



## Kenneth Eldridge Raska

April 15, 1947 - April 15, 2014

Kenneth Eldridge Raska, 67 of El Campo, passed away on April 15, 2014. He was born on July 26, 1946 in El Campo to Eldridge and Ima York Raska. Kenneth was a self-employed oilfield guager, band director and technology coordinator for Louise ISD and professional musician for 15 years. He played in the bands Hound Dogs, Jades, Jeff & the Kickers, South TX Bohemian Cowboys and KGK. Kenneth was also a member of the Retired Teachers Association.

He is survived by his wife Pat Raska; daughters Pamela Rohwer and husband Matthew of Austin, Kathryn Peterson and husband Brady of El Campo; grandchildren Sabrina Rohwer, Keaton Rohwer, Kelley Peterson and Kyle Peterson.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sister.

The family will receive visitors from 4 – 6 pm on Friday, April 18, 2014 at Triska Funeral Home. Funeral service is at 11 am on Saturday, April 19, 2014 at First United Methodist Church.

Honorary pallbearers are Matt Rohwer, Brady Peterson, Dickie Merta, David "Sappo" Saucedo, Brad Weston, Travis Saucedo, Jake Merta, Luke Merta, Andy Evans, Jim Evans, Howard Evans, Edward York Sr., Edward "Bubba"

York Jr., Jared Merta and Floyd Perry.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in honor of Kenneth may be made to the American Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association.

Memories and condolences may be left for the family online at [www.triskafuneralhome.com](http://www.triskafuneralhome.com).

Triska Funeral Home 979-543-3681

# Tribute Wall

DF

“ I was saddened to read of Ken's passing, and wish to extend my sincere condolences to the family.

Ken was my band director the last three years of high school, and I have always cherished his pleasant nature and gift of music. He motivated me to work hard-we had a sweepstakes band and did well with solo and ensemble competition also.He always expected our best behavior and performance, especially when we competed with Louise! Although my career took me to an area unrelated to music, I learned a lot from him, which helped me achieve my goals, and appreciate it to this day.

While out of the country for eight days and not knowing of his death, I actually thought of him one evening while enjoying music. I assume he was giving me his farewell as he began his journey into the next life.

I'm glad I had the opportunity to know him. He was a fine person!

Sincerely,

Dr. Douglas Dornak

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Dr. Douglas Dornak - El Campo - friend - May 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ Kathryn, Brady, Kelley & Kyle and all the family,

We are so sorry to hear that Mr. Raska has passed. Our prayers are with you in your grieving & healing process. His Spirit will live on in many ways including the wonderful influence he has instilled in each of you.

With Love, Mike & Sandra

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Mike & Sandra Farquhar - San Antonio, TX - May 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I was one of Ken's tech aide's at school for years. We always talked about fishing and music. I remember working with him in the summers and he would blast "The Who" from his office.

He also taught me during middle-school band with the recorders. He was a wonderful teacher and boss. I learned a lot from him, he always did anything he could to help everyone. He always had a smile and loved to joke around. He will be greatly missed, and will be in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Charles Peters - Louise, TX - former student** - April 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ There are no words. I worked with Ken. He taught or mentored all four of our children. What a blessing! I loved going to his office and seeing pictures of his family and fishing. He could help with any computer problem. He always made us laugh. Louis worked on his parents phones- two of the nicest people ever. So was Ken. Our prayers are with Pat, the girls, grandchildren and all the family. Ken is playing music and fishing in heaven. We will miss him.

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**Louis and Virginia Peters and family - Louise - co worker, friend, students** - April 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ we will miss ken at wathabuger in the moring a find man and grate friend from all the men that new him .. he will be miss ....

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**mario cruz - el campo, TX - friend** - April 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ When I think of Mr. Raska, I think of him teaching his daughter, Pam and I how to play 'Love Me Tender' by Elvis Presley on our clarinets when we were in junior high.. And then all these years later, I take my daughter to Louise Elementary only to meet up with Mr. Raska working in the Technology Dept. What a wonderful surprise!! My daughter, Kori is almost 16 years old and she has come to adore him just as much as I did. Mr. Raska will be missed by many and touched many, many lives! To my friend Pam and the entire family, you have my deepest sympathies. You are all in my thought and prayers!!

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**Kim (Ham) Staff - Louise, TX** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Condolences to Pat and other family members. Kenneth was a great role model while we were in high school. We thank him for passing on those traits to the students he taught. Other than his wit and humor, I enjoyed listening to his trombone and style of music. May the Lord grant Kenneth eternal rest. Larry, Class of '64

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**Larry Ermis - Bryan, TX - Louise High School classmate** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ May you rest in peace, Mr. "R.". You were an inspiration to those around you. Thanks for being a part of my life.

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**Neta Ripple - El Campo, TX - Friend** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ My condolences to the family, I just spoke to Mr .Raska a couple weeks ago at his yard sale and saw him Monday at H E B, Very Very sweet man ,Just can't believe it well Mr,Raska your in a wonderful better place now till we meet again my friend rest in peace

Nora - El Campo, TX - friend - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ He was one great musician. Will miss him. Prayers to all his family

Michele Beard - Ganado, TX - Friend - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ thanks for being so kind to a new person from out of town....your mgr. and friend at whataburger.....RIP

Naomi McPeak - El Campo, TX - friend - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ My deepest sympathies go out to the Ken's family. Ken was my band director at Tidehaven High from 1969-1973. He was also a good friend.

Richard Ray - Fayetteville, AR - Friend - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ Grace and Peace to the family of Ken. He was a great person to have in ones life.

Hugh Hanes - Victoria, TX - Friend - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Pat and the girls during this time. We loved and will miss Ken. I am sure Ima and Elridge and greeting him along with my grandma Nellie Perry. Until we meet again Ken. Rest in peace.*

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**Melissa Perry Castillo - Victoria , TX - cousin** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *WE ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. KENNETH WAS A GREAT PERSON. WE WERE NEIGHBORS TO HIS PARENTS. THEY ALSO WERE GREAT PEOPLE. AGAIN PAT I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.*

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**CONNIE QUINN - EL CAMPO, TX** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ *Ken was one of my biggest musical mentors and influences. Always fun, always professional, always meticulous with his performances. A true friend, exceptional bandmate and huntin' buddy! I love you Ken!!! Heartfelt love & sympathies to Pat and the girls! Much love!!*

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**Herb Zieschang - Houston - Friend** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ I was part of an early 1970s bunch that regularly headed for Jef and the Kickers dances every weekend. When I learned that Jef was replacing the lead guitarist, I told him the band just wouldn't be the same without the soon-to-be replaced one. I have never been more right in my life. Kenneth was about the finest guitar picker (the word picker doesn't seem appropriate.) I'd ever heard. His fingers seemed to fly over the strings of that SG and I often found myself standing right in front of him to watch and listen.

Those were fun times and Kenneth Raska certainly played a part in making them so.

*Bill Cone*

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**Bill Cone - Brazoria, TX - Acquaintance** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Kenneth was my friend through my school years. He was always nice to others and grew to be a gentleman. We will all miss this very talented man. Kenneth provided the best music in our high school years. Oh, how we loved to dance. My prayers are with the family.  
*Connie Stavinoha*

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**connie stavinoha - Houston, TX - friend** - April 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Ken's smiling face will be missed. Our prayers go out to the Raska family.

*Sheila & James*

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**Sheila Herrington - El Campo, TX - Friend** - April 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ The news of Ken's passing leaves many of us with heavy hearts. I think I can speak for the entire domino group when I say that we will miss his quick wit, his great sense of humor, and his skill in playing dominoes. To his children and grandkids, you have my deepest sympathy, as well as, Pat, his wife and partner in life. May you rest in peace, Ken.

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**Kathy Kofron - El Campo, TX - friend** - April 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ The news of Mr Raska's passing saddens me greatly. Not only was he my band director and teacher, he was my friend. My memories of him and the Tidehaven Tiger Band will always be with me. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Andy Pennington - Louisville, KY - Student/friend** - April 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To the family my deepest condolences. Ken was a wonderful man and co-worker . Loved seeing and talking to him at LISD. May he rest in peace

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**Doris Ochoa - El Campo, TX - Friend** - April 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM