



## Dr. S. Keith Hickey

July 4, 1954 - May 4, 2016

Dr. S. Keith Hickey of Sweetwater, passed away Wednesday, May 4 at the age of 61. The son of the late William S. Hickey Sr. and the late Joyce M. Hickey, Keith grew up in Sweetwater, attending the schools he would later lead. He was a 1972 graduate of Sweetwater High School, where he played football on the '72 state championship team. He got his undergraduate degree from Tennessee Tech in 1976 and his master's degree from the University of Tennessee a year later. In 1975, he married Teresa Plemons, his high school sweetheart. Keith began his career in education as a math teacher at Sweetwater Junior High School. Two years later he became principal at Sweetwater Elementary School. During his tenure there he continued his education and received his PhD from UT. At the age of 37, Keith was appointed superintendent of Sweetwater City Schools, a position he held for 20 years until his retirement in 2011. He was a lifelong member of Sweetwater United Methodist Church, where he served in many capacities. He was an active member of the community having volunteered his time to many local events, was a member of the Kiwanis Club and youth softball coach. He loved all things sports and one of his greatest joys was attending UT football games.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, William S. Hickey Jr; stepbrother, Baxter Edmondson.

Keith is survived by his wife, Teresa; their children, Adam Hickey and Cory

Hickey Wood, son-in-law, Casey Wood; grandchildren, Brooks and Dawson Wood; sister, Valerie Hickey Allmon; nephew, Drew Leinart; niece, Avery Leinart Felton and husband Joseph Felton; brother-in-law, Doug Plemons; step-father, Bill Edmondson; stepbrother, Ken Edmondson; and a wonderful group of cousins.

The family will receive friends Saturday, May 7 from 11 am – 2 pm at Sweetwater United Methodist Church family life center. Celebration of life service will follow in the church sanctuary with Rev. Mike Hubble and Rev. Larry Orr officiating. Family and friends will meet at 12:15pm at Sweetwater Memorial Park on Sunday, May 8, 2016 for a 12:30pm interment. Pallbearers will be his great friends, Danny Cansler, Mickey Plemons, Larry Avens, Donnie Wilson, Eddie Knight, Scott White, Larry Belk, Richard Bettis, Brandon Cansler and Russell Belk.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Sweetwater Education Foundation or Sweetwater United Methodist Church. Kyker Funeral Homes, Sweetwater, in charge of arrangements. [www.kykerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 7. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
501 Church St.  
Sweetwater, TN

## Celebration of Life

MAY 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
501 Church St.  
Sweetwater, TN

# Tribute Wall

PC

“*Kieth and I were at TMI in 1969 and 1970. Kieth was an even keeled and smart person. We were friends and I was saddened to recently learn of his passing. We both played football - he was a guard and I was the offensive tackle. We lost all of our games, but I remember one game where this defensive tackle was giving us fits. On one play, however, we devised a plan where Kieth went low and I went high and the defensive tackle ended-up on his butt ... and we were happy.*

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**Phil Cowherd** - February 19, 2019 at 06:08 AM

JK

“*Even though I moved away 20+ yrs ago, I have great memories of Keith & Teresa as they led our Methodist youth group. A truly selfless and special couple. My prayers are with you Teresa, and your family. In Christ, Jody Knight*

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**Jody Knight** - May 13, 2016 at 04:36 PM

TS

“*I remember him being my principal and my supertindent he was a sweet person and I will always remember him being sweet and kind and caring I will be praying for the family I am so sorry for your all's loss*



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**Tracy Schmitt** - May 08, 2016 at 06:52 PM

LT

“ Teresa  
I am so sorry for your loss  
I pray God's comforting spirit to be with you during this season of  
grief  
Your friend in Christ  
Linda Thearp

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**linda thearp** - May 07, 2016 at 08:21 PM

PK

“ This special note is on behalf of Linda Oaks Millwood :My thoughts  
and prayers go out to you during this time. KEITH was very special.  
Love the both of you. Sorry I could not be there. Written by Patsy for  
Linda

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**Patsy king** - May 07, 2016 at 10:54 AM

SM

“ Teresa, you and Keith hold a special place in  
the hearts of so many. I pray that God will  
give peace and comfort to you and your  
family during this time .. know that I love you  
and am praying for you.



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**Sonya Miller** - May 07, 2016 at 09:57 AM

MM

“ Keith will be missed. Our thoughts and  
prayers for Teresa and family. I have heard  
such great things that Keith has accomplished  
in his life and he was indeed a bright and  
caring man.



*Michael R. Marshall*

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**Michael R. Marshall** - May 07, 2016 at 09:32 AM

PK

“ *Patsy King lit a candle in memory of Dr. S. Keith Hickey*



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**Patsy king** - May 07, 2016 at 08:19 AM

PK

“ *Sorry I could not be there but you are in my thoughts and prayers. Keith will be dearly missed by all. What an inspiration to me and our Class. His Faith in God never wavered. Truly loved and you also Teresa. PRAYERS to you and family*

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**Patsy king** - May 07, 2016 at 08:18 AM

M(

“ *I considered Keith to be a life long friend. He will always be remembered as a kind, caring and wonderful person. Keith will not only be remember by people his own age but also by my own children and many others. I find some very good memories that Keith was a part of and I consider myself very fortunate to have known him. With deepest sympathy, Jodie(Marshall) Moser*

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**Marshall (Jodie)Moser** - May 06, 2016 at 04:52 PM

PB

“ Dearest Teresa, Corey, Adam and Val. Please know our heart and prayers are with you all. Keith was indeed a wonderful husband, father, brother and friend. Proud to be able to know him better as we grew older and wiser. Due to health issues I will not be able to pay respects in person. I suffered another stroke in January and am very limited in my mobility. Just wanted you all to know I was thinking of you.

*Phylis and Gary Bellamy*

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**phylis bellamy** - May 06, 2016 at 12:00 PM

LC

“ It was such an honor to know Keith, he was such a kind, gentle man who was always concerned about other people instead of himself. He fought a hard battle and not once did I ever hear him complain about what he was going through. He was one of a kind and will truly be missed by all that knew him.

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**Loretta Isbill University Cancer Center** - May 06, 2016 at 09:16 AM

MR

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Mr. Hickey. He was a great teacher and a wonderful man.

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**Mark Rhodes** - May 06, 2016 at 07:11 AM

 Louise Barnes

“ A gentle man, and a gentleman. Keith was one of the kindest, humble men I have ever known. His love for his wife and children, and for Sweetwaters children, was evidence of a godly man.

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**Louise Barnes** - May 05, 2016 at 09:46 PM



Bethany  
Rice

“ *My condolences to the Hickey family. Dr. Hickey was a great man, and I was so blessed to have spent my first year of teaching under his leadership.*

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**Bethany Rice** - May 05, 2016 at 09:00 PM

DC

“ *Prayers for the family. What a great leader he was in our community and an inspiration to all.*

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**Donna Cook** - May 05, 2016 at 07:23 PM

KR

“ *So sad. What a wonderful man and teacher. He will be missed by all who ever had the great opportunity of meeting him. Prayers*

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**Karen Roberts** - May 05, 2016 at 06:25 PM