



John "Peter" Kelly Jr.

July 11, 1946 - August 3, 2019

John Peter Kelly, 73, of Marietta, GA, passed away on Saturday, August 3, 2019. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 11:00 AM at North Metro Church in Marietta, GA with Pastor Rob McDowell officiating. A reception will follow the service.

Pete is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Jean Kelly; his daughters Allison Richardson (Tommy) of Tampa, FL, and Suzanne Hallas (Matt) of Denver, CO; his sister Peggy Pittman of Marietta, GA; his grandchildren Adeline and William Richardson, and Theo Hallas; and his nephew Andy Pittman of Marietta, GA.

Pete loved dogs, especially his 15 year old dog, Cooper. He was a natural story teller, he was always smiling and never met a stranger. He was a high school and college football fanatic. Pete was a founding member of North Metro Church where he remained a member for 21 years. He lived for his annual beach trip to Ponce Inlet, FL, where he vacationed the past 37 summers. He worked as a drywall contractor for 30 years and was well known for his quality work. As a 1964 graduate, he remained an active Grady High School Alumni. Pete will be remembered for his great sense of humor and his love for his family.

A visitation is scheduled on Thursday, August 8, 2019 between the hours of 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at North metro Church in Marietta, GA. Family has asked in lieu of flowers that donations be made to PAWS Atlanta at <http://www.pawsatlanta.org/donate> or mail to 5287 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30035 or send checks made out to "Grady Football" to: Grady High School Athletics c/o Patrick Johnson 929 Charles Allen Dr. NE Atlanta, GA 30309

Arrangements in care of Mayes Ward-Dobbins Funeral Home & Crematory Macland Chapel, in Powder Springs. www.mayeswarddobbins.com (770) 943-1511

Events

AUG **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

8

North Metro Church
2305 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW, Marietta, GA, US

AUG **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

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North Metro Church
2305 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW, Marietta, GA, US

AUG **Reception** 12:00PM

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North Metro Church
2305 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW, Marietta, GA, US

Comments



“ Pete was a very special friend of mine when we were in high school. He remained a valued friend even though life took us to different locations and we were not able to stay in touch as much as I would have liked. It was always great to hear from him when we got a chance to talk, and it always reinforced the memory of Pete as one of the genuinely good-hearted human beings whom I have had the privilege to know. I appreciate the opportunity to donate to PAWS Atlanta and to Grady Football in honor of this fine, good man, who meant so much to me and to many others. Hal Rainey, Athens, GA

Hal Rainey - August 15 at 02:34 PM



“ I knew Pete from several MDI team meetings in Atlanta area. I was active in MDI from 2006 to about 2014. Pete was always a good team member and supported the men he was connected to. He had interesting stories of his experiences in life. My condolences to his family. Bob Britts, Lexington SC

Robert P Britts - August 11 at 03:52 PM



“ Pete was my first cousin - once removed. Took us a LOT of time to figure out those relationship titles - lol. Isabel & Sheila worked with us to sort it through and Pete kept us in stitches every time we had the conversation. My earliest memories of him always involved laughing of some sort. One summer he took me on vacation to Tybee with Jean, Allison, and Suzanne still in Jean's belly. ;-) It was such a wonderful time - we played in the sand and surf. Pete always there helping Allison and I dig up sand for a castle or jump over crashing waves. And when my mom passed away back in 97, Pete was right there with us. First sad at losing his cousin and then filling my siblings and I with joy and laughter as he shared story after story about their childhood together and all of the pranks they liked to pull. It was clear and has always been clear that family mattered so very much to him. I just spoke to him awhile back - asking questions about my grandparent's marriage and my mom's childhood. We talked for almost an hour. He shared stories then about Grady High where his siblings and my mom's siblings went to school. He talked about his love for football and going to see the games with my grandfather. He also talked about how he was on the way to visit Suzanne and see his newest grandchild. His voice was so filled with pride and love and I thought how lucky his family was to have him and how lucky I was to be part of the extended family. We never know all the ways our family members connect to other people. We never know how much they touched someone else's life or how important they were to others. My hope for all of my dear cousins is that you hear of all the wonderful ways your husband, dad or grandfather touched the lives of others. That you hear how much he meant to everyone. That you know how very much each and every one of you was adored by him. Because he loved you all so so so much. I will miss his stories, his laughter, his kindness, and his love

but know that he lives on in each of you. Sending love and hugs. - Andrea

Andrea Sorrells - August 10 at 02:52 PM



“ Pete graduated from Grady the year after I. I knew him best through the Grady Alum. where he was an enthusiastic supporter and friend to all. He faught a great battle, and he will be missed by all.

Vicky Allen - August 09 at 05:37 AM



“ Sending my deepest sympathy to Pete's family & friends. I attended high school with Pete & he was a kind friend. May God give you His peace & comfort in this difficult season.

Blessings

Melissa (Sims) Clark

Melissa Clark - August 08 at 10:00 AM



“ 40 years ago, Pete, Jean and Allison were our great neighbors. One time, Pete offered to cook bbq ribs for a neighborhood party. He bought 25 lbs. of ribs, researched a special recipe, found the special Asian spices (not readily available back then) for these special ribs, toiled over the grill all day to ensure the best ribs anywhere. After a long hard day, he delivered his perfect ribs to the Kennedy's, one of our neighbors, for the party that night. When it was time for the party, unfortunately there were no ribs. While everyone was getting ready for the party, Maggie, the Kennedy's English Sheep dog, jumped up on the kitchen table and engulfed the entire 25 lbs of ribs... bones and all. Net: we all went hungry, Maggie almost died from rib overdose but was happy, and Pete somehow kept his cool. You will never convince me that somehow the writers of the classic movie, Christmas Story, didn't steal Petes experience for their Thanksgiving dinner "dogs eat turkey" scenes. Only thing we didn't have were 4 singing Chinese waiters.

Bob Scott - August 07 at 10:03 PM



“ Jean,
You & your family will be in my prayers during this very difficult time. Having been married to Pete for 47 years was indeed a blessing. I'm sure that the two of you shared many special moments together. If I can be of any emotional support for you, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm so glad that my path crossed with you & Pete during the years we were neighbors. Pete was a very kind man.



Karen Heard - August 07 at 07:55 PM



“ We are praying for each of your during this time of loss. Pete was such a kind person who put one at ease with his conversation. It was always a joy to see his enjoyment of each of his grand children.

Jill & Bryan Murphy - August 07 at 05:36 PM



“ We first met Pete and Jean at our son's house in Alpharetta in 2004 where we had been invited for supper to meet Allison's parents. We have shared the wedding of our eldest children and the birth of our two red headed grandchildren. There have many happy times, meals, holidays, birthdays, and vacations shared with our families. Tom enjoyed talking football with Pete and listening to all Pete's early Atlanta stories. Even though Pete was first a Georgia Tech football fan he also was a big Auburn fan. Pete enjoyed all the Christmas gag gifts that our son would give to him and Tom and gladly pose for pictures. Pete was a friendly guy and could strike up long conversations with complete strangers. He never minded pitching in and helping with grandchildren or with any home improvement projects our son dreamed up. He will certainly be missed at future family gatherings, especially trips to Dreamland for a rib sandwich. Praying for our daughter-in-law (Allison), our grandchildren (Adeline and William), son (Tommy), Jean, Suzanne, Matt, Theo, and Peggy.



Tom and Jane Richardson - August 07 at 01:52 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Peter" Kelly Jr..



August 07 at 01:43 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of John "Peter" Kelly Jr..



August 07 at 11:37 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John "Peter" Kelly Jr..



August 07 at 09:19 AM



“ Pete has always been the heart of North Metro Church. He would always greet me and my family with a smile and wonderful stories. Growing up in Marietta. The history of all kinds of sports. The history of the church. A person he knew that he wanted me to meet. Sheetrock stories that would make you laugh out loud. Tales of how Jesus changes lives.

So many times Jean and Beth waiting patiently as we talked and laughed. Pete made a real difference one life at a time and we were all like his best friend. He Sheetrocked our basement and he did his work with excellence and patience- I think of him often when working down there.

I'm so sorry for your loss. And for all of our losses. He was one of a kind and he will be missed dearly.

He's telling Jesus a wild tale right now - Jesus is laughing and begging for another one. Thanks for living and loving so well dear Pete.

Marty Parker - August 07 at 08:50 AM



“ I enjoyed years and years of Bible study with Pete at North Metro Church. His Scriptural insight was of the common sense, salt of the earth variety and easily made God's Truth real, clear, and timely.

The obituary nailed it -- he was one of the best story tellers I have ever known - especially in his relentless recall of college sports trivia. But he wasn't a one-level sports dictionary. He kept up with our daughters as if they spent real time together -- actually interested in what was going on with three young ladies he barely knew. He loved his friends well and intentionally.

I join hundreds in missing this fine man, and rejoice with many of those same people in the glory of our reunion when God calls us to join him in Paradise.

Jean, we love you and are praying for you. He spoke highly of you always and treasured you more than sports...Enough said.

We love you,

Dutch, Caroline, and the girls

Dutch Bickley - August 06 at 08:05 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John "Peter" Kelly Jr..



August 06 at 07:12 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to Jean and daughters, may you find comfort in God's word at this sad time in your lives.

Rick and Karen Huggins

Rick Huggins - August 06 at 05:13 PM



“ We met Pete Kelly mid 2015 when our son Matt and Suzanne Kelly met and fell in love. There's always a bit of trepidation when you first meet those who will soon be future in-laws. We first met Pete and Jean at the Atlanta Greek Festival with our kids. Pete was so welcoming, funny and genuine. His love for his family was undeniable. During this brief time, we shared the marriage of our children, the birth of their baby, Theo, holidays , trips to Denver, dinners and get-togethers. He always reached out to chat about the kids. This is something we will miss. God must really have needed him! There will be an incredible void he will leave. We pray for Jean, Allison, Adeline Tommy, William Suzanne, Matt & Theo, during this time of grief. God Bless you all! And RIP Pete!

Bill & Yolanda Hallas - August 06 at 04:51 PM



“ On behalf of Pete's large extended family of Cousins here in Scotland I wish to express our heartfelt sorrow on learning of his untimely passing and to pass on our condolences and our love to Jean, Allison, Tommy, Adeline, William, Suzanne, Matt and Theo.

Not all of us here had the pleasure of meeting Pete, but those of us who had, spread news of his many qualities to the others.

Pete's legendary sense of humour, and particularly his banter with me over the nuances of the English language on different sides of the Atlantic as well as his claim that only the USA played proper " football " have occupied much of our time over the years.

On meeting him I discovered the true meaning of " all-American boy ".....but in Pete's case his rich Scottish and Irish heritage also shone through. Pete's Mother was born in Tain in the Highlands of Scotland, and people there are known for their quiet, unassuming, kind and caring ways.....qualities Pete had in abundance. Pete was proud of that heritage.....on one of the last times I saw him he had in his pocket a Medal which was awarded to his great Uncle, Sergeant Andrew Fraser of Tain, who was in the Gordon Highlanders and who was sadly killed at the Battle of the Somme in 1916. I was proud to be able to tell Pete that his Uncle had been well remembered in Tain during the Somme Centenary Commemoration in 2016.

Pete has passed into the Lord's keeping, but we can ALL take comfort from having our lives enriched by having known him and the fact that Pete lives on in his daughters and grandchildren.

Bob and Anne Christie
Burntisland, Scotland

Robert Christie - August 06 at 11:46 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John "Peter" Kelly Jr..



August 06 at 07:48 AM



“ Our family was blessed to be neighbors and friends to the sweet Kelly family! When Pete was outside with Daisy and Cooper, I could always depend on a grand story which had loads of embellishments! He will be dearly missed. Praying for Jean and their family.

Charlene Huber - August 05 at 10:18 PM



“ Pete was a great friend and neighbor to us.
We will miss him greatly but will never forget him.

He was the kind of person that we need a lot more of. There just aren't nearly enough like him. I definitely believe he had a strong faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and I know he is rejoicing in Heaven today.

I believe Pete and I spoke to each other almost every day over the past year or so often in the morning and the evening also. We will all miss him and what he was to each of us.

Bill and Fran Cline

Bill Cline - August 05 at 08:51 PM



“ Pete was there for me in some of my darkest hours by offering supportive and loving words as he and Jean knew what I was going through. A true man of God and practicing Christian for all to see.

Keeping Jean and the family in prayer.

Marsha Tucker

Marsha Tucker - August 07 at 02:15 PM