



## Keith V. Fahnhorst

June 12, 2018

Fahnhorst, Keith V. Age 66 of Eden Prairie passed away peacefully June 12, 2018. Survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Susan; daughters Tiffany Fahnhorst, Brittney (Paul) Dotter, Courtney (Eric) Vidrine; grandchildren Nolan, Blair and Bianca; siblings Beverly, David and Jim (Kim) Fahnhorst; mother-in-law Donna Kluska; brother-in-law Michael Kluska; other relatives and friends. Preceded in death by parents Victor and Gertrude Fahnhorst; father-in-law Richard Kluska; sister-in-law Pamela Kluska and his 210-pound Newfoundland and constant companion, Thor. Keith, a St. Cloud Tech graduate and Minnesota Gopher standout, was drafted by the San Francisco 49ers in the 2nd round of the 1974 NFL Draft. He played 14 seasons with the 49ers (1974-87). Elected as a team captain, he helped lead the team to two Super Bowl victories. He was a 2x All Pro selection and chosen to the Pro Bowl following the 1985 season. Following his retirement from the NFL, Keith started a successful career as a financial advisor in the Minneapolis area. In 2003, Keith received a kidney transplant from his angel on Earth, Aham Nnaji. With this gift, Keith was able to witness his daughters' college graduations, a medical school graduation, walk two of his daughters down the aisle, and become a beloved "Papa" to his three cherished grandchildren. Keith will be remembered as a gentle giant, a selfless and loving father, and a devoted husband. Without a doubt, his unshakable faith helped him overcome seemingly insurmountable health obstacles, all the while maintaining his sparkling sense of humor. He was a warrior until the end. Great thanks go out

to Aphan and Janel Nnaji for the gift of 15 more years of life. Dr. Hassan Ibrahim (our personal miracle worker), the University of MN Nephrology and Transplant teams, and Dr. John Najarian for their tireless efforts in providing the highest standard of medical care. We would also like to express gratitude to the Brain Injury Research Institute. Mass of Christian Burial 3 pm Thursday, June 21 at the Church of Our Lady of Grace, 5071 Eden Ave. S., Edina. Visitation 1 hour prior to mass at church. Private interment. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to be made in Keith's name to The National Kidney Foundation and the San Francisco 49ers Golden Heart Fund. Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 West 50th St. & Hwy 100

# Tribute Wall



“ I went to elementary school with Keith and he was in my Mom's Cub Scout Pack. My grade school buddy grew up a bit in high school, and then a bit more after that. When I got together with other friends to watch football, we would watch the 9'ers instead of the Vikes if we could. We were always amazed to see what an amazing athlete "Bunny"\* had become. I only saw him once or twice in adulthood, and he struck me as a humble respectful guy. I wish I could have spoken with him again. It sounds like I could have learned some things about courage from him.

*Rest in peace, Keith.*

*Lee Fitzharris  
Saint Cloud, MN*

*\* Nickname. Nobody can remember how he got it.*

---

**Lee Fitzharris** - June 25, 2018 at 07:02 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Keith V. Fahnhorst.



---

June 21, 2018 at 08:03 AM

BH

“ Keith is a legend at St. Cloud Tech High School where he is honored in the Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a great model for young athletes to follow; hard-working, dedicated, humble. Sincere condolences to the Fahnhorst Family. A gift in Keith's memory has been made to the St. Cloud Education Foundation (LEAF).

*Bruce Hentges*

*Tech Class of 1968*

---

**Bruce Hentges** - June 18, 2018 at 01:10 PM

TH

*I was a classmate of Keith's at St. Cloud Tech High School. As others have said Keith was a gentle giant and a great friend. My only regret was we could never convince him to play basketball at Tech. We could have used him along with me and Jim Thome. Miss Keith and his brother Jim, great human beings and athletes. We still have the memories forever.*

*Tom Huston*

---

**Tom Huston** - November 27, 2025 at 10:30 PM

HD

“ May beloved Keith rest peacefully and rise majestically. Let light perpetual shine upon him, through God's grace and mercy.

---

**Henry Doyle** - June 18, 2018 at 07:49 AM