

Ken Knipper



Kenneth R. Knipper was born on September 8, 1934. On June 13, 1959 Ken married Peggy Morrell, the love of his life. They have five children, Mary Jo, Catherine, Diane, Sharon and Tom. To date they have been blessed with 18 wonderful grandchildren.

Ken joined the Silver Grove Volunteer Fire Department in 1976. He quickly became involved in fire and especially EMS issues. Ken advanced through the ranks of Engineer, Lieutenant, and Captain, before being elected Fire Chief in 1986 and serving until 1994. He worked tirelessly to implement EMS into the Silver Grove Department in the early 1980's with an ambulance being put on-line in 1982.. Always working as a volunteer, Ken spent countless hours advancing the cause of fire and EMS in his department and regionally.

Ken became active in both the Campbell County Education Association and the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association. He served on countless committees as well as serving as president of both organizations. He still serves as chairman of several key committees today.

In 1984 Sie Jewell asked Ken to get involved with the KFA, chairing his EMS committee. Ken jumped in with both feet and led the KFA into the previously uncharted arena of emergency medical service. He has served under numerous KFA presidents as EMS Committee Chairman for nearly 20 years. When the KFA decided to take a more active role in the National Volunteer Fire Council, Ken was appointed Committee Chairman in 1995. He quickly rose through the ranks of the NVFC serving in many important roles. He gained national recognition as Chairman of the NVFC By-Laws Committee. This past year Ken Knipper was selected to a prestigious position on the NVFC Executive Committee.

Ken's tireless work with the EMS Committee of the KFA has led to many advances in EMS standards and care in Kentucky. Through his and others efforts, decision making is being turned over to EMS providers, not politicians. With the NVFC, Ken has become the torchbearer for the interest of Kentucky and its many volunteers.

For the past several years, Ken has served as the Director of Emergency Operations for Campbell County, a job in which he spends countless hours supporting the needs and interests of all emergency services in Campbell County.

Still an active firefighter and emergency responder today, it is the KFA's great pleasure to induct Ken Knipper into the "Hall of Fame."