



Kenneth Adams

February 3, 2026

Kenneth J. Adams, 83, of Willow Street, PA, passed away on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at his residence, surrounded by his loving wife and son. Born in Johnstown, PA, he was the son of the late H. Lester Adams and Elsie (Yingling) Adams. He was the beloved husband of Joyce (Bowser) Adams, with whom he shared 60 years of marriage.

Following his graduation from high school, Ken attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he earned his bachelor's degree. He later continued his education at the University of Delaware, earning a master's degree in education. Ken dedicated his career to teaching mathematics, beginning in Bedford, PA, where he taught for one year before joining Solanco High School. He taught at Solanco from 1965 until his retirement in 1997. During his career, he was a life member of both the Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA) and the National Education Association (NEA).

In addition to his teaching career, Ken was actively involved in athletics. While at Solanco High School, he served as a timekeeper for wrestling meets for many years. He was also a softball umpire for both the PIAA and ASA.

Ken had a deep love for sports, particularly high school and college wrestling, and was a devoted fan of the Solanco Mule and Penn State Nittany Lion wrestling teams.

In addition to his wife Joyce Adams, Ken is survived by his son, Travis W.

Adams, husband of Carissa R. Allen, three grandchildren, Sarah Adams, Daesy Adams, and Claire Adams, and his two sisters, Betty Sharrer and Carole Waddell.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Tom Adams, Roy Adams, and Don Adams.

Services will be private at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial contribution in Ken's name to a charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall

GY

“ *Mr Adams was the best of the best both as a teacher and a coach. As coach he enabled us to do more than we thought possible. I still use his saying, "When the going, the tough get going." To this day I remember his encouragement and his strong words of exaltation. I pray for his family and loved ones. CH (LTC) George Yates USAR (ret)*

George R. Yates - February 13 at 01:36 PM

JS

“ *Mr. Adams was one of the most amazing, caring and impactful people I came to love. He was an amazing educator, mentor and friend and will very much be missed.*

Jake Smeltz - February 10 at 11:17 AM

KG

“ *Such a great teacher, certainly one of my favorites!! Sending prayers and condolences to the family. ❤️*

Kelly Groff - February 09 at 06:36 PM

BD

“ *Mr Adams was a wonderful teacher and one that I think about often when recalling high school memories.*

Bobbie Davis

Bobby Davis - February 09 at 12:13 PM

MK

“ Teachers Like Mr Adams are what makes Solanco Great we need more Teachers like Mr Adams

Merv Keener - February 09 at 06:03 AM

JW

“ Mr Adams was one of my favorite teachers in high school; I loved math. He was a wonderful teacher!! My condolences to the family.

Jackie Whiteside Wagner - February 08 at 09:31 PM

LM

“ Mr. Adams was my favorite teacher in High School. He had a subtle way of making sure you knew your stuff. I don't think my hands sweated so much in any other class. Never knew when he would call on you for the answer. My condolences to the family as you morn his passing.

Lori Miller

Lori Miller - February 08 at 02:04 PM

CS

I agree Lori. I am not a fan of math but he had a way of teaching that I think understood it. Thank you Mr Adam's. Comfort to your family as lean on each other at this time
My thoughts and prayers are with you all
RIP Mr Adam's
Cindy Trimble class of 1985

Cindy Schneider - February 08 at 02:37 PM

JG

“ I fondly remember Mr Adams as my high school math teacher. I didn't realize as a teenager he was only 10 years older than myself and classmates. We were the class of 1971. So sorry for the Adman's family loss.
Jackie Wimer Groff

Jackie Wimer Groff - February 08 at 12:51 PM

JB

“ Dear Joyce: Sending our deepest condolences to you, Travis and entire family on Ken's passing. So many nice memories we have of our time living next door in Willow Street... Wishing you all comfort and peace in the days ahead as you reflect on his life well lived!
Sincerely,
Bob, Jackie, Ben & David Burch

Jacqueline Burch - February 08 at 12:27 PM

DS

“ Such fond memories of Ken. Played many softball games that he umpired. He was a stickler for the rules, and enforced them to the letter, but he was fair. I miss our yearly 3 day excursions to Hershey to watch the State Wrestling Tournament with Ken and Joyce. You will be missed.

Doug Shiffler - February 08 at 11:02 AM

MR

“ My heartfelt condolences to Joyce and the rest of the family. Sharing my love of wrestling with Ken and Joyce is a collection of happy memories I reminisce often. He was my teacher, mentor, and I'm proud to say he was my friend. We kept in touch long after graduation. My heart is heavy as I know Ken led a beautiful life, impacting our community in the most positive ways. Sending love and light to all affected by this loss.

Melissa Rivera - February 08 at 09:26 AM

G(

“ To the Adam's family... Mr. Adam's was my teacher at Solanco High School. He was a very nice man and a great teacher. He really cared about the students and was always willing to help them wherever he could. So very sorry for your loss. Sending prayers to all 🙏

Glenda Hilton. (Hampton) - February 08 at 08:49 AM

FF

Ken was a friend and colleague. He was a credit to the teaching profession. Rest in peace, Ken. Condolences to Joyce and Travis from Frank and kathy

Frank Fasano - February 08 at 06:00 PM

JT

Mr. Adams was my math teacher at SLC. A great teacher who made learning math fun. Condolences to his family. Joy Temple Ray, '71

Jtray - February 12 at 03:27 PM