



Kevin Little

January 28, 1958 - October 5, 2024

Kevin Eugene Little, 66, of Kell, passed away on Saturday, October 5th at his home after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer.

Kevin was born in Salem, Il to Marilyn (Hays) Little and Cecil "Bud" Little. He graduated from Salem High School in 1976. Later that same year he joined the USMC where he proudly served his country for 5 years rising to the rank of Sergeant. He returned home and continued his educational career at Kaskaskia College and then at EIU. After college Kevin had a 25 year career teaching English at Centralia High School, where he will be remembered for not only sharing his love of knowledge, but also for playing his guitar for his students during the passing periods.

Kevin married Jennifer (Gold) Little in 2008 and she survives. Kevin and Jennifer have two children, Cecilia Little and Michael Little. He is also survived by his Mother, Marilyn Smith, brother Kent Little and wife Jennifer, sister Kathryn Little, sister Kristine Markotay and husband John and sister Kara Faires and numerous nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind, daughters Chelsey Little and Alexia Little, and grandchildren, Ali, Clayton, Layla and Kobe.

He was preceded in death by his father, brother in law Greg Faires, beloved Uncle Rick Hays and daughter Lauren Little.

Kevin leaves behind a musical legacy, as he was known throughout Southern Illinois for playing music with his best friend Steve Berry, in the band Little Berry Jam Band.

Per Kevin's wishes, cremation rites will be accorded and a Celebration of Life Service will be held Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia with Rev. Joannie Naraghi officiating. Visitation will be held Thursday evening from 4:00 PM until the time of service at the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home and Cremation Services at 235 North Sycamore Street Centralia, Illinois 62801, (618)532-3523, who is honored to be of service to Kevin's Family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com and the Funeral Home Facebook page.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **10**. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home
235 N. Sycamore Street
Centralia, IL 62801

Celebration of Life

OCT **10**. 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home
235 N. Sycamore Street
Centralia, IL 62801

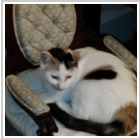
Tribute Wall



“ *Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Kevin Little*



Sutherland Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Cremation Services - October 10, 2024 at 03:22 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to read of Kevin's passing. We attended SCHS together. Although I didn't get to know him well, he always seemed to be a nice guy. Sorry to learn he had a tough fight with Cancer. Sincere condolences especially to his mother and his wife.*

Jeanna Chapman-Ahn - October 22, 2024 at 06:06 PM

MM

“ *Sending condolences to the entire family.*

Missy Meador - October 13, 2024 at 09:53 PM

JH

“ *Janis H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kevin Little.*

Janis H. - October 10, 2024 at 10:31 AM

AB

“ Andrea Bruno purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kevin Little.



Andrea Bruno - October 10, 2024 at 10:25 AM

NW

“ Natalie Williamson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kevin Little.

Natalie Williamson - October 10, 2024 at 09:49 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kevin Little.



October 10, 2024 at 09:49 AM

AD

“ Aiden, Tannis, Michael and Daphne planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kevin Little.

Aiden, Tannis, Michael and Daphne - October 10, 2024 at 07:49 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Kevin Little.*



October 10, 2024 at 07:49 AM



“ *Condolences to the family.
Many fond memories of good times and good music.*

Greg Smith - October 09, 2024 at 09:41 PM



“ *So sad that Kevin has passed. He fought a courageous battle against his illness. God bless you all & prayers. Pray for peace during this grieving time in your lives.*

sherry baggett lynch - October 09, 2024 at 07:09 PM



“ *Love, Kevin, Julie, Libby, Annie, Emma purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Kevin Little.*



Love, Kevin, Julie, Libby, Annie, Emma - October 09, 2024 at 10:21 AM

LD

“ Love, Matt and Becca Duda purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kevin Little.



Love, Matt and Becca Duda - October 09, 2024 at 09:51 AM

EJ

“ My condolences to the family. Many happy musical memories and good times. R.I.P. my friend.

Edward D Jackson - October 09, 2024 at 09:31 AM

DP

“ I was one of Me Little's students. I will always remember him playing guitar and greeting everyone with a friendly "Hello" when they entered his classroom. He made his class very enjoyable.

Dona Payne - October 09, 2024 at 12:35 AM

EW

“ I am so sorry to hear about Kevin. He fought so hard. He was a great, intelligent colleague at CHS, and I could feel his concern for my husband when we'd see each other at the Cancer Care Center. I would definitely have come to his visitation, but Mike doesn't have the energy and doesn't want to be alone. I am there in spirit. Kevin, you and the family are in my prayers.

Eileen Wilimzig - October 08, 2024 at 10:23 PM

JH

“ Janet Huffman lit a candle in memory of Kevin Little



Janet Huffman - October 08, 2024 at 06:30 AM

VH

“ Sending prayers for/with family and friends!

Vickie & Wayne Houser - October 08, 2024 at 04:21 AM

TJ

“ Kevin was a fun guy. We played golf several times and I used to go see him play with the Little Berry Jam. We'll miss him.

Thomas and Donna Joy - October 07, 2024 at 02:45 PM

VH

“ Kevin not only was my cousin, He was my brother by heart. We grew up together. Went to high school together. Just watching everyday to see him walk by with his smile and say hi or wave for four years was the greatest feeling. Sitting next to him at graduation and know he was going to go away for awhile was sad, but I new he would be back. Being at his and Jennifer's wedding was that Joyful smile again and it never left. His music, his wife, children and family were so important to him. He was very strong willed and very strong minded. But he had the most Beautiful smile and the warmest hugs. Play your music in the sky Kevin so I can hear it. No more pain. Until we Hug again Cuz I won't say goodbye. I will always have you in my heart.
I will stay close to Jennifer....

Valorie Heinzmann - October 07, 2024 at 12:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kevin Little.*



October 07, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ *Michelle and Chase Norris planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kevin Little.*

Michelle and Chase Norris - October 07, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ *Kevin was just 12 years old when my late husband Jay Romans and I came to minister at Harvey's Point Christian Church in Kell. The Little family became a lifelong priceless blessing to us. Kevin's service as a Marine, then a career as a beloved teacher, speaks volumes about this man's life. Growing up, that 12 year old boy reflected to others the love and caring he received from his parents Cecil and Marilyn. Semper Fi to God, Country and Family, Kevin. Reunion is coming!*
Nancy Romans

Nancy Romans - October 07, 2024 at 10:36 AM

RW

“ It was truly a pleasure working with you. I always enjoyed you playing in the hallway. Your knowledge of mythology was awesome. I have missed you since you retired. Jenny and kids he used to talk about you guys non stop. He was proud of his family. My condolences to you.



Ronalyn Wallace - October 07, 2024 at 08:35 AM

JS

“ Jenny and Kids , I am thinking of all of you. It was my honor to get to know both Kevin and Jenny. I looked forward to our music discussions. I enjoyed listening about his kids and their adventures. Jenny you are amazing. Prayers for you all. Love, Nurse (Bad) Jenn

Jennifer Sims - October 06, 2024 at 08:05 PM

DS

“ Deborah Lynn Schoenherr sent a virtual gift in memory of Kevin Little



Deborah Lynn Schoenherr - October 06, 2024 at 07:28 PM

DF

“ *Deborah Schoenherr and family. purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Kevin Little.*



Deborah Schoenherr and family. - October 06, 2024 at 07:24 PM

TE

“ *Such a sad thing to hear. I had his classes two years in a row. He was the first adult I came out too, and he pushed me to do better than I was because he knew I could. He was kind and generous, well spoken, and incredibly smart. He would comment on the drawings on my papers and was happy to indulge in silly questions and discussions. I was always happy to come into myth and see a new drawing on the board. I often thought about him after graduation. I hope he knew how incredibly loved he is. He will be dearly missed by my family, and I wish the best for his wife and children.*

Tea - October 06, 2024 at 02:09 PM

TJ

“ *What a heartbreaking loss. Kevin was many things, but most of all my dearest friend. We first met when we were 18, at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base in Hawaii, and that brotherhood and friendship lasted decades past those times in Hawaii. My most heartfelt condolences to Jenny, the kids and family, and the multitudes of people who came to know and love Kev. You will always be my friend! Rest in Heaven, my brother!*

"Only when it is dark enough, can you see the stars!" -Dr. MLK Jr.

Tyrone Jones - October 06, 2024 at 12:27 AM

MM

“ Was my flim as lit teacher my senior year.he made class fun. Sorry to the family.

Megan Meyer - October 05, 2024 at 10:33 PM

MS

“ I loved to hear Kevin sing and was very honored when he invited me into his home to sing a song he had written. He sang a few other songs and he was a story teller in his songs. He always had a smile and big wave when I passed their home. I will miss seeing that smile and friendly wave. Your neighbor, Mary Scott

Mary scott - October 05, 2024 at 09:31 PM

AW

“ Thinking of the family in thoughts & prayers. Condolences.



Allen & Donna Wooters - October 05, 2024 at 09:16 PM

BW

Jennifer my deepest condolences to you and your family. May God bless you .

Brenda White - October 08, 2024 at 11:12 AM