



Mr. William Michael Kelley

November 25, 1948 - August 13, 2025

William Michael Kelley, lovingly known as Mike, was born to William C. and Margarette Kelley in Texarkana, Arkansas, on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1948. He passed away on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Mike was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 43 years, Della Ruth Kelley.

He is survived by his wife, Vicki Walters Kelley; his oldest son, Jason, and wife, Jessica, and their children Emily, Jordan, Landon, Hannah, Avalee, and Mia; his son, Jered, and wife, Jeannette, and their children Dylan, Jaxon, and Delilah; and his daughter, Jamie Foster, and husband, Eric, and their children Kaitlyn and Ethan. He is also survived by two stepsons, Michael and Travis, and grandson Colt; three great-grandchildren, Peter, Jesslyn, and Noa; his younger brother, Pat Kelley; and mother-in-law, Barbara Long Walters; and his faithful puppy, Pepper.

Mike graduated from North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas) in 1971 with a degree in Psychology. A devout Christian, he was known for his unwavering optimism, quick wit, and the joy he brought to those around him. Mike worked in sales before retiring in 2014, where he reminisced selling some of his favorites such as Community Coffee, Keebler, Chef Boyardee, Dannon, and Kool-Aid—even dressing as the Kool-Aid Man for

promotions.

Mike was instantly recognizable by his colorful socks, silly hats, and graphic T-shirts. He took pride in knowing the best routes to get anywhere in DFW and never missed a chance to remind others of upcoming holidays—because, to Mike, every day was worth celebrating. His favorite verse, Psalm 118:24, reflected how he lived his life:

“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

A visitation for Mike will be held Monday, August 18, 2025, at Slay Memorial Funeral Center, Aubrey, TX, from 6:00PM to 7:30PM. Graveside service is Tuesday August 19, 2025, at Old Celina Cemetery at 10:00AM with a celebration of life following at 12:00PM at Woodlake Baptist Church, 2015 E. Peters Colony Rd, Carrollton, TX. Officiants are David Kautt and Rob Lane. Online condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com

Arrangements are under the direction of Terri Slay and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 18. 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey
400 South Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
info@slaymemorial.com
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

Graveside Service

AUG 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

Old Celina Cemetery
12070 W. Glendenning Pkwy
Celina, TX 75009

Celebration of Life

AUG 19. 12:00 PM (CT)

Woodlake Baptist Church
2015 E Peters Colony Rd
Carrollton, TX 75007

Tribute Wall

KR

“ I met Mike a few weeks ago and for whatever reason decided to rename him John. He politely corrected me, thank goodness. Mike was a devout Christian, an incredible husband to Vicki, an animal lover extraordinaire and a great guy all over! I learned all of that in a few short weeks. I feel so very blessed to have met him, as well as his devoted wife who has become a dear friend and sister in Christ to me. All the glory goes to God for creating this wonderful man in this wonderful marriage in this wonderful church in this wonderful world!
Kathie Roberts



Kathie Roberts - August 17, 2025 at 07:17 PM



“ Giving each other colorful socks on Sunday at church

Steve Hoffman - August 16, 2025 at 12:51 PM

TW

“ Tamera Walters lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Michael Kelley



Tamera Walters - August 16, 2025 at 10:43 AM

AF

“ We would like to express our heartfelt sympathies to all of Mike's family and friends. We were so blessed to have him and Della as extended family, during which, over many years we enjoyed beautiful milestones and countless events together. In recent years, it has always been a pleasure to see Mike and Vicky on special occasions. Mike had the fun-loving ability to light up a room if he was in it. He never failed to bring smiles to our faces! A genuinely caring man, who, aside from his joyful sense of humor, always expressed his love of family, love of God and love of life. He will be sadly missed; however, he will always hold a special place in our hearts. With sincere thoughts and prayers, Amy and Tom Foster

Amy & Tom Foster - August 16, 2025 at 10:00 AM