



Kelly Don Stephens

August 5, 1961 - December 27, 2020

Kelly Don Stephens, 59, passed away Sunday, December 27, 2020 at Mercy Hospital in Joplin. Kelly was born August 5, 1961 in Salem, MO to Bob and Sharon Stephens. He retired from the Jasper County Sheriff's Department after 22 years of service and was currently employed by the Carthage R-9 School District at Steadley Elementary. Kelly was a faithful member and deacon at Grace Pointe Assembly of God Church. Kelly loved the Lord and his church family. His favorite pastime was fly fishing; he was also an avid ham radio operator (call sign KCOUFB).

Kelly was united in marriage to Belinda McDonald on June 14, 1980. To this union two children were born. His children and grandchildren were his greatest blessings and joy.

Kelly is survived by his loving wife, Belinda; two children, Raenan Patrick and husband Landon of Carthage and Drake Stephens and wife Jarrika of Nixa, MO; his father, Bob Stephens of Salem, MO; his mother, Sharon Turnbough and husband Sonny of Cherryville, MO; two brothers, Bill Stephens and wife Donna of Blackwell, OK and Lance Stephens of Hallsville, MO; seven grandchildren, Gracelyn, Luke and Owen Patrick, Blaiden, Kreed, Summitt and Sage Stephens.

Kelly will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 2, 2021 at Grace Point Assembly of God Church. Services will immediately follow at 10:00 a.m. Burial will be at Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Grace Pointe Youth & Children's Ministry.

Online condolences may be made at www.ulmerfh.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ulmer Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Park Cemetery

801 South Baker
Carthage, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Pointe Assembly of God
1605 South Baker
Carthage, MO

Service

JAN 2. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Pointe Assembly of God
1605 South Baker
Carthage, MO

Tribute Wall

DB

“ I'm so sorry to read about Kelly's passing. I worked with him at Columbian. He was a man of God with a servant's heart. He was kind, funny, hard working and just a pleasure to be around. He was always smiling or laughing. He has touched many people. Please know that your family is being lifted up in prayers for comfort and peace. While we know he's with Jesus, it's hard not to have your loved one here.

DeGee Brown - January 01, 2021 at 11:14 PM

DP

“ When Kelly and Billy were still young enough to believe in Santa Clause, Bob had Santa (Dave Wynn) come by the house on Christmas Eve just before the presents were to be opened. But, earlier, the boys had some kind of a brotherly disagreement that got Bob's attention. So when Santa arrived, Bob met him outside and told him of the disagreement. When Santa entered the room, the boys really were beaming from ear to ear. Santa asked if they had been good and they answered that they had been. Santa then asked them about the squabble that they had earlier. The look of shock on their faces, they thought all was lost. But all ended well when they promised to be good and they received their presents.

Dave Pace - January 01, 2021 at 07:40 PM

DA

“ So sorry to hear about Kelly
Hugs to the family



Diane Adamick - December 31, 2020 at 07:45 PM

BN

“ We got acquainted with Kelly when he was serving as Jasper Co. Deputy Sheriff, when he would come to the Avilla Neighborhood watch meetings. We always enjoyed the info he shared with the group. He and Buzzy loved to talk about fishing and went on several fishing excursions together. I have several pictures of the two of them fileting crappie on our picnic table and having a glass of iced tea. Such a fun guy, easy to talk with, and shared his love of God. So sorry for your loss. He will be missed by many. We have many precious memories of this wonderful guy!! God's peace, love and strength to all the family. Sincerely, Buzzy and Betty Nagel, Carthage



Buzzy and Betty Nagel - December 31, 2020 at 05:55 PM



“ 32 files added to the album Life Tributes



Ulmer Funeral Home - December 30, 2020 at 02:02 PM

JW

“ *Jerry Watkins lit a candle in memory of Kelly Don Stephens*



Jerry Watkins - December 30, 2020 at 12:12 PM



“ *Serenity Prayer 30" Sonnet was purchased for the family of Kelly Don Stephens.*



December 30, 2020 at 10:21 AM

MK

“ *So sorry to hear of Kelly's passing. I have many fond memories during grade school and JH with the Stephens, Kaczmarek and Karr boys playing ball and running around the neighborhood. I remember him doing voice imitations and was constantly a crack up. I bet the elementary kids absolutely loved him!*

Condolences to all of Kelly's family and friends.

*Mike Karr
Springfield, MO*

Mike Karr - December 30, 2020 at 10:01 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Kelly's death. Being in business across the street from Stephen's in Salem for many years I saw lots of Kelly. He was a very kind and happy man and I know he will be missed. My deepest condolences to each and every one of his family. The world has lost a very special person. Harold Hamilton, formerly of Salem and now of Albuquerque, new mexico.

Harold hamilton - December 30, 2020 at 02:17 AM



“ So sorry for the loss of a fine man.

Gary Miksell - December 29, 2020 at 06:22 PM



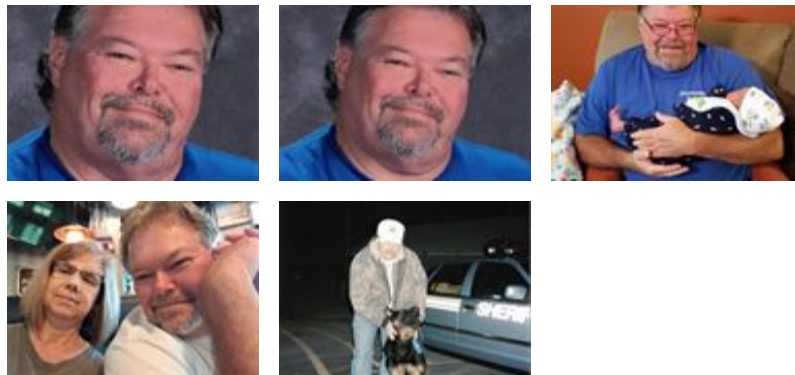
“ Red Poinsettia (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Kelly Don Stephens.



December 29, 2020 at 05:56 PM



“ 64 files added to the album Life Tributes



Ulmer Funeral Home - December 29, 2020 at 05:44 PM

 Gina
Toman
Boze

“ *Dear Stephens family,
I'm so sorry for your loss. Kelly was such a good guy, he always made people feel welcomed and important no matter their age or lot in life. He loved people, and I am fortunate to have known him. He was loved by the communities he lived in and he will be greatly missed. You all are in my thoughts.*
Sincerely,
Gina Toman Boze


Gina Toman Boze - December 29, 2020 at 03:22 PM

GL

“ *So very sorry to hear of Kelly's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Belinda and your family. My sweetest memory was your wedding and Lorri being in it. Kelly was much too young and I know it must be difficult for all.*
We love you!



Gary & Leta Lough - December 29, 2020 at 02:21 PM

 Terri
Freeman
Hill

“ *Kelly is a life long friend with a huge heart and always had a smile anytime we seen him. Sending our love and prayers to the family.*
The Hill family



Terri Freeman Hill - December 29, 2020 at 01:52 PM



“ *Treasured Memory - 8" x 7" Frame (Holds 4x6 Photo) was purchased for the family of Kelly Don Stephens.*



December 29, 2020 at 12:13 PM



“ *Sandy Higgins lit a candle in memory of Kelly Don Stephens*



Sandy Higgins - December 29, 2020 at 12:09 PM



“ *Praying for all the family , and friends . Kelly is at peace now in God's hands , Peace , Prayers to all !!!*

Sandy Higgins - December 29, 2020 at 12:09 PM



“ *We played high School football together*

Chris Ashlock - December 29, 2020 at 08:02 AM



“ *Betty Carmack lit a candle in memory of Kelly Don Stephens*



Betty Carmack - December 29, 2020 at 12:06 AM

BC

“ Heartfelt Sympathy to YOU, Belinda, & your Family. SO sorry to learn of your loss; know that our Thoughts & PRAYERS are with you. A Wonderful picture of Kelly!!! Love, Charlie & Betty(Stephens) Carmack xo

Betty Carmack - December 29, 2020 at 12:05 AM

NN

“ While I didn't know him I grew up in Salem and stopped at Stephen's often. Actually it was where I went on my first date. My condolences to the family. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Nancy Nelson-Stickels - December 28, 2020 at 09:44 PM



“ I have only known Kelly for just a wee bit over one year but that time I have grown to admire him with his kindness, loving spirit, and his friendliness. He welcomed me when I first came to Grace Pointe with open arms and his impact on my life will remain with me for the rest of my life. Every minute I was with him was a special moment as he was so warm and welcoming to everyone - He made me feel welcome all the time and I cannot express in words how wonderful a godly man he is and how much I will miss him. His legacy will live so much beyond my time here on earth and his faithfulness to God will be an inspiration to me. He loved Jesus so very much and I know his impact will always be felt among his church family, his family, and everyone that knew him. God bless you Kelly Stephens and I look forward to the reunion we will have when I get to Heaven. You are loved and will be sorely missed until that time.

Greg Walden - December 28, 2020 at 09:43 PM

RC

“ I am so saddened by the loss of Kelly. He and Belinda exuded kindness and faithful service. He will be sorely missed. Hugs and prayers to Belinda and family.

Reta F Castor - December 28, 2020 at 08:05 PM

BI

“ He was such a precious person. So enjoyed his teaching our Sunday School class.

Billy - December 28, 2020 at 07:58 PM

ME

“ Kelly was one of those guys that always had a smile and laugh. My biggest regret that I wish I had known him a lot longer. With Kelly and Larry passing the finish line Grace Pointe will not be the same.



Michael Esch - December 28, 2020 at 07:34 PM