



David Allen Kelly

May 11, 1984 - June 27, 2017

David Allen Kelly May 11, 1984 - June 27, 2017. Attended Gardendale High School. Born and raised in Gardendale, Alabama. David possessed a sharp wit that was beloved by all who knew him. His passion for classic country music led him to build a large country vinyl collection and become an active member of the growing group of vinyl collectors in the Birmingham area. His collection of folk art was an extension of his creative point of view, focusing on the eccentricities and humor of growing up in the South.

David also faced challenges with mental health and struggled with substance abuse as a teenager and into adulthood. As a result, he had a kind and open heart to those who struggled with those issues as well. His Facebook and Instagram accounts often provided a laugh with his wholly original take on life in Alabama with all its quirks. His Facebook posts took on a more somber tone as he earnestly reached out to offer help and support to those dealing with addiction and mental health issues.

He was one of a kind, and there will never be another like him.

David is preceded in death by his grandparents, Mary and Dewey Kelly of Gardendale, and Ruth and William Glenn of Gardendale. He is survived by his parents, Lamar and Phyllis Kelly, of Gardendale, and his brother, Hunter Kelly, of Nashville, TN.

Visitation will be Saturday, July 1, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at The New Gardendale Funeral Home with the service to follow at 1:00 p.m. Burial will be at Oakwood Memorial Gardens.

Tribute Wall

KS

“ I wish I could remember exactly the first time I met David. It had to have been in the winter of 2002, I'd just moved to Birmingham with Sean and we moved into the ramshackle abode known lovingly as The Commune with Jacob, Nick, and Joey. The things that stick out in my mind about David; always a party...by th at I mean that he had an exuberance about him. You could feel his energy pulsating, the air crackle. He had more damn tattoos at 18 than any kid I ever met. And his signature black hoodie and glasses. I can see him now, round face, his "uniform", and a goofy grin planted on his face; either from the sheer ecstasy of being in the presence of a favorite, little known band, or simply to go to a show he didn't like just to heckle the poor bastards on that stage.

To be honest, David and I were never really that close. He was more like an annoying little brother that wore on my nerves, but made me laugh, brought me occasional joy with his antics, and always had that energy.

I guess I'm sharing this because if there were any questions in your mind how the world viewed David, my personal response is: warmly, fondly, full of nights sitting on the curb outside of Cave9 on Southside, joking about anything, everything, and nothing all at once.

May God hold your family in the palm of His hand. May He bring you comfort during this sorrowful time. God bless you and be with you.

Kay Sartori - July 01, 2017 at 07:28 PM

AC

“ David had his struggles. We all do. But no matter what burden he was carrying, he always had time, kindness, and compassion for others. Many prayers to Davids family during this heart breaking time. Much love.

Angie Coutsy - July 01, 2017 at 11:25 AM



“ Loving Grace was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 30, 2017 at 01:22 PM

CW

“ Craig Dunn and Damon Whiteside purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of David Allen Kelly.



Craig Dunn and Damon Whiteside - June 30, 2017 at 09:48 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 29, 2017 at 10:32 PM

LB

“ Lamar, Phyllis, and Hunter, my heart breaks for you all. You have our deepest condolences. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him and may he rest in peace. Amen.



Linda and Roy Brewer - June 29, 2017 at 04:54 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 29, 2017 at 04:21 PM

KB

“ Kasey Baldwin lit a candle in memory of David Allen Kelly



Kasey Baldwin - June 29, 2017 at 12:41 PM



“ Basket of Joy was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 29, 2017 at 12:27 PM

DA

“ David was such a kind and funny soul and this whole situation puts me at a loss of words. All I can say is that he was loved greatly, by many friends....we all will miss him.

David Allison - June 29, 2017 at 11:57 AM

SB

“ Sara Evans and Jay Barker purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of David Allen Kelly.



Sara Evans and Jay Barker - June 29, 2017 at 11:29 AM

CD

“ Clint Higham & Matt Donahoe purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of David Allen Kelly.



Clint Higham & Matt Donahoe - June 29, 2017 at 11:21 AM

MM

“ Morris Higham Management purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of David Allen Kelly.



Morris Higham Management - June 29, 2017 at 11:16 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 29, 2017 at 10:50 AM



“ *Natalie Lamb and Shervin Esfahani purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of David Allen Kelly.*



Natalie Lamb and Shervin Esfahani - June 28, 2017 at 09:08 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to Lamar, Phyllis, and Hunter in the tragic loss of David. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you and your family.* 🙏🙏

Phyllis Pyles - June 28, 2017 at 08:21 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 07:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 07:40 PM



“ *Donna (Hughes) & Doug Becerra* purchased the *Heartwarming Thoughts Boston Fern* for the family of David Allen Kelly.



Donna (Hughes) & Doug Becerra - June 28, 2017 at 07:12 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 06:32 PM



“ *Vikki Spencer* lit a candle in memory of David Allen Kelly



Vikki Spencer - June 28, 2017 at 04:35 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 04:29 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 04:28 PM



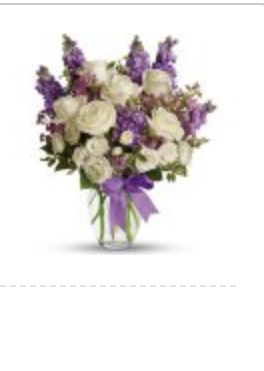
“ *Ghirardelli Galore* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 04:07 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.



June 28, 2017 at 03:48 PM



“ *Stately Croton was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.*



June 28, 2017 at 03:34 PM



“ *Alyssa Jensen purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of David Allen Kelly.*



Alyssa Jensen - June 28, 2017 at 03:13 PM



“ *David lived in my house for a few months until the tornado of 2011 ran him out. He never hesitated to answer the phone or help me whenever he was needed. He introduced me to the taco truck and together we 'broke burrito' and talked about life. Of all the Davids I know, my wife remembers him as 'the dependable guy with the beard and tattoos'... I guess we were a lot alike. He will be missed.*

Reid Coleman - June 28, 2017 at 02:48 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.*



June 28, 2017 at 02:47 PM

MT

“ To David's family. I think it's difficult for anyone to understand just how much David will be missed. He had so many friends that genuinely loved him, for exactly who he was. We are all so devastated, but I am hopeful that this tragedy will help someone out there living with the same battles that David faced on a regular basis. I was up with him many late nights talking him through some hard times...and he did the same for me on more than one occasion. He will be sorely missed, and I pray that everyone who is missing him today finds comfort in the beautiful memories he made with so many friends. I'll personally always remember the way he'd say something funny and ridiculous, and then stare at me waiting on me to laugh with that "did you think it was funny too?" Smile on his face. Now I'm smiling again. I guess that's how these things work. I love you, David, you certainly live on in thousands of hearts and minds. ❤️

Melanie Tatum - June 28, 2017 at 02:34 PM

ER

“ Dear Kelly's,

My heart is broken for your family.

I don't know if this is helpful, but I want you to know that my family has always thought so much of your family. My mom, especially, always remembered David very fondly from the time she was helping out a lot with children's church. He would call her Mrs. Phoebe B. Beebe, from a book they were both familiar with. She always loved that. (In fact, her grandkids all call her Bebe at her request, and I wonder if David wasn't the catalyst for her choosing that nickname. 😊)

I kept in touch with David loosely through the years (we liked a lot of the same music and hung out with a lot of the same people). I know he's had more than his fair share of demons. The last time I saw him, my brother was with me, and we all sat and talked for about 30 min. He seemed really well, and seemed more grown up than I'd ever remembered him. But, then he was always very nice to me whenever I saw him. From the outside, it looked like he was trying to conquer life as best he could...we all know that's never without its pitfalls, no matter how "together" any of us seem.

Please, just know that I hated so much to hear about his passing - and our family is sending our love and prayers to yours.

-Emily Limbaugh Riesland

Emily Limbaugh Riesland - June 28, 2017 at 02:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.*



June 28, 2017 at 01:47 PM

AL

“ Dear David's Family,

Like all of Birmingham, I am deeply saddened by the loss of David. He was an incredibly kind, funny, and unique man. I hope that you take some comfort in knowing that he meant a lot to his friends and that we loved him, dearly. He was a King in this town. My deepest sympathy for you all in this very difficult time. Please reach out if there's anything anyone can do.

- Allegra Fasshauer, friend of David's for eight years

Allegra - June 28, 2017 at 01:19 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of David Allen Kelly.*



June 28, 2017 at 01:06 PM

SA

“ *Lamar and Phyllis,*

I am so sorry for your loss and very sad to hear of the passing of David. I remember the fun times we had when he and Trey (Scott Awtry III) played little league baseball. It's a great memory I will always have. God bless you and your family.

Scott Awtry

Scott Awtry - June 28, 2017 at 01:01 PM



“ You were always making me laugh and your kindness towards others moved me. Your passion for human rights and fair and just treatment of all humans was inspiring. I love man. Can't wait to see you again one day



Stephanie Lorino - June 28, 2017 at 12:44 PM



“ I'm incredibly honored to have known David.

Janelle Sweeney - June 28, 2017 at 12:33 PM



“ My prayers are with you Lamar, Phyllis, and Hunter. May your memories sustain you during this difficult time.

Robin Crocker - June 28, 2017 at 11:29 AM