

Subject: Gene "Kewee" Kelewae

To: 655webmaster@ssbn655.org

I am writing to inform you of the passing of my dad, Gene "Kewee" Kelewae on Saturday, 12AUG2017 at 0830. He served on the USS Henry L Stimson from 1969 to 1972 on the Gold Crew. By looking at the dates of some of your members, people on here might have served with him. I am sending this, so if you keep records of shipmates, you can add this to it. Here is the link to his obituary:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/fosters/obituary.aspx?n=gene-m-kelewae&pid=186388743>

Gene Mark Kelewae 04JUN1950 to 12AUG2017

v/r Mark Kelewae

CS3(SS) Gene M. Kelewae 1950 – 2017
USS HENRY L. STIMSON GOLD 1969-1972



NORTH BERWICK, Maine - Gene M. Kelewae, age 67, of Main Street, passed away Saturday, August 12, 2017 at his home after a long battle with Cancer. Gene was born in Gary, Indiana on June 4, 1950, the son of J. Emmett and Ruth (Waite) Kelewae.

After graduating high school in Akron, Ohio, Gene served in the [U.S. Navy](#) during the Viet Nam war on the "Gold Crew" of the Henry L. Stimson. Upon returning home, he earned his degree in Business Administration at UNH in Durham. In 1973, he married Janet Kimball and raised four children, putting down roots in North Berwick in 1985. He worked as a CAD draftsman at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, retiring in 2014 but continued to work until a few weeks ago.

Gene had a big heart and a giving nature. He was always thinking of others in everything he did. He was fondly known as "The Bread Man", baking bread for many charitable organizations including church fairs, the local food pantry and gifting his bread to the many people who touched his life over the years. His bread-baking was an art he mastered over the years. He'd taught himself to make many varieties of breads from around the world and was famous for his "Nutella" bread.

Music was also a huge part of Gene's life. He sang in the Senior Choir and visiting choir of the 1st Parish Congregational Church in Dover before joining the

Congregational Church of North Berwick where he continued to bless the congregation with his singing up until one week before his death.


First and foremost, Gene loved his family. His children and grandchildren were the apples of his eye. He was a big kid at heart and had a natural way with every child he ever met. He was the pied piper of children and a "hands on" Grampy. All children flocked to him as he'd get on the floor just to play with them. The kids brought him as much joy as he did them.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Janet (Kimball) Kelewae of North Berwick, his father J. Emmett Kelewae and his partner, JoAnn Stewart of Weldon Spring, Mo., four children, Mark Kelewae and wife Angela of Sanford, Mike Kelewae of North Berwick, Jennifer Kelewae of Lewiston and Samantha Kelewae of Sanford, three brothers, Jacquell Kelewae and his wife Sarah of Crystal Lake, Ill., Kenneth Kelewae and his wife Susan of Massillon, Ohio, Jonathan Kelewae of Long Beach, Calif.; two sisters, Beth Hart of Hillsdale, Mich., and Karen Rademacher and her husband Bruce of Iowa City, Iowa; nine grandchildren, Mikaela, Ash and Camden Kelewae, Trinity Walsh, Liam Houle, Bentley and Brenton Giddings, Annelise and Danielle Rademacher, as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews.

SERVICES: A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 11 a.m., at the Congregational Church of North Berwick, 15 High St., North Berwick. Friends who wish may contribute in his memory to the North Berwick Food Pantry, P.O. Box 288, North Berwick, ME, 03906. Arrangements are entrusted to the Johnson Funeral Home, 26 Market Street, North Berwick, Maine. Condolences may be expressed at www.JohnsonFuneralHomeME.com

Kelewae Gene M 13451702

(NAME (OR PRINT NUMBER))



WIFE'S NAME SINGLE

CHILDREN'S NAMES: 1. _____ 5. _____
 2. _____ 6. _____
 3. _____ 7. _____
 4. _____ 8. _____

HOME STATE & TOWN Ind. Gary
 (STATE) (TOWN)

PREVIOUS DUTY STATIONS RTC
Great Lakes Ill
Newport R.I. New London Conn.
CS School Sub School

SPECIAL INTERESTS: _____

PROTOTYPE/MISSILE TRAINING: _____

EXPIRATION ACTIVE OBLI SERVICE: 1 Dec 72 ABBO 1 Dec 68

RELIGION Protestant TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE 8 mo.

DEPT/DIV ASSIGNMENT Supply DATE REPORTED 29 July 69

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS none CREW ASSIGNMENT Gold

DATE OF BIRTH 4 June 58 WIFE'S LOCAL ADDRESS: _____

PLACE OF BIRTH Gary Ind.

Online Memorial Page Entries:

August 26, 2017



For my uncle, the "Bread Man," the tenor who anchored a choir, the submarine cook who met his wife after a motorcycle accident, the one who did not want his food "de-'d and un-'d": Thank you for being a stable source of good in our family. Thank you for loving others well. Thank you for giving to the Lord. You will be missed more than you know, but I am glad that Jesus has you now, and the struggle with cancer is over. No more pain, no more sorrow... We will see you again someday. Until then, keep singing to Jesus and rest easy in the great love He provides.

To my family members: I'm sending you all a great big hug. I will always remember Unclu Gene as that reserved, matter-of-fact, persistent, stable part of our family that encourages fellowship. I'll never forget all of the Thanksgivings and family gatherings we had together, when my dad and Uncle Gene would try to out-eat each other... and the times when the men would "run away" from the jigsaw puzzles when Aunt Janet and my mom started talking openly about stuff... I hope you all have many fond memories of him, too. Keep them in your heart when you miss him, and remember that he is in a better place now.

~

Kim Porter,
Omaha, Nebraska

August 19, 2017



To the Kelewae Family,

On behalf of the Charleston Base SUBVETS and Swamp Fox Chapter SUBVETS WWII, I offer you our sincere condolences on Gene's passing. We grieve with you on the loss of your loved one and our shipmate. The SUBVETS will have your family in our thoughts and prayers. There is no expiration date on the back of our dolphins and Kewee, who earned his 'fish' when he qualified on USS HENRY L. STIMSON SSBN-655G, will always be remembered as a Brother of the Phin and a great Patriot.

CS3(SS) Gene M. Kelewae
US Navy Submarine Veteran
Now on Eternal Patrol
Sailor Rest Your Oar
Your Shipmates Have The Watch
Fair Winds and Following Seas Shipmate

Charleston Base Submarine Veterans
Nick Nichols, MTCM(SS) USN Ret.
Base Chaplain

August 19, 2017



To Janet and the Kelewae Family,

On behalf of the USS Henry L Stimson SSBN655 Association, I offer you our sincere condolences on Kewee's passing. We grieve with you on the loss of your loved one and our shipmate. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. There is no expiration date on the back of our dolphins and Gene will always be remembered as a Brother of the Phin, a Stimson shipmate and a great Patriot. Lonnie's name has been placed on the Eternal Patrol page of the Stimson Website: <http://ssbn655.org/eternal-patrol/eternal-patrol.html>

I had the "pleasure" of being a messcook under Kewee's guidance during my first patrol on the Stimson Gold. Even then, Gene had a leadership quality about him.

CS3(SS) Gene M. Kelewae

US Navy Submarine Veteran

Now on Eternal Patrol

Sailor Rest Your Oar

Your Shipmates Have The Watch

Fair Winds and Following Seas Shipmate

Nick Nichols, MTCM(SS) USN Ret

Secretary/Webmaster SSBN 655 Association

August 19, 2017

May Gene Rest in Peace. I Mess Cooked with "KeWee" on the USS Henry L. Stimson in 1970/71. We were so young back then, I'm sorry for your loss. It sure sounds like he lived a good life.

"Sailor Rest Your Oars"

~

Dick Young,

Cincinnati, Ohio

August 18, 2017



With our deepest sympathies to the family. He will be deeply missed by his wife, children, grandchildren, and all who knew him. May he rest in peace' Larry, Barbara, and Courtney Straffin

August 18, 2017

Mark and Family, So sorry to hear about your Dad. You are all in my prayers

~

Mary Marcum,

Lebanon, Maine

August 18, 2017

Jan,

I'm so sorry for your loss. May healthier times, the love you shared, and the

memories you made together help you through this very difficult time. With my sincerest sympathy and love,

~

Sally Ferullo,
Barrington, New Hampshire

August 17, 2017



To the Kelewae Family:

On behalf of a grateful nation, and the VFW Auxiliary/Post #4485 in Somersworth, NH, we wish to express sincere appreciation for the honorable service given by your loved one, and send our deepest condolences on your loss.

VFW Auxiliary President,
Cathy Burns

August 16, 2017

Jan, we are so sorry to hear of Gene's passing. One of our favorite memories will be of how his smile lit up his eyes, even to the corners! Our thoughts and prayers are with you always. your friends at Cocheco Park