



## Arthur Lester Keswick

September 12, 1925 - March 7, 2018

The funeral, graveside, reception and listed below with maps, times and driving directions. Please check back for more of Arthur's life story and memorial tribute movie.

# Previous Events

## Funeral and Celebration of Life

MAR 14. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

Trinity Cathedral  
81 2nd Street  
95112  
San Jose, CA

## Graveside Service

MAR 14. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

Los Gatos Memorial  
2255 Los Gatos-Almaden Rd  
san Jose, CA 95124

## Reception

MAR 14. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Almaden Community Center  
6445 Camden Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95120

# Tribute Wall



“ Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of Arthur Lester Keswick



Reflecting on Memories - March 13, 2018 at 12:23 AM



“ 11 files added to the album Graveside Videos



Reflecting on Memories - May 31, 2020 at 10:35 AM

CK

“ Kathryn Ada wells Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:34 PM

CK

“ Kathryn Ada wells Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:33 PM

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“ Kathryn Ada wells Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:32 PM

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“ Robert Clarence Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:30 PM

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“ Peter Robert Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:27 PM

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“ Paul Douglas Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:25 PM

CK

“ Christopher Arthur Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:24 PM

CK

“ Anna Margaret fidel Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:20 PM

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“ Clarence Ernest Keswick was added to the Family Tree.

Curtis Keswick - January 27, 2019 at 07:17 PM

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“ *Curtis William Keswick was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Curtis Keswick** - January 27, 2019 at 07:15 PM

“ MY UNCLE ART page one

by Nancy K Morrison, M.D.

*All of my uncles, like my father, were set apart from all others because they had “been in the war.” World War II. And that was big, and recent, and affected everyone. These men had been “overseas” “in the war”, “in the army”*

*I can only share this as a child born on the first cusp of the Baby Boomer, post WWII, start of things new, generation. The designation of “he was in the war” created a state within me of something almost, but not quite, awe. It may have been my first true experience of respect. Time to stop in my tracks, bring forth my full attention. The knowing that something important, beyond words, was in the room.*

*And it was beyond their words. Your father, my father, those other men just home with a past of great importance, felt, but not expressed in words. Although the war could fill 100 movies full of valor, occasional tragedy. Only Hollywood spoke of the war. Not one of them, the father, the uncles, the neighbors, spoke of the war.*

*Would they have been so tall, so mysterious, so unapproachable, without the war? Would just the span of a generation make them so? Who can say, because the war always surrounded them in a silence, felt yet never spoken.*

*Within meals of ordinary time, little stories would leak out. Stories of the men, then boys, before the war.*

*We know the story of Art, the boy whose mother died when he was only 3 years old. A father left with 7 boys in need of family. In need of raising. And a decision was made of utilitarian clarity. The 4 oldest boys could manage with just a father and so stayed in*

*California with their father. The very youngest remained in need of a woman's care. Art being 3 fell in this category. He and his younger brother's Harold and Henry went to be raised by three different relatives. Art was raised by his maternal grandparents.*

*And so Palisade, Colorado enters the picture for the lives brought into the sphere of Arthur Keswick. His grandfather and grandmother were established there, peach growers, not poor but had agrarian workers.*

*I grew up thinking that Art's mother took her life. That I now think was not true. More sense is made to understand that she died the mother of many children and died in some complication of pregnancy so much a part of that time.*

*There was, however, a tragic suicide. This I found in the archives of the Palisade Tribune while rescuing those papers 3 years ago when the paper ceased to be published.*

*Art's aunt, his mother's sister, married a local lad who did not leave Palisade. She suffered an emotional anguish that to his credit her husband strived to alleviate. He took her to Denver for better treatment and they returned for some months or perhaps years. She eventually took her life in a car, set up to run the exhaust to her inside.*

*The Tribune records that her nephew, Art, came home from high school and made the grim discovery. A story never told to me by Art or his wife, only by the local newspaper all those decades later.*

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**Curtis Keswick** - March 21, 2018 at 11:14 PM

“ My Uncle Art page two

*This aunt was an artist of some talent. Her picture of a nun enraptured with an encounter with an angel hung in Art and Kathy's home and remains clear in my mind. Other paintings less intense and more of the daily world, flowers I believe, were also hanging in their home. Pointed out just a few years ago on my last visit.*

*Memories of my very early time are in fragments. Art's toboggan hung in the basement. My mother proclaimed it dangerous, impractical. Such declarations could only make it more intriguing and this aspect of my uncle more commanding. Picture of Hollywood and Christmas snow provided fuel for this unorthodox sled. Art supported her in saying that a toboggan required much room to turn, and several friends to give it weight . Yet the look on his face suggested that memories of fun remained.*

*And his guitar. Very exotic. Something from the world of music from the radio. I would hold it during my sojourns to the basement and wonder how it could be played. I recall it had a picture on the harp. A cowboy? A horse? Maybe a mountain. Some hint that more than just the basics came into play.*

*Only once did I beg, cajole, and pout enough to bring that guitar into his lap. the recital was short and full of reluctance, but gave a glimpse of a younger man. A time of youth and hopes and dreams.*

*Once all the young couples gathered at Art and Kathy's for dinner and an evening together. The three sisters creating 3 couples. An only child of 5 or 6, I had no place there yet no other place to go. Boredom and a demand of good behavior fell heavy on my evening. It was Uncle Art who took up a game for me. Button, button who had the button. And he brought it alive. And gave me some minutes of delight and fun. And a memory now more than 6 decades old of what a sensitive and kind adult can bring to a child. Now I can wonder if that gift came from his deep awareness of being a child*

*outside the circle of adults. Adults not unkind but unaware.*

*My Keswick aunt and uncle were the first couple, the first family to make the move into the middle class. Education was valued and supported. They were the first to move it to the next level and venture to a University. A degree in accounting gave Art the ticket into a white collar position and a move out of the Grand Valley, first to Denver and then to California. "It was the right decision" Aunt Kathy recently said. Many benefits, many costs. Much success and yet demands of a new world for two people grown up in agrarian work and mores.*

*With Art the last of the generation before me is now gone. Those men and women of my familial circle who were of the "Greatest Generation." They stood in their place in the line of the generations. And they faced a knowing of death in their early years that made them more aware of endings. They gave us the gifts of extended lives in safety and prosperity. They kept their secrets. They gave of their examples. They gave us gifts in the models of their lives lived in grit and grace.*

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**Curtis Keswick** - March 21, 2018 at 11:10 PM

“ *Eulogy by Curtis Keswick, O.D. Part I*

*ARTHUR LESTER KESWICK*

*September 12, 1925 March 7, 2018  
Orange, California San Jose, California*

*We are joined together today by a shared blessing. Each of us has been touched by Art Keswick in some way! All of us have been enriched by having him in our lives.*

*In 1925 Art was born to Clarence Ernest Keswick and Anna Margaret Fidel Keswick in Orange, CA. At the age of three he had four older brothers and two younger brothers. His mother did not survive her last pregnancy. Clarence had seven boys to raise all alone. He figured he could handle the four eldest but must relocate the youngest three.*

*Art was shipped out to Palisade, CO to be raised by his maternal grandparents!*

*Art was born with a cyst on his voice box which allowed him to speak only in a very low whisper! His grandparents decided to finally send him to Denver to have a surgery to remove the cyst when Art was eight years old. During his childhood he did not have any siblings or friends to play with so he read the encyclopedia in its entirety. All through his 92 ½ years he remained very soft spoken. Well there was that one time!*

*Palisade High School was five miles from his peach orchard. Art would tell us that he walked to and from school every day. Sometimes he got tired of walking, so he ran. He enjoyed running. He always told us four boys that he could beat us in the 10 yard dash!*

*Art received a deferment from the Army to care for his ailing*

*grandfather. However, by June 9, 1944 the Army needed him. He served as a Technical Sargent until April 8, 1946. He was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Theater Service Ribbon, Philippine Liberation Service Ribbon with one Bronze Star, Good Conduct Medal (AR 600-68), Purple Heart Medal (191 77) with one Oak Leaf Cluster. He also received a victory medal.*

*Very shortly after his discharge from the Army. His younger brother arranged for him to go out on a blind-date! Well very shortly after that on June 27, 1947 Arthur and Kathryn were married in Palisade, CO.*

*There was a fair amount of turmoil, but Art was successful in holding onto the ten acres of peach orchard he inherited from his grandparents. His Uncle (their son) thought that it should go to him.*

*Art and Kathy kept the peach orchard going even while Art was going to the University of Colorado at Boulder. One day as they were having breakfast and watching their entire crop of peaches for that year being destroyed by a hail storm, Art said: "Well, I guess I had better study for that English test."*

*After graduation, Dad worked as an accountant for Walker-Lybarger, a Uranium mine construction company in Grand Junction, CO, Martin Marietta in Littleton, CO, and in 1965 moved his family to San Jose where he worked at Lockheed until December 1989.*

*Art loved to go deer hunting while in Colorado but he thought there were too many crazy people with guns in California so he gave it up. He was an avid sports fan. He always watched the Giants and 49's whenever he could.*

*He did enjoy raising his boys in the Episcopal Church. The four boys went to church every Sunday. However, Art would go one week and Kathy would go the other week. We always liked it best when Dad would take us to Church because Mom would always make the very best coffee-cake and have it ready to eat as soon as*

*we got home.*

*Art taught us honesty, integrity, and the value of hard work. But, above all he showed us how to be a very devoted family man!*

*Art spent much of his spare time with the Boy Scouts. He asked Curt, at age 14, if he wanted to join Boy Scouts. Curt said: "NO!" However, Chris, Paul, and Pete all earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Most of the dads were too busy to help on the 50 mile hikes in the Sierras. However, Art went on almost all of these. He went on many Scout camp-outs as well. He also spent time and mentality dedicating his life to maturing us all.*

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**Curtis Keswick** - March 21, 2018 at 10:10 PM

“ *Eulogy by Curtis Keswick, O.D. Part II*

**ARTHUR LESTER KESWICK**

*September 12, 1925 March 7, 2018  
Orange, California San Jose, California*

*In retirement he took up golf. He went from five days a week behind a desk with “Top Secret Clearance” to six days a week on the golf course! Art took Curt out on the short nine course one day. Art teed off on the sixth hole and really sliced the ball. It went way off to the side. We looked and looked for the ball with his name on it. Finally, I decided to look in the hole on the eighth green. Sure enough, Art had hit a hole in one! I knew if he wanted anyone to know about it he would have told them. But, he did have Top Secret Clearance so this is the first anyone has ever heard of Art's hole in one!*

*Art and Kathy spent 27 years at the Villages where they met many new friends and truly enjoyed life. They played bridge, they golfed together and in other foursomes. They were always ready to help and support their children and grandchildren.*

*After 69 ½ years of marriage, Kathy moved up to Heaven.*

*Art's short term memory was not nearly as good as his long term memory! He was able to move into the Memory Unit at Brookdale within three weeks. This allowed him to be closer to Curt both in distance and in relationship.*

*He confided in Curt one day that he never really liked Golf. He did like running and would tell us that he still ran five miles a day but some days, if he didn't feel very well, he would only run two miles. Two months ago I started timing him around the small courtyard at Brookdale. His first time was 2 mins 12 seconds. His second time was 1 min 54 sec. Last time he was able to do it in 1 min 34 sec. Lucas, Art's great grandson, asked if he could do it also. His first*

*time was 17 sec. Later he did it in 14 sec. Now, mind you, Lucas did this all without a walker!*

*Art was very proud of his firm handshake. He always told us that you can tell a lot about a man by his handshake. Now he is up in Heaven shaking lots of hands, while we down here keep his love and memory very much alive!*

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**Curtis Keswick** - March 21, 2018 at 10:08 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Graveside Videos*

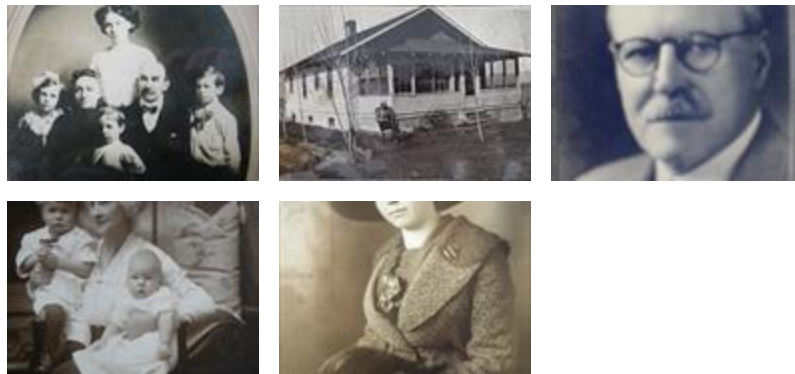


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**Reflecting on Memories** - March 15, 2018 at 09:26 AM



“ 79 files added to the album *Keswick Memories Album*



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**Reflecting on Memories** - March 13, 2018 at 02:48 PM