



Peter Carlson "Woody" Kern

April 20, 1947 - January 7, 2014

Peter Carlson "Woody" Kern, 66, of Pilot Point, passed away Tuesday, January 7, 2014 in Plano, TX. Peter was born April 20, 1947 in Canton, OH to Peter and Dorothy (Raush) Kern. He attended Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH majoring in biochemistry and minoring in psychology. In 1970 he entered the family business of nursing homes. Once in charge he began to expand the company and purchased homes outside of Ohio. He moved to Pilot Point, TX in 1986. In the 90's he was the sole owner of Texas Health Enterprises, the largest nursing home chain in the state of Texas with over 100 homes. He was a lover of baseball and owned minor league baseball teams in North Carolina, Washington, California, New Jersey, and New York. The Asheville Tourist, an affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, was regarded as one of the best-run minor league franchises in the country. He began his career with the Arena Football League as the owner of the Fort Worth Cavalry in 1993. This team only operated for a single season. In 1994 he purchased the Arena Football team, Tampa Bay Storm, in Tampa Bay, FL. Under his watch the team won three championships. The Storm is noted as having won more games than any other team in AFL history. In 2010 he founded the Texas based Dallas Vigilantes Arena Football Team. The team played at American Airlines Center from 2010-2012. In 2012 he welcomed the addition of Cheer's Liquor and Spirits to his list of business ventures. Cheer's has many locations around Texas. Also, he was the president of PCK Management located in Pilot Point, TX. He is survived by his two sons, Ryan

Kern of Denton, TX, Bo Kern of Frisco, TX; five daughters, Jennifer Walter of Columbus, OH, Cari Gilliam of Princeton, TX, Lindsay Kern of Whitesboro, TX, Blair Kern of Aubrey, TX, Kristin Kern of Cross Roads, TX; and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents. Visitation will be held 10:00 AM, Saturday, January 11, 2014 at Slay Memorial Chapel in Aubrey, TX with a funeral service following at 11:00 AM officiated by Rev. Luther Slay. Burial will be at Belew Cemetery in Aubrey, TX. On-line condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral Center Aubrey. To send a flower arrangement to the family of Peter Carlson "Woody" Kern, please click here to visit our Sympathy Store.

Tribute Wall

BS

“ I relocated to Oklahoma and just found out he had passed. He was a fun and pleasant to me. Loved his rings and sense of humor. RIP

Belinda Sosi - September 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Much sympathy and prayer for the Woody Kern family. Well respected gentleman from Warren, Ohio.

Toni Sedall - September 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ I was fortunate to work with Woody in Denton, with Texas Health Enterprises. We did some great things at THE, in an industry that was always under tremendous scrutiny and heavy fire. I'm sad knowing he has left us so young.

Eric Griesel - July 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ You would have been 67. Mom and Blair visited you today. We miss you more than you could know. Love, Ryan

Ryan Kern - April 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Mr. Kern was a great man. I worked for him in Flint, Michigan for a short period of time. RIP.

Dave Koeplinger - February 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Just learned of Woody's passing last nite. Although I have not seen him for many years, I have always considered him a friend from our Lehman High School years where he was a popular and fun guy. We lovingly said he was the best whiffle ball player that ever played in Conley's yard. Sad to lose an Eskie.

Brian Campbell - January 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ Woody was the source of so much fun when we were growing up - I think he was the source of many of the "in" words and phrases invented from time to time. I'm sorry I wasn't near where he lived to spend more time with him over the years.

Earl Rodd - January 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ I am so happy that Woody Kern came to Texas. God bless him and his family. Barbara Jones (Texas Health) Daybreak Venture, LLC

Barbara Jones - January 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ So sad to hear about Woody's passing. Woody was one of the "good guys". I worked for him at HEA Management Group in Warren and then moved to Denton and worked at Texas Health Enterprises with Bob Damore. Smiling from lots of good memories in that chapter. My sincere condolences to his children and family.

Terri Crabbs - January 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ I ran Woody's Same Old Song Saloon(Warren

Michael D'Orio - January 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Woody and I went to Lehman High School together. He was a great friend and will be missed. My prayers go out to the family.

Larry Durian - January 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ You will be Dearly Missed my friend! RIP

Debbie Crow - January 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Sorry to hear of Woody's passing. I will always be in gratitude to Woody for being honorable in business with me. He always treated me fairly and I always respected him for that. If not for Woody it would have been very difficult for me to start my practice. Thank you Woody. My prayers to the family.

Dr. John D'Amanda - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Woody was a great guy. I remember going to kindergarten with him the first day at Miss Sunshine's class at Woodland School. We were friends through high school. He was an incredibly hard worker and loved life.

Mark Fettman - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Sorry to hear of Woody passing. When I think of him I can't get the smile off my face. He was always fun to be around when we would haunt Vasser Hill after dark. Prayers to his family and his many friends. Dave Puncheon.

[Contact Me](#)

January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ 1629 Harvard NW, that was the jump off point for playing in the Vassar/Woodland school area... Over the years as we got older our paths would cross every now and then, we spend some time socializing then go on with life.... He was one of the most grounded guys I will ever meet, he could be playing his favorite past time "stump me with sports" (which I never saw him loose) and be figuring how many bed pans fit in a truck..... He was unbelievable and his style of management could and should fill a book! He prized his loyal staff and business associates, and they were loyal.... I only spoke to him few times in these later years, always the "come on down", always had time, always remembering , I can say he was an original, never duplicated , impossible to imitate, I was proud to be able to call him my friend.....

Jimmy Ergon - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ I am very sorry to hear about Woody. He was a great high school friend. His family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Lenny May - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ Woody was not only fun, but a great friend and mentor. In 1989 Woody guaranteed a loan for Sally and I that helped us found a company that today supports fifteen families.

bob klinger - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EV

“ I worked for Woody and Tim with the Tampa Bay Storm. They were great guys and fierce competitors. They will be missed and remembered.

Eddie Vowell - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Blair and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you. There are just no words to express how sorry we are for your loss. "Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."

Deana & Brittany Salkeld - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ WOODY WAS A GREAT FRIEND FROM OUR CHILDHOOD IN THE N.W. END OF CANTON. WE REMEMBER HIM FONDLY AS A PLAYMATE WHO WOULD ALWAYS GO WITH US TO VASSER HILL PARK.A LIGHT HAS GONE OUT IN THE WORLD WITH HIS PASSING. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH HIS FAMILY IN THEIR TIME OF NEED.

MONTE LANE - January 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ Woody holds a very special place in my heart along with his great friend Coach Marcum. Previous Tampa Bay Storm owner sold the team to Woody and after being interviewed (which I will not forget! I had so much to say, and such a passion for my job with the Tampa Bay Storm), Woody kept me on the staff. Many wonderful years working with him. Always so nice, soft spoken, patient and always available. Although he was in Texas and we were in Florida!, distance was not a problem. Woody taught me SO MUCH. I will miss you Woody. Thank you for the beautiful memories.

Nathalie Bertrand - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I am very sorry to hear that Woody has died. He was a remarkable man with a mind like a steel trap! He taught me a lot about budgeting and management when he purchased Mary Kenny Nursing Home in Connecticut, making it Canterbury Villa of Waterford. He was always exuberant and we had many great times both in Ohio and in Connecticut with him. He operated a hands on style ensuring that he met monthly with all of his administrators, even flying us to Ohio each month if he wasn't in CT to maintain control and to give advice. Even though we haven't talked in years, I was able to keep up with him through his Ohio staff. I have always greatly admired him and enjoyed my years working with him. My sincere condolences to his family.

Jean McAneeny-Tuggle - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ So Sorry to hear about Woody's passing. My deepest sympathy to his children and all of his family. He was a great businessman and person with many accomplishments in life. I'm sure he will be greatly missed by his many family members and friends.

Carolyn Szabo - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BN

“Woody and I served together on the AFL Board of Directors for many years--he was a unique character, and a man of principle--he and I were often the lone voices of dissent when we believed the majority to be making the wrong decision. I enjoyed my recreational time with him too, often over a cold drink and some insight from his friend Tim Marcum. I will miss him and send my condolences to his extensive family.

Bill Niro - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JD

“Plain and simple...Woody was just a cool guy. Not a prototypical sports owner. He cared for the league, the players, and the fans. I had the pleasure of being part of The Tampa Bay Storm Family, and that is the atmosphere that he fostered in the organization...A family. It's hard to think about Woody without thinking of his great friend Tim Marcum. I take some solace in that they'll once again be able to spend time together.

Jason Dixon - January 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM