



## "David" Richard D. Kelsey

March 23, 1967 - September 6, 2014

Richard "David" Kelsey, age 47, of Richland Center died Saturday, September 6, 2014 at the Richland Hospital after a long battle of ALS. David was born on March 23, 1967 the son of Bert and Maureen (Steinmetz) Kelsey. David joined the United States Army from 1985- 1987. He managed Gates Auto Body of Madison, Monroe, and Sun Prairie. David was an avid adventurer and loved rock climbing, hiking, biking, camping, and kayaking. David was a member with the Monroe United Methodist Church and enjoyed playing guitar on the worship team in church. David was a devoted Christian, very loving father and son, helped families in need and loved little kids.

Survivors include his son Zachary Kelsey of Madison; parents Bert and Maureen Kelsey of Richland Center; a sister Heather (Christopher) Davids of Lee's Summit, MO; a grandfather John R. Kelsey of Richland Center; 2 nieces Madelyne and Marlie Davids both of Lee's Summit, MO; aunts and uncles, Sydney (Marlene) Steinmetz of Sun Prairie, WI, Dave (Jennifer) Foley of Richland Center, Colleen Schmidt and Bill Wagberg of West Plain, MO, John (Sandra) Kelsey of LaFarge, WI, Sharon (Morris) Freydenlend of Viola, WI, Robert (Shirley) Kelsey of Greenville, S.C., Jean (John) Montgomery of Richland Center, WI; many cousins, other relatives and friends.

David was preceded in death by his paternal grandma Eunice Kelsey; maternal grandparents Victor and Eveline Steinmetz; and a special great aunt Vera Steinmetz.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at 3:00 PM at the Peace United Methodist Church in Richland Center with Pastor Bill Busch officiating. Burial will be held in the Fancy Creek Cemetery at a later date. Visitation will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at the Peace United Methodist Church from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to ALS or the family. The Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center is assisting the family with arrangements. On line condolences can be made at [www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com](http://www.clarymemorialfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

SC

“ *First let me say, I'm so sorry for your loss...wow...everyday is and was a gift. Good news is, we will see him again.*

*My personal experience with David was one of pure appreciation and respect. I was an awkward kid that David always showed kindness to when we would visit. We played, drew together and went to the local swimming pool. He always looked out for me and our cousins when we were there. He was a large reason for my attempt to be a good artist actually...never worked out...:) He was very talented at drawing from what I recall, some of my first drawings were of Kung Fu items based on meeting him the very first time...:) I still think about him these days after all the years have passed...With a Man like David it does not surprise me that our Father has brought him home early. With his strength, charisma, intelligence and kindness he will make a great addition to the transition process.*

*I'm sorry for your loss in the immediate...but we all know, he is in the best place possible.*

*Love-Shane*

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**Shane Wagner - Madison, WI - Johns step son with Cathey** - March 05, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with David's family and friends. I was the music director for the worship team David was a part of at the Monroe UMC; David was also a friend. He always had a smile and uplifting words for us all and it was a joy to lead worship with David. May he rest in peace with his maker. God bless the memories of David, you will be missed, brother. ~ Sincerely, Danelle*

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**Danelle Schmid - Shullsburg, WI - Friend** - September 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ *We are so saddened by David's passing..... Our hearts and prayers go out to you all.*

*Sorry we couldn't make it to the visitation and service, we have that hard cough and did not want to share it with you all....but we are with you in spirit.*

*Love,  
Jim, Jane, Jeremy and Jennifer Husnik*

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**Jim & Jane Husnik - Richland Center, WI - neighbors** - September 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ We are friends of Marlene and Sid and were so saddened to hear of Sid's nephew David's passing from ALS. Dean's Aunt Gloria goes to the Monroe United Methodist Church, so I am sure Gloria and Walt Flood were greatly blessed by David's music ministry there too.  
Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. David sounds like he was an exceptional person. Dean and Laura Flood

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**Laura and Dean Flood - Oregon, WI - friend of Marlene and Sid** - September 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers. We knew Dave through the Monroe United Methodist Church. He enhanced our worship through his musical gifts; provided leadership and positive influence on our daughter; and always offered a smile and a positive message in every interaction in and out of church. We have been blessed to have known him.

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**Kevin & Chris Wells Family - Monroe, WI** - September 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to David's family. Dave and I had a lot of fun growing up in R.C. we lost contact when I moved to Monroe in 1979. How ironic that later in life David would end up in Monroe. RIP Dave you will be missed

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**Kevin Fry - oshkosh, WI - friend** - September 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HH

“ My wife Julie and I met David's parents last summer while visiting Sid and Marlene; we are good friends of theirs. From listening to you speak, I assume your faith in God is being a great benefit for you at this time. Peace be with you all.

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**Howard Hintzman** - September 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Dated 3-23-2003 (One of David's birthdays)  
A Blessing for my son David

*I bless my son David, that he will walk in the ways of The Lord Jesus Christ, and that he will bless others with his demeanor of peace, love, mercy, tranquillity and generosity. I pray he will bless others through The Word of God and through musical ability. I pray that young and old will be drawn to his love for The Lord and his beautiful countenance. I bless David that he will prosper The Kingdom of God with his abilities and that he will prophecy to those who believe and speak in the tongues of men to his Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that David shall prosper financially and that he will find a Godly mate and that she will help him in his ministry and encourage and edify him in his endeavors. I pray for David to bless his son Zachary and speak nothing but good things into his life and that they will minister and worship The Lord together. David shall be a blessing to his earthly parents and his sister Heather. He will not forget his Father in Heaven and do mighty works for Him. I bless you David in the name of Jesus Christ and may His grace abound in your life forever! In the will of God the Almighty! Amen!*

Bert Kelsey - Richland Center, WI - Father - September 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ My heart and prayer are with David's family at this most difficult time.

Dean Gaudette - North Las Vegas, NV - classmate - September 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Rodney Rego - Loch Lloyd, MO - High School friend - September 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ My condolences to the Kelsey family and his close friends. The Kelsey's were my family's next door neighbors for many years. Dave and I did what typical young boys of that time did: ride our bikes everywhere (sometimes down hills too steep for our skill), hiking in the woods behind Allison Park, bringing home the critters we found in the woods to our mom's, building tree forts all over the neighborhood, listening to music and lighting fire works at the sand dunes above the old dump. Such simple but quality times in our youth.

Kim Goplen - Bolingbrook, IL - friend classmate and neighbor - September 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ My deepest sympathy to you, Bert and Maureen. To lose a child, no matter what age, is so incredibly painful. I knew Dave for a very brief time, but he left a strong impression on me. I won't forget him.

Maureen Smith - September 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ My condolences to the Kelsey family on David's passing. I was a year ahead of David in school. I always admired his quirky and energetic presence. I always enjoyed his humorous commentary. The picture posted in his obituary, and the one from back in the day (the 80s!) capture David's essence.

Brian Tennant - High school - September 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ I send my sympathy to David's family. It was a shock to us here in Monroe to hear of his passing. I work at Alphorn Ford which is in the same building as Gates Auto Body, so saw David daily while he was managing here. He also gave my then High school aged son a job detailing cars in the body shop. My son was very grateful for that opportunity. I am praying for comfort for the entire family as you mourn the loss of David.

Janet Medinger - Monroe, WI - work acquaintance - September 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Rest in Peace, French Fry! Our family loved you! You were a wonderful church youth leader for our girls. Great role model. I enjoyed teaching you piano lessons. You were a great friend to Terry. You will be missed.

Gwen and Terry Shaker - Monroe, WI - friend - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ So sorry to hear this! David was an amazing guitar player and singer at our church and always had a smile and a kind word for everyone. David liked next door to my parents for awhile and I remember he came to their halloween party in a Darth Vader costume :)

Amy Burkhalter - Monroe, WI - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ My sincere sympathies to Dave's family. I was fortunate to be able to have known him. My memories are all of him with a perpetual grin on his face! Rest in peace Dave. You will be missed.

Lynne Wheat Dosch - Coon Valley, WI - Former neighbor, classmate - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ *Maureen, Bert and Heather,*

*My deepest condolences go out to you and your entire family. I had the privilege of meeting David and seeing him twice, but even though it was only two times those were enough to know that he was an awesome individual and I know he had to have been an amazing and loyal friend to so many.*

*Words are lost at a time like this and aren't adequate enough to even express to you how very sorry Vince, myself and our entire family is for your loss.*

*God bless you Maureen, Bert, Heather and all the family and friends of David. I pray for you for peace and comfort.*

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**Vicki Randle - Lee's Summit, MO - Friend** - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ *Remembering you, Bert and Maureen, I can only imagine what a wonderful son David was and I cannot fathom what you must be feeling. What comfort the Lord is. My prayers are with you and the rest of your family.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jeane Hoyland*

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**Jeane Hoyland - Indianola, IA - friend of parents** - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ *Prayers and love sent to your family.*

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**Robin Fricke - Leesummit, MO - Heathers friend** - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

B8

“ *David and I were good friends in the 80's. We did not keep in touch, but I will always treasure the great times we shared and his wonderful smile. Wishing you all peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. My sincere sympathy,*

*Brenda Durst Gocht*

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**Brenda Gocht - Belleville, WI - Friend from the 80's** - September 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MW

“*Dave is gone from our lives, but he will live on for me through the many "David" stories Todd has! I have heard many and I'm sure Todd isn't done. He surely gave great joy to many and will be missed.*

Mary Jo Coppernoll - Waunakee, WI - September 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SK

“*David and I were neighborhood friends, we played together as children, riding our bikes and just being kids. We lost touch as adults, but I never forgot his smile, and kept up with his life on social media. It is a sad time for all to say good-bye to David... my sincerest condolences to his family, and everyone who loved him.*

Shelle Koch - September 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“*David was a true friend, I'm glad we got so much time together.*

Todd Coppernoll - Waunakee, WI - friend - September 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“*My thoughts and prayers go out to David's family. David was a neighbor and a classmate of mine. I know what the family has gone through watching David suffer with this horrible disease. My brother Mark Dray died in 2011 of ALS. My you find strength from those around you and know he is in a better place now.*

Tracy Dray Larson - Galesville, WI - Friend/Classmate - September 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*He was my best friend for 30 years, don't know what I'll do without him! There are no words to explain what he meant to me  
It was my privilege and honor to have him as my friend, one could not ask for a more loyal, decent, honest, compassionate man! He was my anchor, my everything and I will miss him for the rest of my life!  
My condolences of course to Maureen, Bert, Heather and her family as well as his beloved son Zach!*

Anja Contreras - Del Rio, TX - Friend - September 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RW

“*My condolences to David's family and friends. Dave and I lost touch for sometime, however, reconnected through facebook. I am so saddened by his passing. My prayers are with his close friends, as well as family. Rest in Peace you were a wonderful person.*

Rachel Felton - Neenah, WI - September 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BI

“ Our condolences to Dave's family, especially to his son, Zach.

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**Brian and Cindy Bonneur - Morrison, IL** - September 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ David was special to me. We were science partners in freshman science. We lost touch for a few years but ended up camping next to each other at white mound in 2001. We have enjoyed many deep conversations about many topics. I will miss him. He and I prayed together last week I am thankful we had that time.

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**Connie Jewell Vlasak - Friend** - September 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM