Keith J. Martin was born in his family’s home in Augusta, Kansas on July 10, 1936 and except for 4 years in Oklahoma lived his entire life in El Dorado. He began working before he finished elementary school. His first job was at Martin Motor Company. Seven years later, before graduating from high school Keith had a successful career of selling cars. He graduated the following year, and married Kathy Boyer.

Keith and his brother, Vernon, became partners in Martin Brothers Cities Service stations. He worked for Continental Emsco in El Dorado and Seminole, Oklahoma. In 1963, he returned to El Dorado to work for Norris-O’Bannon. Keith’s territory with Norris O’-Bannon was Kansas and Nebraska. In 1988, he established Keith Martin Oilfield Sales.

He served for many years on the board of directors for the Eastern Kansas Oil and Gas Association (EKOGA) and had many friends in that part of Kansas. In 1975, he founded Seven K Trophies, now Seven K Company. He also helped his wife Kathy,
in Kathy’s Kitchen, a café and catering business and all the time he was active in his church and community. He was instrumental in the founding of little league football in El Dorado. He served the education community, as president of the Grandview Elementary PTA in the 1970’s and as a member of the board of trustees at Butler Community College. Keith was the recipient of the distinguished Citizenship Award given by Elks USA in March 2006. Keith never retired. He was still operating his business at the time of his death in 2011.