree. In 1967 both of them went back into teaching fulltime, and both continued to take classes at the University of North Texas. James completed all requirements for his doctorate except the dissertation. In addition, they moved to Fort Worth and built a house, doing all the work themselves except the foundation, framing, and roofing. After UNT, James served as Assistant,

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Keating,*

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January 28, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *My prayers are with you during this time of sorrow in your lives.  
What a rewarding life he Mr. James and his wife had.,*

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**Edna Earle Crews** - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM