

J Allen Kimball

December 24, 1931 ~ February 9, 2025

At a young age Allen was blessed with a testimony of our Heavenly Father and of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All facts and occasions of his mortal experience are subordinate to that knowledge.

One day while waiting in the reception room at the University of Utah's Student Health Center a young woman entered, signed in, and sat down across the room from Allen who was not only enchanted by her beauty but enjoyed a revelatory impression of their potential relationship.Allen remained in his place, counting those who signed in and then went to the receptionist's desk finding that the young woman's name was Charlene Nielsen.

John Allen Kimball, known to some as Oop and to others as Oopa was born in Salt Lake City on 24 December 1931 to John Felt Kimball and Theresa Allen Kimball. He grew up at 1862 Michigan Avenue and was schooled at Uintah Elementary (1937-45), Roosevelt Jr High (1945-47), East High (1947-49), and the University of Utah, graduating in Mechanical Engineering (1953), followed later with an MBA degree.

Active-duty military service (1953-55) at Fort Ord, Aberdeen Proving Ground MD, Yuma Test Station AZ and TDY at Fort Churchill, Canada.

Served the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Northwestern States Mission (1955-57) Tacoma, Seattle, Pullman WA and Salem OR.

Married Charlene Nielsen of Fairview and Murry Utah in the Salt Lake Temple on 15 July 1960. Charlene and Allen settled in the Avenues where they raised five children:Suzzanne, Sara, John Charles, Jennifer, and Amy with Charlene the dedicated and loving professional nurturer.

Allen began pushing the broom at Kimball Equipment Company at age fourteen, a corporation organized by John Felt Kimball and William F. Allen in 1946. He was honored by the Associated General Contractors of Utah for his service to the industry. Allen retired at age seventy leaving the family business in the capable hands of Richard H. Kimball, John C. Kimball, and others.

Allen was truly a servant leader. One time he saw one of the company's service techs working on a piece of equipment as he was driving back from a funeral. He pulled over and spent the afternoon working with that service tech to finish the job. His suit was ruined, but that wasn't important to him. He did things like that all the time.

Allen's greatest contribution and influence on the company and within the industry were with people. He was a mentor, teacher, advocate, coach, and friend to many. Even in his early nineties he would talk about great friends he had among customers and employees. Until he was unable, he continued to deliver turkeys and hams to retired employees he had worked with for Thanksgiving and Christmas and would stay and catch up with them on how they were doing. He was a very social person, loved people, and had many friends who appreciated his genuine concern and unique personality.

Allen’s church service included clerking, scouting, teaching, and with Charlene a missionary calling on Staten Island, New York.His favorite position was Scoutmaster.

Preceded in death by his parents and his sister Ann Kimball Waddell. Survived by his dear wife, Charlene, five children: Suzzanne Kimball Vail (John Vail), Sara Kimball (Charles Shumway), John Charles Kimball (Allison Cutler Kimball), Jennifer Kimball, Amy Kimball Engar (Erek Engar), fifteen grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and by his brother, Richard H. Kimball.

Allen was buried in Fairview, Utah on February 12, 2025.