



Henry Clay Herndon, II

September 1, 1950 - February 6, 2026

Henry Clay Herndon (1950-2026) Born in Houston, TX

Henry, 75, of Spicewood, TX, died in Austin, TX at Ascension Seton of cardiovascular complications on February 6, 2026 at 3:00 a.m.

Henry was preceded in death by his father, Henry Clay Herndon, and his mother, Ollie Adelle Herndon.

Is survived by his older brother Patrick Herndon, wife, Kay Herndon, son, Henry Clay Herndon IV, daughter-in-law, Amber Herndon, brother-in-law, Charles Stevenson and his wife, Aideen Stevenson, brother-in-law, Bob Stevenson and his wife, Susan Stevenson, sister-in-law, Mary Gallagher and her husband, Doc Gallagher, sister-in-law, Ann Trost, brother-in-law, John Stevenson and his wife, Marian Stevenson, sister-in-law, Molly Daniels, brother-in-law, Pete Stevenson and his wife, Sandie Stevenson as well as all the nieces and nephews and their spouses, children and grandchildren.

Henry maintained close friendships throughout his life, including many that began in his junior high school years. He had a deep love for music and instruments, the ocean and water, surfing, sailing, and animals. Those who knew him remember him as kind, caring, loving, intelligent, resourceful, inventive, helpful, sincere, compassionate, and deeply dedicated.

He graduated in 1968 from Robert E. Lee High School in Houston and went on to study at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi and Mesa College in San Diego, where he earned a degree in Marine Technology. Over the years, Henry built a diverse and accomplished career, working as a carpenter, builder, co-owner of a custom tile and stone mosaic business, and property caretaker including wildlife management.

A Celebration of Life will be held on March 21st, 2026 in Spicewood, Texas, for immediate family and close friends. Please contact the Herndon family for location details. A second service will be held in Port Aransas, Texas, in May 2026 (details to be announced).

Henry C. Herndon's life was a quiet gift to all who crossed his path. His insight and generous spirit enriched us beyond measure, his wisdom and gentle perspective graced us deeply, and his light will continue to guide us in the days ahead.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 21.

Spicewood

Tribute Wall

LC

“ *Liz Herndon Caron-Graham lit a candle in memory of Henry Clay Herndon, II*



Liz Herndon Caron-Graham - March 04 at 11:34 PM

LC

From the time I was a little girl, I idolized Henry. I wanted to be just like him. I wanted to do everything he did & be the free spirit I felt he was. He will be truly missed...

Liz Herndon Caron-Graham - March 04 at 11:39 PM

JC

“ *Jeannie Collins lit a candle in memory of Henry Clay Herndon, II*



Jeannie Collins - February 26 at 10:40 PM

JC

“ *When I met Henry, he was standing at the bedside of my beloved partner, reciting prayers from the Tibetan Book of the Dead. The words of the poem allowed Bob to release himself from a world that he loved and to pass away slowly and gently. It's what we would all want when our time comes. Thank you Henry for being there. It means so very much to me.*

Jeannie Collins - February 26 at 10:34 PM

DE

“ *The best seat in the house was always next to Henry. He kept up with everyone & always had great stories. The 80's were filled with raising kids in a small town on the coast. Henry & Kay's Spicewood home became our Oasis, Sanctuary & party place. There were epic bonfires, swim parties & fellowship with great friends! Whether he was building things, cooking, or picking guitar he did it Henry's way. Truly one of a kind. I feel privileged to have called him my friend. Kay & Clay - anything you need, let me know! No way we can replace him, but we can share a ton of great times & stories!! Love you!!*

Deb

Deb - February 23 at 12:43 PM

MG

Henry was an awesome husband to my sister, Kay. Whatever creative project she had in mind Henry would find a way to help her make it happen with his own incredible talents and creative genius. Thank you, Henry, for supporting and loving my sister and for all your generous acts to help family members through the years. We will miss you. Mary

Mary Gallagher - February 27 at 01:25 PM

CS

“ Goodbye, Henry Herndon. You always thought outside the box.

You were one of a kind. You possessed the mind of a top-flight engineer or scientist, the skills of a master tradesman, an encyclopaedic memory for musical history from the 1950s to today, and the musical talent of a consummate professional.

You loved my sister, Kay, your son, Clay, and daughter-in-law Amber. You loved nature and animals, a bit of weed and a good glass of whiskey. We've shared the pleasure of Irish whiskey in that beautiful country just under the X in TEXAS, in various Irish pubs, and in the arse-end of northern Australia.

I had the honour to make music with you - you leading the way, me trotting a fair bit behind. Together, in those songs we visited the St James Infirmary, sampled Girl Scout cookies, followed the sad story of el gallo del cielo, pissed on a few politicians, and chased armadillos down near Hallettsville.

Henry, I will miss you dreadfully. Thanks for a million memories and for showing us how to think outside the box.

“Let him roll, boys, let him roll.”



Charlie Stevenson - February 20 at 10:18 PM

DA

“ In 1966, My family moved to Southwest Houston and settled in Sharpstown. I was to enter a new high school at mid semester. I was a fish out of water. Henry stepped forward to reach out to me and welcome me to the new environment. It was no time for us to bond with Scotty and skateboard everywhere we could find. The skateboarding turned to surfing, which turned to water skiing which turned to snow skiing. Then back to the greatest most memorable period of my life.

As Texas waves were so-so even in Port Isable, we migrated to southern California with Little Dave. Along with some other friends, we formed a lasting friendship group who actually included some local friends too.

My birthday and Henry's were one day apart. We joked about being in the hospital next to each other.

The years went by as I returned to Houston married and Henry stayed in California for a while, then came to live in Austin. It was there that the high-quality water skiing came on the frigid Lake Austin.

Scatter in some mountain time in the snow, hand ball in San Diego, ice hockey in Houston and you have an amazing lifetime of close connection.

We spent years and years of time together not just on our birthdays but trips, reunions and just visits.

We realized what we had was special. 1966- 2026.



david - February 20 at 06:02 AM



“ *My father was a kind, caring, adventurous human being who was one of my closest friends. May his inventive inspiration, and hope for a better future continue to guide us.*



Henry Herndon - February 19 at 07:27 PM

WB

I am Wayne Bennett. I went to junior high and high school with Henry. We played French horn together for three years. He was very talented and much loved. I can remember wrapping houses back in the day with him. He was a good friend. That will be missed. Godspeed, Henry.

Wayne Bennett - February 19 at 07:56 PM

CB

I'd hard for me to remember a time when Henry wasn't part of my life. After a breakup with my high school boyfriend, Henry made sure I didn't have to miss out on prom, offering himself as escort for the big night! A true friend indeed.

I can remember hanging out with my parents on a campout at Little Arkansas with Henry playing guitar and singing well into the evening. One of many jam sessions over the years, including those special nights with Blaze and Carlene, picking and singing along.

And of course I remember the night Kay and I ran into him at Hut's. It was the first time he had laid eyes on my beautiful roommate and it wasn't long before he began to pursue her affections in earnest. After Kay and I bought our home, Henry started working out in Spicewood to prepare a place for Kay to join him. And soon she did.

I spent many a weekend out there, playing in the creek by day and working ceramics with Kay to fire overnight. Henry made sure we had enough food and drink to sustain us and lots of good music to keep us motivated.

One Thanksgiving week I came home to find my condo had been burglarized finding a huge hole in the wall of the fiberglass shower surround. When my folks arrived for the holiday visit, we loaded into the motorhome and hightailed it out to Kay and Henry's where they hosted us throughout the long weekend. We laughed, ate and drank until my spirits were restored.

Through the years, Henry has been a mainstay in my life and with his marriage to Kay, their home has been a safe haven for me. I feel so blessed that I was a part of his life. He was so very special and I'll miss him dearly.

Cathy Balch

Cathy Balch - February 21 at 02:28 PM

TJ

Henry had a big heart and a fabulous, genuine smile. He had such a kind heart and he will be missed by so many people...Terry Joy

Terry Joy - February 21 at 11:12 PM



*Henry was my everything... my light and the love of my life. Until I see you again, my love, may the stars guide you and keep you safe.-----
----Kay*

Kay Herndon - February 22 at 11:56 AM