



Keith Edward Thayer Sr., 63 of Mount Olivet, Kentucky, died at home on Wednesday, August 12th 2015. Keith was born March 16, 1952 in Erie, Pa, a son of the late Arnold and Betty (Pollock) Thayer. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and brother.

Keith was a graduate of the Pennsylvania State Police Academy. He was an avid outdoorsman, and was passionate about American history and his family roots. Although raised in the city, after becoming disabled early in his life, he and his family moved to the country and enjoyed learning how to raise livestock. He was a connoisseur of old westerns and could wile away the hours watching John Wayne, Clint Eastwood movies, and Gun Smoke.

Known to his family and friends as a caring man of strong moral character. Keith was immensely proud of his children and their accomplishments. He was happiest with his family.

Keith served in the United States Army and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He continued service to his nation as a member of the Army National Guard in Colorado and Kentucky and the U.S. Army Reserve in Pennsylvania. He was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, the American Legion and was inducted as an honorable Kentucky Colonel.

He is survived by his devoted and beloved wife of 45 years, Janice (Miller) Thayer; his three children, Carol Thayer (Jon), of Cincinnati, OH, Keith Thayer Jr. (Amara), of Manhattan, KS, and Zack Thayer (Brandi), of Foster KY; five grandchildren, Dominique, Nicholas, Eden, Nathaniel and Kinsley; He is also survived by five brothers and two sisters, James Thayer (Karen), Jack Thayer (Janet), Mike Thayer (Chris), Gary Thayer (Rose), Randall Thayer, Wendy Kern (Greg) and Cindy Pierson (Rich) and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Keith was preceded in death by his brother Donald Thayer.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Merle E. Wood Funeral Home, Inc., new location, 845 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street at Pine Avenue, within the Brugger Funeral Homes and Crematory; visiting hours on Sunday from 4:00 and 6:00 PM and Monday from 12:00 PM until the time of the funeral service at 1:00 PM. Online condolences may be offered by visiting [www.merlewoodfh.com](http://www.merlewoodfh.com) Burial with full military honors will be in Erie Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, 301 Grant Street, Suite 900, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.