



## David R. Kelly MD

February 13, 2014

### KELLY

David Robert “Dave” Kelly, MD was a loving husband, father and grandfather, caring doctor, proud veteran, athlete, comedian, and best friend. He passed away peacefully at the age of 73 surrounded by his family on Thursday, February 13, 2014.

Dave lived with unique passion on so many levels, a passion that his Mom and Dad would say started right out of the gate in Marion, Ohio in 1940. He graduated from Marion Catholic High School in 1958, graduated from the University of Dayton where he served as Class President, and graduated from The Ohio State University College of Medicine in 1965. Dave was a physician and surgeon at The Ohio State University for over 30 years, interrupted only by his service to his Country in the United States Army from 1970-1972. In Vietnam, Dave was Chief of the Trauma Unit at the 24th Evacuation Hospital, Long Binh Post. His service was a source of pride his entire life.

Dave loved his career as a doctor and medical student educator at Ohio State. Among his honors, Dave was the Vice-Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology and a recipient of the prestigious Honor Award from the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. He also served multiple terms as President of the American Cancer Society for Ohio

and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Physicians for The Ohio State University. He was recognized as an "Outstanding Teacher" by the Department of Otolaryngology, known for his dynamic lectures. He also thoroughly enjoyed the honor and camaraderie of his affiliation with the Sierra Cascade Trauma Society, serving as a member and past President of the Columbus Medical Forum, and being the founding member of the Ohio ENT Surgery Center. Yet, clearly his greatest honor was serving his patients and working with his colleagues at the hospital, from the orderlies and nurses that he shared friendship and laughter with; to the medical residents that he loved teaching, learning from, and playing flag football with; to his fellow doctors he loved and respected. He was known by his patients and friends at the hospital for his warmth, sense of humor, and devotion to the practice of medicine.

Dave was also a great teammate and a competitor. Everything he did was with passion, from his high school accomplishments as a State Champion sprinter and a standout in football and basketball, to his drive to play basketball for the University of Dayton, where his coach insisted he not miss his medical labs for basketball practice stating, "You're going to be a better doctor than a basketball player." Still, his passion for athletics continued. Dave played for St. Agatha's softball team for 35 years and won recreational football championships in Vietnam and at Ohio State. His Ohio State team, which included his sons and residents from his Department, represented Ohio State in the National Flag Football Championship five times. Playing sports, golfing, and skiing into his 60's with his kids, grandkids, and friends were some of his greatest joys.

With his everlasting spirit of fun and compassion, Dave coined himself "Goofy Grandpa" when he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease to alleviate as much pain as he possibly could for his grandchildren that he so dearly loved. His courage and good humor remained intact throughout his battle.

Dave is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Patti Bintz Kelly, and his children and thirteen grandchildren: Erin (husband George Buzash and children Brett and Blaize) , Chris (wife Sandy and children David "Rex", Cate, and Riley), Matt (wife Michelle and children Calin, Jack, Grant, and Mya Jane), and Braden (wife Lilian and children Teddy, Bryn, Nate and Tessa). He is also survived by his sisters: Margie (Tom) Jester, Ellen (Roy) Crayton, Jan (Dan) Draper, and his brother: Kevin (Laurie) Kelly. And Patti's sisters: Sue (John) Burkhart, Mary Jo (Joe) Balistreri and their families. Dave was preceded in death by his parents, Judge Robert and Margaret Kelly, and his sister, Kathleen Kelly Denslow (Phil) and sister-in-law Janie Bintz.

The family would like to thank the many friends and caregivers who defined love, compassion, patience, and dedication over the past several years. Patti thinks of all of you with the greatest respect and love.

Family will receive friends from 2-4 & 6-8pm. MONDAY at the RUTHERFORD FUNERAL HOME AT POWELL, 450 West Olentangy Street, Powell, OH 43065 (614)-792-1471. (The funeral home is located on W. Olentangy St./Powell Rd./SR 750 ¼ mile east of Sawmill Parkway.) Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 11:00a.m. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2014 at ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell, OH 43065. The Reverend James Black, Celebrant. Burial will follow at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center, Oh.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Dave's name to the Joan Fund for Head and Neck Cancer Research, [www.cancer.osu.edu](http://www.cancer.osu.edu) through the James Cancer Hospital or The Ohio State University Department of Neurology for Alzheimer's research, <http://neurology.osu.edu/cognitive/alzresearchfund.html>

Please visit [www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com) to send condolences to the

Kelly Family.

# Tribute Wall



“ *He save my hearing as a little kid. So thankful for him. Such an awesome person!*

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**joe stiers** - May 26 at 03:22 PM



“ *David R. Kelly MD*

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January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Patti - I hope this message reaches you. Unfortunately I only recently learned of Dave's passing. I was a resident in otolaryngology under Dave, but it was my experience as a student at OSU where I really got to know him. As you know he had a great sense of humor, was always opinionated and an overall great guy. I recall doing a number of research projects together. On one occasion I had to pick up a large poster for an Academy presentation and Dave let me use his Lincoln to go pick it up. Quite a move up for a student, but nothing for Dave!*

*Please accept my and Betsy's belated condolences. Since I learned of Dave's passing, I have thought about him a lot. The Hindus say if you think of someone who has died, their spirit is able to come to earth again. My memories of Dave are always light-hearted and I realize how much of an influence he had on my life. Please let me know if there is anything I can do in your time of grief. Mike & Betsy Maves ENT Resident 1976-80.*

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**Michael Maves** - May 03, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *Patty and the family, We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Dave. He was a bright spot in the residency training at OSU Department of Otolaryngology. He lived life with gusto and it was a blessing to have know him. Our prayers for peace and comfort in this time for you.*

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**Bronn and Cindy Rayne** - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *We were so saddened to hear of Dave's passing. He was a bright light in this world and he will be missed. Our best to Patti and family. Prayers for comfort and happy memories are sent your way.*

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**Kamran and Lois Barin** - February 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *Patti, Our hearts go out to you and your family. Dave is missed by everyone at the Sierra Cascade Trauma Society -- no one was better liked.*

*I think that the first crush our son, Chris, ever had was on Erin after she did some babysitting at the SCTS when he was in elementary school. Those memories, and memories of Dave at the SCTS, are not forgotten. He had everyone in stitches when he described his experiences at summer basketball camp when he must have been about in his 50s.*

*We've missed seeing you and we will miss Dave.*

*Blessings to you and your family.*

*Steve Jobst, Jill, and Chris*

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**Steven Jobst & Jill & Chris** - February 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Kelly Family - You selected a wonderful picture of Dr. Kelly. The image is exactly as we remember him. He was such an esteemed member of the community and very well respected. Every conversation we ever had about Dave and Patti was always in a positive context. His spirit and respect for others is carried on by the Kelly family. He will be missed.

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**Brian & Connie Coghlan & Family** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Dear Patti and family,  
I'm so sorry for your loss. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
Sincerely,  
Laurie Chevalier (Annette's friend)

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**Laurie Chevalier** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your entire family.

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**Donald Esber** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ Patti and family....we send our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to you in the loss of your husband, father and grandfather. We are so sorry we are not there to lend our support. Just know that our thoughts are with you all during this difficult time.  
Much love...Patty Rauss and Ben Dillon

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**Patricia Rauss** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Dear Patty and family; I am so sorry to hear of Dave's passing. He was one of those special people who always seemed to have time to spend with you. He was a true leader, one who was followed out of desire rather than duty. He will be missed by many. My prayers are with you.

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**Clint Lawrence** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Patti and Family, I just heard today of Dr. Kelly's passing. My thoughts are with you; I am blessed to have known a wonderful man and loving family. Kristine Diener Fastinger

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**Kristine Fastinger** - February 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Kelly family,  
All of you have our prayers and sympathy. Stories of Dr. Kelly are woven into my daily practice of medicine with my patients and colleagues alike. He always displayed his passion for life and a genuine love of people. It was a gift and blessing to train under him and grow to call him a friend.  
Sincerely,  
Mark and Michelle Clarkson

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**Mark Clarkson** - February 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ *Patty and family; God bless you and strengthen you as you grieve, and as you celebrate Dave's life. I am so sorry that I cannot be there.*

*David was one of the friendliest, kindest and most generous souls I've ever met. I know for me, and I expect for everyone, that each time you saw Dave he would light up and make you feel like the most important person he knew. He was a great person, a great husband and a great father. I thank God that I had a chance to know Dave Kelly and am so grateful that God shared him with all of us. .*

*While we mourn his leaving, know that Heaven is a nicer place, now that he's waiting for us there.*

*Mike O'Neil*

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**Michael O'Neil** - February 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TE

“ *So sorry to hear of Dave's passing. Patti you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Terry & Pat Everly** - February 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ *Sorry for your lost of your father, privilege to have met him*

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**gib adams** - February 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ I was a classmate of Dave's at the U of Dayton, have not seen him since then but from the time I met him considered him a dear friend. He made you feel that way. Great sense of humor, wonderful athlete and intelligent to boot. My sincere condolences to his wife and entire family. He truly was a wonderful man and esteemed doctor. A classmate I admired and was proud to be his friend. Jim O'Hora, President UD Class of 62

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**Jim O'Hora** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Please accept my sincere sympathy for this loss to two wonderful families. May God surround you with love and peace for your sorrow.

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**regina travis** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Patti and family I am sorry for your loss. Dave and I had a special relationship due to my service in Vietnam in 1967-68 prior to starting my residency at OSU. He was a year ahead of me in Med School and the three years ahead of me in residency. He was my senior resident and we had a good time especially when I tried to jump off a roof onto him at Dallas restaurant. However our closest relationship came after he returned from the service and Vietnam. He used to come to the Dayton VA as my staff man. We had a great time doing cases together there and sharing Vietnam stories when he wasn't on the VA phone talking to other Vietnam buddies. He is missed by all.  
Charlie

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**charlie jordan** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Dear Family,  
I am so sad to read of Dave's death. I had the distinct pleasure to spend many hours with him in the operating while I was providing anesthesia for his patients. I always felt comfortable in his great surgical skills that he could manage any surgical complication that might occur. The last time I saw him at OSU, many surgeons and nurses visited him and despite his memory loss, he smiled and said, "Wow, I must have been a really good doctor."  
He was that and whole lot more.  
Joel Weaver, OSU Department of Anesthesiology

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**Joel Weaver** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ We have good memories of Dr. Kelly, he cared for our daughter many years ago. Dr.Kelly also came to Mount Vernon for the more needy children at a POD Clinic. I recall his kindness and the fun he had with the kids. I volunteered at the clinic doing crafts with the kids, Dr. Kelly would join them and make "stuff" with them. What a guy! Please know we care in kind thought and prayer. The Mumaw family

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**Sandra Mumaw** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ As a nurse, I had the pleasure of working with Dr Kelly on the otolaryngology unit at OSU. He was always smiling, had a bounce in his step, and eager to teach his nursing staff. I always felt a special closeness to him because I am from Marion too. He knew my father, a doctor in Marion for 30 plus years. My sincere condolences to your family as you mourn this great loss.

*Nancy Wilson Fountos*

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**Nancy Wilson Fountos** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Dave and all his family are in my thoughts and prayers and I send heartfelt condolence and sympathy. Dave's passion for his work and family, his humor, and his contributions that touched so many will be remembered.*

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**Alan D Letson MD** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ *Rest in Peace Doc - Thanks for all you did.*

*The Stewart Family*

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**Stewart Family** - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the Kelly families. He is at peace and in a wonderful world with God. Cherish your memories. Prayers for Dave and all of you.*

*Hugs, Todd, Nancy, Scott, Andrew & Angel Eric*

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**Todd & Nancy Baird** - February 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM