



Vernon G. Kelly

February 11, 1938 - December 26, 2022

Vernon G. Kelly, better known as "Sonny", passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on Monday, December 26, 2022, at the age of 84. He was born on February 11, 1938, in Lake Charles, Louisiana to Monroe G. and Louise Reck Kelly.

His family moved to El Campo from Houston when he was in high school. He served his country in the National Guard and also the United States Air Force.

After being honorably discharged from the Air Force, his working career was in the oil industry with the last 28 years being with Otis Engineering Corp. He retired from Otis while living in Denver, CO in 1993.

On May 27, 1961 he married Carolyn Brod, after sweet talking her into eloping to Laredo, Texas. They were married 61 1/2 years, and many said at the time that it wouldn't last.

After retiring in 1993, he and Carolyn moved back home to El Campo. Their three children were grown and had left the nest.

Sonny spent many hours coaching his kids' sports teams, no matter what sport it was. He loved to be with his grandchildren, fish, hunt birds, play golf, go camping, but next to his grandchildren, he loved to play poker more than

anything. For many years he belonged to a group who played every Friday night no matter what.

Sonny truly loved his family. His grandchildren brought him great joy. He was a very friendly, outgoing person who never met a stranger. His boss told him one time that he could sell ice cubes to an Eskimo.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; son, Bobby Kelly of Bend, Oregon; daughter, Sunny Kelly of El Campo; son, Cory Kelly of Rancho Cordova, California; grandson, Aidan Kelly; granddaughters, Vivian and Devlyn Kelly; sister, Ginny Bacon (Johnny) of Houston, sister, Susan Kelly (LaWana) of Houston, brother-in-law, Gary Brod (Debbie) of Centerton, AR, plus several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Steve Alan Kelly; and in-laws, Bob and Velma Mathis.

Sonny was under the care of Angels Health Care for several years. They were wonderful at tending to his needs. We are most thankful for them. His time with Houston Hospice was brief, but they served him very well also.

A Celebration of Life for Sonny will be held on Friday, December 30 at First United Methodist Church, El Campo. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m. and the service will follow at 11:00 a.m. A private burial will be had at a later date.

Honorary pallbearers will be Allen Hurst, Grover Hargrove, Paul Soechting, Scooter Vaclavick, Val Hargrove, and Wayne Waters.

Donations in memory of Sonny may be made to First United Methodist Church or Houston Hospice El Campo.

Condolences may be shared online at www.triskafuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 30. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Methodist Church
1001 Avenue I
El Campo, TX 77437

Funeral Service

DEC 30. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Methodist Church
1001 Avenue I
El Campo, TX 77437

Tribute Wall

CW

“ *Cindy Witcher lit a candle in memory of Vernon G. Kelly*



Cindy Witcher - December 30, 2022 at 11:30 PM

JV

“ *Carolyn: We are so sorry to hear of Sonny's passing. He was a "Good Guy" and certainly will be missed, It was always a pleasure to visit with him at our school reunions and enjoy his jovial stories and memories. Rosemary and I express our sincere sympathy and condolences to you and family.*
James And Rosemary Voldan

James Voldan - December 30, 2022 at 08:19 PM

MK

“ *Dear Carolyn & Family, Hubert & Sonny were in the same class & graduated from ECHS. Their friendship continued throughout their lives. Please accept our prayers & heartfelt sympathy. Love, Hubert & Mary Jane Kaiser*

Mary Jane Kaiser - December 29, 2022 at 07:19 PM

RP

“ Dear Carolyn, I'm sorry to hear your loss of your Dear Sonny. What little I've known him, he was always full of laughter. My prayers and thoughts will always be with you and family.

Ron Petter

RON J PETTER - December 29, 2022 at 01:41 PM

LS

“ Leslie Hansen Schroder lit a candle in memory of Vernon G. Kelly



Leslie Hansen Schroder - December 29, 2022 at 10:31 AM

LS

*Susan, so sorry to hear of the loss of your brother. Think of you often.
Leslie Hansen Schroder*

Leslie Hansen Schroder - December 29, 2022 at 10:30 AM

AO

“ Amanda Pavlock @ Dr. Simmons office purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Vernon G. Kelly.



Amanda Pavlock @ Dr. Simmons office - December 28, 2022 at 03:46 PM

LF

“ Dear Carolyn & family, my thoughts are with you as you go through the pain of losing a person so dear to you. What a shock back in 1961 when you two eloped! But the two of you were so suited to each other and you managed to make such a happy marriage and family. Remember the good times and try not to dwell on the sadness. I'll be thinking of you even though I can't be there in person. Love, Linda Selk Fox

Linda C. Fox - December 28, 2022 at 02:37 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Vernon G. Kelly.



December 28, 2022 at 01:07 PM

FD

“ Dear Carolyn and Family, Your Sonny was a terrific friend and so funny. Clarence and I remember when you married. And yes, he was so handsome that we knew you would marry him! We know you all have many wonderful memories to comfort you. With our love, Faye and Clarence Dettling.

Faye and Clarence Dettling - December 28, 2022 at 12:43 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vernon G. Kelly.



December 28, 2022 at 12:13 PM

BS

“ *Bill and Mary Anne Smith purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Vernon G. Kelly.*



Bill and Mary Anne Smith - December 28, 2022 at 09:19 AM

IR

“ *We are very sorry to hear about the passing of Sonny. He was our neighbor and we will miss seeing him sitting in his chair outside his home and waving at everyone that passed by. Our deepest condolences to the family and may God give you comfort and peace during this time.*

Irma Rocha - December 28, 2022 at 09:17 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Vernon G. Kelly.*



December 27, 2022 at 11:04 PM

LK

“ *LAWANA KELLY lit a candle in memory of Vernon G. Kelly*



LAWANA KELLY - December 27, 2022 at 10:26 PM

LK

I love to cook and Sonny loved to eat. Sonny made me feel like the best cook in the world as he ate with gusto and was known to “snitch” a shrimp or piece of crisp bacon before the meal made it to the table. He also gave the best bear hugs. Best brother in law ever and I will miss him.

LAWANA KELLY - December 27, 2022 at 10:34 PM

KK

“*Mrs. Carolyn, my deepest condolences and prayers are with you and your family. May you find comfort in His word.*”

Katie Kunz - December 27, 2022 at 10:20 PM

GH

“*Grover/Val Hargrove lit a candle in memory of Vernon G. Kelly*”



Grover/Val Hargrove - December 27, 2022 at 07:15 PM

GH

Our deepest condolences to Carolyn, Sunny and family. We will miss you terribly. Loved our many years of Friday night poker.

Grover/Val Hargrove - December 27, 2022 at 07:17 PM

AM

“*My condolences to the family at this difficult time.*”



Andrea McCann - December 27, 2022 at 06:54 PM