



Paul "P.J." Jerome Kelley

December 17, 1934 - July 24, 2018

There are those men who are born to be great leaders or those who amass great fortunes. There are also those men born who have a great and realistic view of life. P. J. Kelley was one of those individuals. Paul Jerome Kelley was born in Molena, Georgia on December 17, 1934. He was one of 13 children born to the late J. B. and Lois Self Kelley. P. J. came to be known by his initials during his career with BellSouth. Depending on what part of his life and your relationship, he was also known as Jerome or "Baby", since he was the youngest of 13 children. He did not particularly volunteer that last fact to most folks. He came from a family possessed of a great work ethic. P. J. spent 42 years employed with BellSouth. It was hard for him to sit in one place for very long, so after all those years with BellSouth he spent some quite happy years with Southtowne Motors. Throughout his life, P.J. was a very active person and coached all his sons in baseball. Many of those friendships formed in Little League have carried over into lifetime relationships. He was a great fan of seasonal outdoor sports and dove and quail season would always find him in the fields. He always enjoyed golf and some thought that he moved into a home on the golf course thinking he would absorb better skills from the soil. Being an eternal optimist, he faithfully followed Georgia Tech sports. P. J. Kelley was a dedicated member of Central Baptist Church and looked forward to sitting in "his place" on Sunday mornings. P. J 's greatest accomplishments had nothing to do with sports, work or wealth. The things that mattered most in life to him were his relationships with others. He was the consummate

jokester; always in good fun, though. He could match wits with the best of them. He was a devoted husband to his wife Linda. He was an exemplary father to his sons Jerry (Christy) Kelley of Newnan, Johnny (Lisa) Kelley of Lincoln, MO, Bob (Kim) Kelley of Clarksville GA and Keith (Wendy) Jackson of Atlanta. He was a doting and jovial grandfather to Jay (Manda) Kelley of Vidalia GA, Katie (Jeremy) Capshaw of Newnan, Nick (Jill) Kelley of Olathe, KS, J. G. (Hannah) Kelley of Lees Summit, MO, Brooke (Craig) Buchanan of Newnan, Will (Devon) Kelley of Wetumpka, AL, Rob Kelley of Clarksville, GA, Peter (Alex) Grimm of Chapel Hill, NC, Julia Grimm of Atlanta, GA. There are 11 great grandchildren. Of the thirteen original children in his family, his sole surviving sibling is his sister, Carolyn Barrett. There will be a visitation for family and friends on Friday, July 27, 2018 between 6:00 PM- 8:00 PM at McKoon Funeral Home at 38 Jackson Street in Newnan. It is requested that flowers be omitted (bet you did not see that coming from P.J.). Those who may wish to do so may honor P.J.'s life by a memorial gift to Central Baptist Church Building Endowment Fund 14 West Broad St. Newnan, GA 30263. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mckoon.com. McKoon Funeral Home 770-253-4580.

Cemetery Details

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com

Tribute Wall

GD

“ Linda, so sorry to hear about P.J. passing, we were out of town when he passed. Your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
Genelle & Jimmy Davenport

Genelle Davenport - August 07, 2018 at 12:38 PM

DP

“ Linda, our condolences in your loss. Our prayers are for your comfort.

Dan & Jo Payne

Dan Payne - July 31, 2018 at 05:19 AM

RQ

“ Linda, most sincere condolences on your and your family's loss. He had a life well lived.

Rudy Quillian, LHS '65

Rudolph (Rudy) Quillian - July 30, 2018 at 07:19 PM

PP

“ Linda, I am so sorry that I didn't know of PJ's passing. I have just seen it today. I have posted it to the 65 website. Please know that we will have you and your family in our prayers. Pam Harris Parmer LHS class of 65.

pamela Harris Parmer - July 30, 2018 at 05:32 PM

GR

“ Sorry for your loss. Ray and I have known P.J. for many years. Our sons were good friends. Remember him coaching baseball when they played. I pray that you can find peace and comfort during this difficult time. He will be missed.

God's peace be with you,
Ray and Gerrie

Gerrie and Ray - July 27, 2018 at 11:20 AM

CA

“ JG, Hannah and family. So sorry for you and your family's loss. You are in our hearts, thoughts and prayers. -Caitlin and Monica

Caitlin Aldrich - July 27, 2018 at 11:05 AM



“ 59 files added to the album LifeTributes



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - July 27, 2018 at 07:30 AM

GA

“ Precious Jerome, P.J. , was an awesome fella. I worked with him for a time at Bellsouth, but I grew up knowing him from my mother, Eleanor Alexander, working there for 42 years also. He always had a smile and a fun tale or joke up his sleeve. He spoke very often of Ms. Linda and their children . He was a very proud man. He was a super person to know and work with. I was blessed to know him, as well as honored to be friends with him. So very sad to hear he has passed. He will keep Heaven laughing and in stitches. RIP my friend...Guy Alexander

Guy Alexander - July 26, 2018 at 09:19 PM

RH

“ Remember Mr. PJ coaching Little League the years when I was playing. My dad also coached then and I remember how much fun we had. Baseball was fun back then because coaches like Mr. PJ made sure of it . Condolences to Jerry, Johnny, and Bob and their families.

Russ Howard - July 26, 2018 at 08:03 PM

LE

“ Very sorry for your family's loss! Mr. Kelley was a fine man who raised not only his boys but many other kids from my age group! An example from which his children became good citizens with wonderful families of their own. Condolences, love, prayers, and hugs!



Linda Marshall Estes - July 26, 2018 at 04:30 PM

FF

“ P.J. was a great guy. He could always make me smile. He coached me in Bidly League Basketball one year and he was the first and probably the only coach I ever had that wanted me to shoot the ball. I enjoyed serving with P.J. as a deacon at Central Baptist Church. We were also the transportation committee a couple of years. The Assoc. pastor put us in charge of finding a new van/bus for the church one time. P.J. went to TN, I think, and found one but the assoc. pastor went over our head and picked another one. We wanted a less expensive van/bus. We were both very conservative. Prayers to all the family during this time of loss. God's peace and grace be with all of you.

FRANK M. FARMER - July 26, 2018 at 11:19 AM

LR

“ *To the Kelley Family!*
I have fond memories of Mr. PJ, Little League Baseball, Coweta sports, golf, etc. He was a kind man who always had a smile for everyone. He will be missed. Janet and I send our heartfelt condolences and will keep all of you in our prayers. May the grace and peace of our Lord and Savior be with you during these times.

Larry and Janet Robertson

Larry Robertson - July 26, 2018 at 11:14 AM

EH

“ *Keith, Linda, and families prayers for comfort during this time. And may the memories flood your mind for brighter days with laughter and love. Ruby J. Nelms and Eileen Nelms Harcrow*

Eileen N. Harcrow - July 26, 2018 at 11:09 AM

DS

“ Dear Jerry and all the Family,
PJ was an out going and very friendly person. He and I had a good time coaching Little League Baseball, our Sons and a lots of other Sons. I use to see him at Southtowne and enjoyed talking to him, He will be missed.
May the Good Lord give the Family Peace, Love and Contentment during this very difficult time.
God loves you and I do too,
Don Jones Sr.

Don Jones Sr. - July 26, 2018 at 08:48 AM

JH

“ Linda, I regret that I won't be there Friday night to meet you and your family as I am out of town. Just want you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers!!! Love, Julia Huster

Julia Huster - July 26, 2018 at 08:26 AM

MY

“ Our prayers to the family at this time. Mr. PJ was a good man and friend. May God give you peace and comfort in the days ahead.
Sincerely, Mike and Bev Yeager Family

Mike Yeager - July 26, 2018 at 08:25 AM

BW

“ Linda, Keith, and all the family, we send our sincere condolences at this difficult time. May the memories you shared comfort you.



Bobby and Geraldine Welch - July 26, 2018 at 07:21 AM

RW

“ Jerry, Christy and family, I am so sorry to hear of Mr. P.J.'s passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. We love you!
Ruth Jones Warren

Ruth Warren - July 25, 2018 at 08:18 PM

SM

“ He always made me feel good. I'm going to miss him. Praying that you find peace now, and in the days and months to come.

Steve Mapel - July 25, 2018 at 05:44 PM

TR

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. Hugs, Tish

Tish Ray - July 25, 2018 at 03:43 PM

JG

“ Loved that sweet & sassy Man! He always made my day better. Love and prayers for Mrs. Linda, the kitty cats all of your family!

Jessica Griffith - July 25, 2018 at 02:17 PM

ED

“ Please accept my heartfelt sympathies for your loss.

Evelyn Dixon - July 25, 2018 at 12:48 PM

JW

“ Keith, Miss Linda and family, I'm so sorry to hear of Mr. Kelley's passing. Thinking of you all during this sad time.

Jennifer Welch - July 25, 2018 at 12:28 PM

JR

“ P.J. was a very special, good man, who Harry and I were honored to be his friend. He could always put a smile on your face and brighten your day. You always knew if you needed anything, he would be there for you. His deep love and devotion to Linda and his family was an inspiration. I will miss that hug and wit, but there is no doubt he is pain free and at peace.

Judy Scarbrough Rivers - July 25, 2018 at 11:33 AM