



Kelly E. Smith

October 24, 1961 - September 6, 2017

Kelly Smith, 55, left us on Wednesday, September 6, 2017. Kelly was born in Kingsport, TN on October 24, 1961 but has lived in the Raleigh-Cary area for 30+ years. He was the son of Lonnie C. (1935-2009) and Sonya H. (Toni) Smith, currently of Cary, NC. Kelly graduated from Dobyns-Bennett High School in Kingsport, TN in 1979.

From his very first job in middle school as a newspaper carrier until he left us, Kelly was an avid collector of audio electronics, especially vintage stereo equipment. He loved music - from blues to bluegrass, from jazz to classic soul, and everything in between. He most especially enjoyed live music, and some of his favorite times were those spent with friends at live music concerts or local gigs.

Kelly was a private person, but he was honored to have and respect several close friends and to have the love and support of his family. He was fortunate his entire life to live by his own standards and to be his own person. And, he loved his sweet tea from Bojangles and University of TN football. Go Vols!

Kelly is survived by his mother Sonya, and sister, Pamela S. Broadwell, also of Cary, NC, and his special cousins in East TN.

A gathering of friends for Kelly will be announced soon.

Thanks to Wake Funeral & Cremation for their services, and a special thank you to the staff of Transitions LifeCare in Raleigh for their kindness in caring for Kelly.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Kelly's name to Transitions LifeCare in Raleigh.

Tribute Wall

AS

“ I went to school with Kelly. We weren't best friends but he was always a nice guy. The last conversation I had with Kelly was at Dobyys Bennett High School (outside the library). He was giving me words of encouragement regarding my upcoming drivers test. I remember it like it was yesterday. My condolences to Kelly's family.

Andy Singleton - January 22, 2025 at 12:55 PM

BO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bobby - September 15, 2017 at 11:47 PM

BO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bobby - September 15, 2017 at 11:45 PM

MP

“ For the last 20 years Kelly has been a close friend. Monthly trips to the record store, lunches and dinners, concerts and football, hanging out and of course long talks on the phone while I drove home from work. Our friendship was built on our mutual driving passion for music. An unending joy that filled our hearts and souls. I will miss him dearly.

Mike Pittman - September 11, 2017 at 10:13 AM

SR

“ Yum! Char-Grill -- It was a tradition when we visited.



Sally Richard - September 09, 2017 at 01:39 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sally Richard - September 09, 2017 at 12:45 PM

BB

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Bobby Broadwell - September 08, 2017 at 10:45 PM

DB

RIP Kelly. Too soon! Condolences to Pam and Toni.

Deborah Broadwell - September 09, 2017 at 05:23 PM

DM

“ Kelly was my little brother while living in Kingsport TN. I would go down every morning to get him up and make his bed for him before we walked to school. We also lived playing with our matchbox cars even though I was a girl. There are so many memories. I am heart broken

Diane McGuire - September 08, 2017 at 11:42 AM

SR

So sad 😞 Kelly played with those matchbox cars a lot. He had little roads carved out on the slope by the sidewalk. He took such good care of his collections. He loved Dan's breakfast pizza on Christmas morning. My heart is sad for Toni & Pam.

Sally Richard - September 08, 2017 at 03:14 PM

RD

Oh my, Kelly was always hanging out with me and Diane and swimming in the pool. I have such great memories. Prayers for you in this time of loss. Robin Robinson

Robin Robinson Dice - September 08, 2017 at 05:57 PM

LJ

Now I understand why you were upset & ready to cry Toni, OMG I am so sorry for both of you .My most sincere condolences, I am truly so sorry,even though I never met Kelly, my heart goes out to you and Pam. May God grant you some peace.!! love ,Lynn

Lynn C, Johnson - September 08, 2017 at 09:51 PM

CC

*Toni & Pam,
I'm so very sorry. Please know that I'm thinking of you...Love to you both
Cheryl King Cleary*

Cheryl cleary - September 09, 2017 at 11:29 AM

TA

I am so sorry for your loss. I meet Kelly at a party at the Angus Barn. I enjoy talk with him. My Prayers go out to your family.

Tammy - September 14, 2017 at 03:45 PM