



Phillip Key

May 2, 1951 - February 13, 2021

Phillip Leonard Key, 69, died February 13th in Knoxville, TN, Earth. A gathering to celebrate the life of Phillip Leonard Key, 69, was held at D.M. Goff Funeral Home at 205 East Cleveland Ave., Monterey, TN 38574 on Saturday, February 20, 2021; from 1:00 PM CST Until 3:00 PM CST. Phil was born in Dayton, OH, May 2, 1951 to Phillip Arnold and Lena Key. The fifth born of 8 children, Phil developed a love of reading from his sister Diana, whom he shared a very special bond. Phil met the love of his life, Carla, when he was 16 and she was 15 years old. They married on January 6, 1973. For nearly 53 years, Phil left Carla daily notes affirming his love for her. Together they raised two children, Olivia Elizabeth Key of Dayton, OH, and Andrew Orion Key (Karen Key) of Knoxville, TN. Phil and Carla brought their children up with a strong emphasis on spiritual development, and an appreciation for the outdoors. He attended mission trips in Central and South America with the church. Phil was also a fixture in the music scenes of both Dayton and Knoxville, cherishing his extended tribe of music lovers and art makers. His family was his most prized possession, constantly doting on his 5 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. He also made family out of anyone willing to accept his LOVE, known affectionately as PawPaw to many little children that adored him. Phil was preceded in death by his parents Phillip Arnold and Lena; siblings Reba Fay, Lowell Kenneth, and Diana Kay. He is survived by his wife, Carla; siblings: Larry, Ralph, Jeannette, and Wanda; Children: Olivia and Andy; 5 grandchildren: John, Devyn, Quentin, Jada, and

Violet; and 4 great grandchildren: Kingston, Aurora, Brayden, and Ka'mari. To Phil you were a brother, treating everyone he encountered as family, especially the downtrodden and disenfranchised. He had a deeply personal relationship with God, never missing an opportunity to appreciate the miracle of a big moon, or a cloud that reminded him of a happy time. Music and art were magic. His PHILosophy was consistent and simple: LOVE UP. If you were lucky enough to have met him, he loved you, and he told you so. Phil accomplished his goal. He was the coolest of cats. He never let the cruelty of this world break his spirit. He continued to fill his heart with LOVE despite the darkness around him leaving everything he touched better than when he found it. He heard the foghorn whistle blow and approached it without fear. Bless Up! Interment will be at a later date at Muddy Pond Cemetery with immediate family. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Phillip Key's name to Compassion International (<https://www.compassion.com>), an organization Phil gave to for 30 years. Arrangements And Care Provided By D.M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc., 205 East Cleveland Avenue, Monterey, Tennessee 38574, Phone 931.839.2311.

Previous Events

A Celebration Of Life Gathering

FEB **20**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

D.M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc.
205 E. Cleveland Ave.
Monterey, TN 38574
(931) 839-2311
<http://www.gofffh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *D.M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Phillip Key*



D.M. Goff Funeral Home, Inc. - February 20, 2021 at 06:57 PM



“ *Phillip Key*

October 08, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *As creatures that never remain stagnant, distance had been formed from old relationships and Phil and Carla where in that group. As many do I have great stories and memories of Phil. He was without dispute a soul of rhythm. A smile, laugh, or gaze could change the beat. And Phil was good for it. My love and prayer go to Carla and the family. I know his love and care will continue will shine through his examples. Love always. Your friend Drew.*

Drew - July 03, 2022 at 11:36 AM

JS

“ *My sincerest condolences to Phil's many friends and family members. I met Phil and Carla during the J-Alans days and they were nothing but kind to me always. Phil was a legend of love and goodwill towards others. It was always a pleasure to spend time with them and I will never forget the kindness that they always exhibited towards me.*

Joel Sumner - February 20, 2021 at 07:14 PM

CS

“ *From James & Carla Sullenberger- We have such great memories of Phil and Carla. Phil was one of the nicest, patient, and caring men we've had the pleasure of knowing. We chose the peace lily in his memory because he was a peaceful man. I don't remember him being anything but kind. He had a huge impact on our lives and he will be missed greatly. Our love and prayers go out to you in this time of loss.*



Carla & James Sullenberger - February 19, 2021 at 10:43 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 19, 2021 at 10:29 PM

TH

“ From Merlin and Lucille Campbell family formerly of Wright View Church of the Nazarene, we send our most sincere condolences to Carla and family at this very difficult time. Prayers to everyone.



Tammy Hall - February 19, 2021 at 08:56 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.



February 19, 2021 at 04:05 PM

CC

“ I remember visiting my Aunt Lena and Arnold in Dayton, OH when I was just a little kid. Aunt Lena and Arnold had lots of children, most of them older than me. The cool part was that they lived in a 3-story house (including the basement) with a big front porch that overlooked the school next door where everyone would hang out. It was a lot of fun visiting! Phillip was always nice to us even though we would crowd his bedroom upstairs because he always had the best music!!! I remember Phillip and Carla, his then girlfriend, listening to the Beatles, "Abbey Road" and other great music like Simon and Garfunkle's "Cecilia." These early memories of my beloved cousins are fond memories that I will always cherish.

To all of the family, my heartfelt sympathy for this great loss. -Cindy (Avie's daughter)

Cynthia Clapp - February 19, 2021 at 02:42 PM

TS

“ *Phil was a great Man with a beautiful Family. He believed in treating all people with kindness, the way you would want to be treated. Phil was the coolest! He was always fun to be around, spontaneously saying playful and clever things. Phil and Carla quickly became our best friends and some of our very favorite people. It was always wonderful hanging out with them listening to live music or just enjoying their company. Phil was admired by all that had the pleasure of knowing him. We love Phil and Carla and always will!*
Tom and Sweetie

Tom and Sweetie - February 19, 2021 at 12:26 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 19, 2021 at 11:51 AM

SW

“ *Carla, I was so sorry to learn of Phil's passing, Our love, thoughts and Prayers are with you and family. Phil was such a wonderful person and brightened everyone's days with his positive post on facebook. The beautiful and kind thoughts posted in his honor say it all about the man he was. With Love, Sandy and Pat Wheeler*

Sandra Wheeler - February 19, 2021 at 09:02 AM

LN

“ *We are saddened at the loss of this sweet man. Prayers of comfort and peace to the family.*

lisa Naas - February 18, 2021 at 08:14 PM

SO

“ *Deepest condolences and sympathy to the Key family.*

*The Oroszi's, Steve, Melissa, Clay and Olivia
Dayton, Ohio*

Steven A Oroszi - February 17, 2021 at 10:32 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 17, 2021 at 07:10 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 17, 2021 at 04:59 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 17, 2021 at 11:02 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 16, 2021 at 11:00 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 16, 2021 at 01:54 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*



February 16, 2021 at 01:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.*

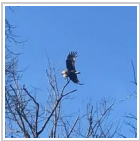


February 16, 2021 at 11:24 AM

JT

“ There are no words to express how broken hearted I am for you and your family Carla! I know this is hard for all of you. I just went through it myself. We have been in each other's lives forever!! Like you guys Gary and I were together almost as long and it so so hard. It's so weird, when I think of you guys I think of all of us hanging around Toms pizza house on Main and Parkwood. I love you Carla and if you want to talk just give me a call! I just went through it and I don't know what I would say but I can listen. Phil I am sure you will run into Gary up in heaven and when you do tell him I am pissed at him for leaving!
I don't know how to be me without him and I am sure you feel pretty much the same way. Love you guys.

Julie Tipton - February 16, 2021 at 10:23 AM



“ I am very happy that I had the chance to meet and spend time with Phil. He was a kind, intelligent and fun person. I have made a donation in his name to Compassion in Jesus Name.

*Stewart Smith
Island Home*

Stewart Smith - February 16, 2021 at 09:24 AM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.



February 16, 2021 at 07:17 AM

TB

“ I know I speak for many in the Ohio live music and festival circuit will -- we will miss Phil to the core. Phil will always be spoke of in a most positive manner and admired for his temperament, ability to make people feel special, even loved, simply by his presence in a room and someone who you have known your whole life. People like Phil are rare but you just know them when they rise to the top. I never thought Phil would disappear so soon like this and wished we could've had one last moment. He leaves an indelible fingerprint on so many who will hopefully consider to emulate his form of unconditional love for others and has done his part to lead by example for so many who have been lost. He knew how to feel and think love and a rare one, indeed.

Tom Blessing - February 15, 2021 at 09:32 PM

NK

“ From old friends up north. So sorry for your loss and you and family are in my prayers.
But I imagine he is now singing in Gods choir.
This Nancy Knauer, CrystalBell and Tammy Horn.. from wrightview church
I've lost LES back in 2015. So LES will be waiting to welcome Phillip.
God bless you all

Love Nancy Knauer

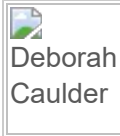
Nancy Knauer - February 15, 2021 at 06:35 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Phillip Key.



February 15, 2021 at 11:52 AM



Deborah
Caulder

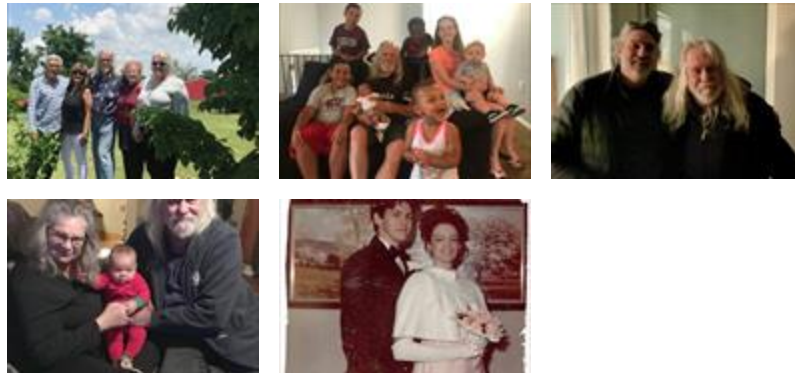
“ What a wonderful light in this world, he will be missed terribly.
Wrapping the family in love and praying for peace to be with them.

Deborah Caulder - February 15, 2021 at 09:34 AM



KA

“ 13 files added to the album Family Pics



Karen - February 14, 2021 at 07:40 PM