



Kevin Keating

January 26, 1959 - December 13, 2023

Kevin Keating born 1/26/1959 passed away on 12/13/2023 under the care of Marion County Hospice.

Tribute Wall

DK

“ There are hundreds of Kevin stories. This is one that warms my heart. When Kevin was 11 or 12 Ed had a Lambretta motor scooter around 190cc.. This scooter did 60 mph. One day I see the cops chasing Kevin on Eastern Parkway with Willis Frost on the back. Kev drove home and hid and the scooter in the back yard. The cop's wouldn't listen to me and demanded to speak to my mother. Mom said officer why bother a kid on a mini bike? The officer explained that was no mini bike. He took my Zappa records and started a small cult. So play titties and beer for Kev! Kevin had great friends and a great life.

Danny Keating - January 23, 2024 at 06:33 PM

JL

“ Kevin is like an icon in the town of Baldwin. I doubt you could find someone that grew up there that didn't know him, or at least know who he was.

Kevin was truly was one of a kind.

He had this unique talent of insulting me, but making me laugh at the same time. That was just one of many talents he possessed.

I remember Kevin being very supportive, and encouraging with my music, and my guitar playing. He nicknamed me Joel Hendrix, which meant a lot to me.

Kevin had a unique way of lifting people up and making them feel good.

He was always the life of the party.

Kevin took me into his home, put a roof over my head, and made me part of his family. His mom and dad treated me like a son, and Dan was gracious enough to let me stay in his old bedroom.

His dad Big Dan referred to Kevin as “The Flower” but called Kevin and I “The Two Pricks”

I lived in their home for three years. It was probably the happiest time in my life, and definitely the most interesting.

I haven't seen Kevin in many years now, but still consider Kevin to one of my best all time friends. Rest in peace Kevin, you will be missed.

Joel Lager - January 18, 2024 at 10:30 PM

BE

“ Kevin was a great friend, we had many good times growing up on the Bay and he always had positive comments about life and Love to everyone who knew him. I will miss his laugh and the great times we had throughout our lives. Rest in Peace 🙏 Condolences to Dan who is the surviving brother who has been a big help in these last years.

Brian Elder - January 07, 2024 at 10:52 PM

LJ

I am so sorry to hear of Kevin's passing ! May you rest easy my friend! No matter what your battle or how much you suffered you still reached out to all of us with your best wishes and blessings for all of us and always sent us your love ! May you rest in the arms of Jesus ! ❤️🙏🌹

lisa Jordan - January 08, 2024 at 09:38 AM

RP

Kevin Keating loved life & he gave to others without a thought about himself. He was caring, thoughtful, generous, genuine, spiritual, funny @ an altogether great person. He will be sorely missed by everyone whose life he touched. He passed away on December 13th, 2023 & from that day on, he will never suffer in pain. RoRo misses you so dearly.

Roberta Philiba - January 08, 2024 at 05:10 PM

GD

Kevin,
May you rest easy and fly high. You will be missed by all who loved you. My condolences to your brother. May he find comfort in knowing your soul is at rest 🦋

Ginger DeSano - January 08, 2024 at 05:23 PM

RG

Rest In Gods Peace Kevin. You were and still are a good man and friend. Thank you for being you, always very positive person no matter what. Godspeed.

Rudy Guerra.

Rudy Guerra - January 09, 2024 at 05:34 AM

JR

May Kevin rest in peace It seems from the Funeral home that they have been unable to contact his brother Dan and someone who claimed to be Kevin's niece has given permission for his body to go to United Tissue Network If anyone has a number for his brother Dan please post.

JR - January 10, 2024 at 03:43 PM

LE

Danny and Kevin's family of today, My deepest sympathy with the loss of Kevin. We had lots of good times at the house in Baldwin. Rest in peace Kev. Lois Elson-Kramer and Tom Kramer

lois elson - January 10, 2024 at 05:52 PM

KM

I knew Kevin between 10 and 25 years old, we were in the fourth grade together. He was my close friend and partner on many adventures. We lived in our boats, and at 10 years old, we could just leave the house for the weekend in them. His house on Baldwin Bay was exciting. His parents, Catherine and Big Dan, often had hot meals and loads of tea for us. His two older brothers, Dan and Ed, always insured we were exposed to things above our age grade. We ate more chicken than any man ever seen, oh yea. We listened to Frank Zappa records, rode our bicycles everywhere, and were the last generation to enjoy such boating freedom in Baldwin Bay.

As kids, one of our crazy ideas was jumping off Loop Bridge. It is massive. Peer pressure forced many of us out there and we jumped – horrified. Years later, I witnessed Kevin get dropped off at the base of Loop all alone. He climbed up the rocks and then walked out to the center of this colossal bridge. He made it to the center. This is the draw that opens up to let the giant fishing trawlers in and out. He formed into a magnificent swan dive and dropped into the deep currents and passing boats. Tarzan would have raised his arms in cheer! Impressive. Skilled. Fearless.

As he aged and got his driver's license, he became passionate about motorcycles. He went to the American Motorcycle Institute in Daytona Beach in 1978 and excelled as a student there. After working in a bike shop on Long Island, he, and his girlfriend Karen, loaded up the van and headed west all the way to the Pacific Ocean in Southern California. The end of an era was closing fast out there, and he caught the last great part of the motorcycle dragstrips. A kid with a dream and a toolbox could still go far in the 1980's.

Once there, he studied welding and machining while honing his racing skills at Orange County International Raceway, aka, OCIR. He blasted down the quarter-mile at 130 miles per hour with nitrous oxide flames shooting out the exhaust. He impressed many people that often could not wait to see him run. One such person was Byron Hines, the best wrench this country ever produced. He always encouraged Kevin and enjoyed talking motorcycles with him on Wednesday night grudge racing at OCIR.

Kevin worked at Santa Ana Kawasaki in the 1980's. He was the head wrench servicing the police bikes for several cities – they loved having him take care of their iron horses.

He often let people live at his house if they were in trouble, fed all of his friends one time or another, and had the best parties in the neighborhood where you could pull up to the dock in your boat. He was genuine - an individual in a world filled with lemmings. He was not the

trout in the milk; he was as real as old America. I love his memory.

Rest in peace when you can, but I see you running down the soccer field at Baldwin Junior High with your renewed body. God Bless you Kite.

Kevin Murphy

Kevin Murphy - January 15, 2024 at 09:25 PM