



Kraig Louis KURTZ

February 20, 1951 - July 16, 2018

Kraig Louis Kurtz of O'Fallon, MO, died July 16, 2018 at Jonesburg Nursing and Rehab. He was born February 20, 1951 in St. Charles, MO. Kraig was the son of the late Edwin A. Kurtz and Anna Luise Bangert Kurtz.

Kraig is survived by his wife, Julietta Kurtz. Loving father and father-in-law of Eleanor Kurtz Lunn (Drew) and Eva Kurtz. Loving stepfather of Faith Kurtz. Loving grandfather of Christian and Andrew Bailey of Seattle and Sidney Lunn of St. Louis. Beloved brother of E. Eric Kurtz (Jo), John F. Kurtz (Julie) and Christine Kurtz Casten. Loving uncle to four nieces and a nephew and loved by many family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers or memorials, family and friends are asked to think of Kraig kindly and share happy memories. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Comments



“ Becky Platt lit a candle in memory of Kraig Louis KURTZ



Becky Platt - July 23, 2018 at 08:20 AM



“ From my Dad I learned gratitude even for the littlest things in the worst of times, to believe in magic and in the unseen, to question absolutely everything, to survive when there's no answers, to appreciate language and music, to go all in on my passions, that everything exists and occurs in one single moment called "now". Love you Dad.

Eleanor Kurtz - July 22, 2018 at 07:58 PM



“ I love this picture of Kraig. Other than the gray hair, it is exactly how I remember him. Eleanor and Eva, I'm so sorry for your loss. Kraig was a very special friend when we were all young and raising our children. I always marveled at his intellect. His thinking was on a different plane than most of us. I called him my Philosopher King friend. But he also had a wicked sense of humor and playfulness that made him very fun to be with. In the 70s, when Saturday Night Live was new, Kraig and Sue hosted weekly SNL watch parties in which Kraig and Russ Kirk dressed as Coneheads and played ring toss. It sounds dumb but was hilariously funny. Jerry and Kraig were similar in size and even a little bit similar in appearance and, when we went out to eat, most than one hostess referred to them as the Smith Brothers because of the bearded images on the cough drops box. Kraig was always kind to us and a good companion. He loved you girls so very much and took pride in your accomplishments and in your abilities. I know the later years were not good to him, and I mourn that lost time. But Jerry and I will always remember the decades we had him as a friend with love and gratitude. Sending hugs and kisses to you for healing. Jan and Jerry Paul

Jan Paul - July 22, 2018 at 05:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Christine Kurtz Casten - July 22, 2018 at 10:48 AM



“ Janyce Dawson sent a virtual gift in memory of Kraig Louis KURTZ



Janyce Dawson - July 22, 2018 at 06:07 AM



“ We are very sorry for your loss.

Mark Dodrill and Janyce Dawson

Janyce Dawson - July 22, 2018 at 06:03 AM



“ If memory serves me, the first image I have of Kraig was of him with canes in hand bravely facing challenges that held me in awe. Later our second grade teacher scolded Kraig for removing his dark red Valparaiso University sweatshirt without permission. Although he tried to explain he was hot, it fell upon deaf ears. I felt sympathy for him and rage at the teacher. This emotional rush undoubtedly anchored the memory of the event and helped me to see Kraig as a strong person and not just another face in the classroom. Soon thereafter Kraig and I became playground mates and along with George would talk of dinosaurs and things which made our imaginations fly. Over the years we became brothers with all of the accompanying bruises and joys. A camping companion and master prankster Kraig was never far away. In high school Kraig taught me to play the guitar. Something I still practice. He honored me by being my best man. Later, our paths lead us in different directions but not before he gave me a copy of *The Lazy Man's Guide To Enlightenment*. This little book opened my eyes to philosophy as a way of life, not just a required class in school. It was then I began to see Kraig as a gifted teacher and proud father. The last time I saw Kraig was about 2005. I was in a guitar shop and someone called out my name. It was Kraig sporting a Jerry Garcia look. We got together to play guitars

on several occasions. It was wonderful to witness his mastery of the instrument. Resuming our friendship around the guitar made it seem no time had passed. I left Missouri in 2012 and, unfortunately, didn't look back. When Bob informed me of Kraig's passing I experienced a flood of memories and emotions. I will always remember Kraig in the most positive way. Kraig Kurtz was my friend.

Ron Brandes

Ron Brandes - July 17, 2018 at 07:37 PM