**James Washington KEENE, Jr.**

James W. Keene, Jr., better known as J.W., age 74 of Clearwater, Florida passed away Tuesday, November 21, 2023.  J.W. was born on February 13, 1949 in Jacksonville, Florida to Pauline and Jim Keene.  He was preceded in death by his father and mother.

J.W. held numerous leadership and management positions within the group departments of Prudential, Gulf Life and Humana and was well respected in his career.

J.W. was a gentle, caring man who loved and cherished his family and friends completely.  He was known for his hugs and welcoming smile. He enjoyed meeting new people and could start a conversation with almost anyone.  If a ball was part of a game, he played that game.  J.W. was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit in Safety Harbor, Florida where he enjoyed serving where needed, especially ironing and working in the Thrift Shop.

JW is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Helen, their sons Paul and James, daughter-in-law Lizzy, grandson Jamie, his brother John Keene, brothers-in-law Henry Glover (wife Evelyn), Dwayne Glover (wife Sharon), Richard Glover, Bobby Glover, his brother-in-heart Jerry Simmons (wife Debbie), sisters-in-law Mary (husband Dan Reese), Angela (husband Jerry Boettcher), his cousin Barbara Grant, and 34 nieces and nephews.

J.W.’s Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 13, 2024 at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 601 Philippe Parkway, Safety Harbor, FL 34695.

Should friends and family desire, contributions may be made to the Church of the Holy Spirit in lieu of flowers.

