



Kenneth Ray Kidd

May 2, 1948 - August 19, 2022

A Tribute to Ken Kidd

Kenneth Ray Kidd (Kenny, Ken, Uncle Ken), 74, was much loved and will be greatly missed by family and friends. He was known as an OU fan(atic), an educator, coach, husband and true friend. At 6'2", Ken was a big guy with a huge heart whose smile and friendliness, capacity to help others, and even his ready repertoire of good jokes endeared him to all who crossed his path both personally and professionally.

He was content to be quiet in a big crowd and always enjoyed talking with people one-on-one. Originally from the small town of Walters, Oklahoma, he carried the rural Oklahoma work ethic with him throughout his life. He was a straight shooter and often saw the world through a "right or wrong" lens. He treated people according to his ideals of honesty, steadfastness, reliability, and commitment to positivity. He was always ready

to lend a hand when asked.

He fell in love with Jean, his wife of 40 years, and quickly embraced the joys of her southern Louisiana culture. Dallas, Tulsa and finally Austin were their homes where they filled life with live music, festivals, boating and enjoying many great times with family and friends.

His love of sports started at a young age and continued to record-breaking stardom at the high school level. While his dreams of playing scholarship football for the University of Oklahoma Sooners were dashed by a high school injury, he continued to fervently follow the team, which expanded to include the Louisiana State University Tigers.

Ken was proud of his educational accomplishments, completing a degree in Government & Political Science from Central State University in Edmund, OK where he was also a valued member of Acacia Fraternity, Central State Chapter. After graduating, he entered the corporate world as a successful sales agent for several educational publishing companies. He later parlayed his experience in educational sales to teaching at the Austin Can Academy and substitute teaching within the Eanes Independent School District in Austin. There he found his community and developed

meaningful

relationships with many of the secondary educators and staff. He was fueled by his

hope of making a difference in young people's lives, and he was energized by the

interaction with many students, especially those in special education.

Ken was a student of life who fervently followed current events and often spoke of how

recent violent events "broke his heart." He passionately shared his concerns about

politics and the environment, always advocating for others' best interests, even in his

final days.

Ken Kidd, 74, was born on May 2, 1948 the only son of Gilbert and Dorothy Kidd. He

passed peacefully at home, surrounded by dear ones on August 19, 2022 after a

surprising diagnosis and only three weeks of incapacitating illness. He was preceded in

death by his parents and sister Shirley Fletcher of Walters, Oklahoma. He is survived by

his wife, Jean Fangué Kidd of Austin, TX, (originally from Berwick, LA).

In keeping with his wishes, a celebration of life will be planned at a later date and will

surely include the things Ken loved - special people in his life, good music, OU football,

storytelling and most likely, a few really bad good jokes.

Tribute Wall

FO

“ I'm heartbroken about this. I wanted to get in contact with him and googled his name to see this. He was the best teacher and person that I came in contact with. He loved those kids at Austin Can! RIP Ken

*Frank Oakes
Former Principal at Austin Can*

Frank Oakes - May 16, 2023 at 11:15 AM

RL

“ Whenever we've been in Kenny & Jean's company, it was always special. Kenny exuded kindness, compassion, humor & friendship. From the first time my husband George & I met Kenny, we remarked on what a wonderful person he was. He will be in our hearts & thoughts forever. We're blessed to have known him. We're also blessed & fortunate to know Jean too. We love you girl & will always be here for you.

Randi Lyman - November 29, 2022 at 05:47 PM

DJ

“ May 2, 1948....I have lost my 'birthday buddy' from Walters, Ok. What a blessing to meet Ken in 1974 at an OU football watch party shortly after our move to Tulsa. We shared some special times, one at Lake Austin, Gruene, Tx, and crawfish boil birthday party. Distance separated us but we had many mutual birthday calls through the years.. Memories will sustain us but always sad to say good-bye. Dee and Dave Jansen, Tulsa, OK

Dee Jansen - November 03, 2022 at 09:16 PM

FC

“ *What a beautiful tribute to read of Ken's impact on the school, students and coworkers that he loved so much. In addition to the jokes that he was so famous for, he often told me how much his work gave him pleasure and purpose. His legacy will live on in all who were so fortunate to know him.*

Fran Clarke - November 02, 2022 at 10:30 AM

CC

“ *Uncle Ken will be forever remembered by his corny "Little Johnny" jokes that always brought a smile and (let's be honest) usually a good-natured groan. His jokes mirrored his personality - witty, funny and always intended to bring some levity to life.*

I feel so lucky to have known him as the husband of my Aunt Jean. Being in Austin together has been important over many years. From helping me move (a few times) in my 20s to bringing big belly laughs to family gatherings to continuing the time-honored family tradition of the Easter Egg Hunt... Jean and Ken mean so much to me. I'll miss him and remember him with love.

Chelsea Collier - October 31, 2022 at 11:13 AM

AF

“ *1 file added to the album Celebration of Life*



Austin Natural Funerals - October 24, 2022 at 02:13 PM

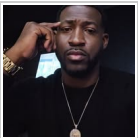
MH

“ Kenny was my roomy at the old Acacia house at Central State University my sophomore year. Kenny was a great friend and brother. I loved him to death. He and I attended many of OU's early wishbone team games. We always sat in the south end zone bleachers, yes bleachers, at Owen's Stadium. After college I lost contact with Kenny but low and behold on a warm September day around the early 1990's I and a friend of mine ran into Kenny at you guessed it, an OU football game. He stared at me with that look he had for at least thirty seconds before he recognized who I was. Then he gave me a bear hug that made me almost pass out. He and I were about the same size. He was a strong man. We talked for a good 45 minutes before the game started. It was great seeing him again.

I am so sorry to hear of his passing. I thought about Kenny a lot as I do a lot of my great Acacia brothers. May his soul rest in peace and the love of Christ comfort his family.

Mike Hudson-Central State 1970-74

Michael Hudson - October 24, 2022 at 11:10 AM



“ I worked along side of Mr. Kidd at Austin Can Academy years ago. He was and is one of the most humble, caring, fair, and trustworthy men I've known in my life. The news of his passing saddens me deeply, as I was JUST having a conversation the other day about the great man that he is and how I miss him. The legacy he has created with all that knew him will never be overlooked or forgotten. Prayers to the family and all the people he touched along the way.

D.J. Colvin - October 23, 2022 at 03:34 PM



“ Kenneth Ray Kidd

October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM

AR

“*Mr. Kidd was one of my favorite teachers at Austin Can Academy. We got along really well on a personal level and in a student/teacher capacity. We shared the same tastes in music and we spent a lot of time talking about anything and everything. I came across news of his passing while attempting to find a way to contact him to tell him Hi. This is a huge loss for his family I'm sure, as it is for me. Wish I could've spoken to him one last time. Super nice guy with a contagious smile. I'll miss him a lot.*

Antonio Reyes - September 27, 2022 at 10:52 PM

AR

I had a dream I was with him a day or two ago. This hurts a lot. I'd love to pay my respect to his family.

Antonio Reyes - September 27, 2022 at 10:59 PM

JH

“*As another graduate of WHS, I really enjoyed the politely discussions we had and the insights and commentary Kenneth would share on Facebook. His wit and intelligence was a welcome respite. I am so very sorry for your family's loss. And reading the tribute shared in the Walters paper, he obviously made a significant impact on so many people. Such a loss.*

Janet Hudnall - September 21, 2022 at 09:30 PM

KK

“ Hey Cousin :-) Kenneth Dell Kidd here, Waco TX. I wish I could have known you. Amazing that we were never more than 100 miles apart, and yet never had the chance to met. For that I am profoundly sad. My father, Fred Kidd, was your father Gilbert’s first cousin. I too am a teacher; I know and understand why you loved teaching as you did. I also know why you loved loved and enjoyed people as you did. When the Lord has called us all home, we will finally meet.

kenneth D Kidd - August 26, 2022 at 08:37 PM

KJ

“ My deepest condolences to all who knew and loved Mr. Kidd, especially his family. I was blessed to have many delightful conversations with Mr. Kidd at WRMS and HCMS. His smile would light-up the halls of the schools and you always felt loved and valued after speaking to him. I will miss seeing him and talking with him more than I can express.

Kimberly Jones - August 26, 2022 at 07:59 PM

BC

“ WHAT CAN I SAY...KENNETH WAS MY FIRST LOVE. HE WILL ALWAYS HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART. I couldn't even begin to share the wonderful times we had together. Prayers to the many friends and family...love you Kenneth.

Barbara White Curtsinger - August 26, 2022 at 05:10 PM

BS

I am shocked and heartbroken tonight! I hurt deeply for Jean, and having just learned of Ken’s diagnosis and sudden death, words fail me. Ken was kind, always had that ready smile and knew just the right words to say. I am so sad for Jean and their many faithful friends.

Betty Sandefur - August 26, 2022 at 06:18 PM

AR

*Betty, what was he diagnosed with? Is there any way to pay respects to his family? Please feel free to email me or reply here.
Reyesantonio0911@gmail.com*

Antonio Reyes - September 27, 2022 at 10:57 PM

LE

“ Mr. Kidd always had a smile and a warm greeting for everyone- students and staff. He will be sorely missed.

Larry Embrey - August 26, 2022 at 10:47 AM

RK

“ My deepest condolences and prayers go out to Mr. Kidd's family. This truly hurts my heart to hear about the passing of Mr. Kidd. I would often see him in the hallways of Hill Country Middle School wearing that bright purple LSU pullover. If I did happen to overlook him, he would would make sure to take the time to greet me by name...no matter how busy or chaotic the hallways were. He ALWAYS took the time to ask me about my day and then would genuinely be interested in my response. He was such a kind and joyful man! We could all take a lesson from Mr. Kidd! May you rest in peace!

R. Katz - August 25, 2022 at 06:17 PM

MB

“ Every day Mr. Kidd was at Hill Country was a better day for everyone. He would stop by and make sure to tell me a joke, and was always able to get a laugh out of me. He was loved by everyone...teachers, staff, and especially the kids. Nothing but lots of love for Mr. Kidd and his entire family.

Matt Beebe - August 25, 2022 at 05:41 PM

HS

“ Mr. Kidd was a staple here at HCMS. The kids and staff all adored him. It was a great day when Mr. Kidd was here to sub! He was always so sweet and had such a calming presence. He will be greatly missed! Rest in Peace.

Heather Schubert - August 25, 2022 at 05:41 PM

CJ

“ Kenneth and I went to school back in Walters....one summer he was working for Cotton Electric cleaning out road signs to widen the road between Duncan and Marlow. One old gentleman gave him two 4x6 feet Coors beer signs and after work one night we drove over to pick them up....only problem Kenneth did not have a trunk key so we had to hold them on the top of his old Galaxie 500 car and drive slow back home some 30 miles away....I still have that old sign and every time I see it I have a good laugh about our efforts to get them home....Great Guy....Good Memories....Clyde D. Jones.

Clyde Jones - August 25, 2022 at 05:38 PM

EL

“ Thank you Mr. Kidd for sharing a little bit of your life with Hill Country Middle School. I value the conversations we had during classes.

Coach Lugo

Eric Lugo - August 25, 2022 at 05:37 PM

CG

“ Mr. Kidd was always upbeat and ready to greet the kids! He always had a smile and it made my day better to see him <3

Candra Gray - August 25, 2022 at 05:32 PM

AB

“ Ken was the highlight of my mornings when he came to sub at HCMS. He always said Good Morning with a wide smile on his face. Then followed by numerous questions about my son's baseball, a joke or a story. He always had me smiling and laughing. He was a bright spot for so many people and students. I will greatly miss exchanging corny jokes, sports trivia and stories with him. RIP Ken Kidd - you will always and forever be in our hearts!

Aimee Babbs - August 25, 2022 at 03:46 PM

BM

“ Mr. Kidd was a sub extraordinaire! What a kind, lovely man. He brightened a lot of classrooms at Hill Country!

Brenda Mosher - August 25, 2022 at 02:56 PM



“ Such a kind man, beloved by students and staff alike. We will all miss him.

David Finkelstein - August 25, 2022 at 02:55 PM

MR

“ MARIA RHODES lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Ray Kidd



MARIA RHODES - August 25, 2022 at 10:50 AM

MR

Jean, you have my sincere condolences, and I will keep you close in my thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks.

MARIA RHODES - August 25, 2022 at 10:53 AM

SB

“ *Mr Kidd was such a kind and wonderful educator. My students would literally scream and shout with joy when I told them Mr. Kidd was going to be their sub. They knew he cared about them. We will all miss seeing you at Hill Country Middle School.*
Sharon Burns

Sharon Burns - August 24, 2022 at 11:15 PM

SF

“ *We love you Mr. Kidd! You are the person my students always asked for when I was out, because they knew you cared about them. I'll miss seeing you at Westlake, hearing your jokes, and talking with you. You always brightened my day.*

Shelby Fulton - August 24, 2022 at 08:00 PM

KV

“ *I am so sorry to hear this news! I have the most enjoyable and excellent memories of Kenneth. He always covered my classes for me and when we were both in the building, I loved our conversations! He truly loved life and I will miss him dearly!*

Kristine Vanwisse - August 24, 2022 at 02:20 PM

KD

“ *Mr. Kidd brought so much joy throughout the Eanes schools. I met Mr. Kidd subbing throughout Eanes - he brought so much joy to everyone and was so easy to talk to. I loved chatting with him in the library at WHS during my conference period. Mr. Kidd was a patient, caring, and compassionate educator and we were so dang lucky to have him sub throughout our schools. He will be so, so greatly missed.*

Katie Darilek - August 24, 2022 at 02:16 PM

FR

“ I will miss Mr. Kidd roaming the hallways and classrooms here at West Ridge Middle School. He was always engaging and it was so easy to get caught up in a conversation over a variety of subjects. Such a kind soul with a calming presence that the staff and students here loved. Mr. Kidd always had a smile and was willing to help out in anyway he could. He was a great man and I am so sad to hear of his passing.

French - August 24, 2022 at 12:46 PM

VC

“ My condolences to Ken’s wife and family! He will be missed. I loved seeing and working with him at West Ridge. Rest easy Mr. Kidd!! ❤️

Vanessa Clayton - August 24, 2022 at 12:11 PM

DM

“ The Kidd cousins had so many good times at Granny and Granddad's home and Kenneth was always right in the middle of it all. So many good memories and fun times.

Dianna Kidd Morgan - August 24, 2022 at 11:59 AM

DM

“ I loved seeing Mr. Kidd and am so sad and shocked to hear of his passing. He subbed many, many times in the special education classes that I work in and it was always a good day when we got to see him! To his family, I want you to know what a wonderful person he was and what a great substitute teacher he was with our children. He and I spoke of seeing each other at school again this year. We would stop each other in the hall at both of the middle schools (I work at both and he subbed at both) and chat and catch up for a few minutes. Mr. Kidd was a wonderful person and will be sorely missed in our classrooms. Blessings and prayers for his family. Sincerely, Donna Muyshondt

Donna Muyshondt - August 24, 2022 at 11:56 AM

TW

“ Mr. Kidd was always so kind and engaging. He was one of the special substitute teachers that absolutely impacted his students and their lives. Great guy.

Todd White - August 24, 2022 at 11:42 AM

KW

“ Mr. Kidd was a delightful person to work with at West Ridge Middle School. He was loved by students and teachers and was such a calming presence in the classroom. We will miss seeing his smiling face and bright purple LSU jersey!

Katie Walsh - August 24, 2022 at 11:23 AM

RV

“ Ken was one of my favorite subs and our sixth graders loved their Sub grandpa here at West Ridge. When he subbed for another teacher we always had great conversations as his description sounds alot like myself except for the OU part! I will miss Ken as he had the biggest heart for kids and will be missed.

Ricky Vickers - August 24, 2022 at 11:14 AM

AB

“ Ken was a wonderful addition to our Eanes and West Ridge MS families. He will be missed! Peace and comfort to his family and friends.

ANGEL BETHKE - August 24, 2022 at 10:56 AM

CM

“ Kenny and Jeannie
Are a major part of a group of friends from The Village! Our group of friends was more a family than a group of friends!! We were from different backgrounds, different states and even different countries!! Kenny was our Oklahoma family member!! Always smiling and warm! My fondest memory of Kenny(although I have many!) was when I lived in Austin and went through a divorce! Kenny and Jeannie offered up their home to me(my own room and the key to their house) so I had a place to stay when I came to visit and spend time with my son!! Kenny always treated me like a brother and offer a big shoulder!!
I will miss my special friend!! And most of all That great smile!!
Love You Kenny ❤️🙏❤️🙏

Colyer Manthe - August 23, 2022 at 07:55 PM

JR

“ *Jean what a beautiful tribute to Kenny. He was always so nice to me when we were together...well, really, he was nice to everyone. He had a big heart! God Bless you, j*

Janet Riddle - August 23, 2022 at 07:16 PM

JL

“ *Jennifer Leuschen lit a candle in memory of Kenneth Ray Kidd*



Jennifer Leuschen - August 23, 2022 at 06:32 PM