



Kenneth Keith Kimmel

July 19, 1952 - August 4, 2020

A Memorial Service for Kenneth Keith Kimmel, 68, of Snook, Texas, is set for 1:00pm, Saturday, August 22, 2020, at First United Methodist Church, Bryan, Texas. Keith passed peacefully at his home on August 4, 2020, with his affectionate and loyal canine companion, Mathias, by his side.

The pride and joy of Keith's life were his 2 sons. Michael's graduation from Texas A&M, and Jeff's from UT Tyler, as well as mentoring the start of his officiating career, was a great source of pride.

Keith was born July 19, 1952, to Lowell Ray Kimmel and Saphronia Marie Brantley Brown Kimmel in Kilgore, Texas. He was the youngest of 6 brothers. The family moved to Lake Charles, Louisiana, in the late 1950's, where Keith first began school. He graduated from LaGrange High School in 1970 after serving as a two-year letterman for the varsity team as a place-kicker. Keith's senior season included making it all the way to the 1969 Louisiana High School State Championship game. After high school he attended McNeese State University, earning a BA in Humanities degree in 1974. Keith had a series of interesting jobs, including the oil field sector, before settling in with the US Treasury Department until he retired in 2004 and moved to Burleson County.

High School Football and Boys and Girls Basketball were always a Kimmel

pastime. It was not until 1979 when his veteran official brother, Roy Kimmel, finally convinced him to put on the stripes. Since then, Keith never looked back and began blazing a trail through his passion for mastering the rules and his joy of being a positive influence on High School athletes. That dedication culminated with being selected for 13 Football State Semi-Final Games, and the 2002 4A State Championship game between Brenham and Denton Ryan at the Alamodome in San Antonio, TX. Keith also had these distinctive football honors: 2001-2005 TASO District VIII Director, 2004 Texas High School Coaches Association (T.H.S.C.A.) All-Star Game Supervisor of Officials, 2007 T.H.S.C.A All-Star Game Official- Referee, 2013 Greater Houston Football Coaches Association's John Kelley Award for Distinguished Service. He remained a career-long member of the TASO football Houston chapter and honorably served as an officer for the Houston basketball official's chapter. His pure love of the game, along with his infectious sense of humor, created a monumental impact on the student athletes, coaches, and officials alike.

Keith's life was filled with faith, family, laughter, and sports. What set Keith apart from the rest was his ability to bring out the best in everyone he was around. He certainly brought out the best in us as people and as Christians. Being a devout leader in his community, Keith was very much involved with the First United Methodist Church in Bryan, TX, as President of the United Methodist Men, volunteering his time with the Mission Café, assisting with a variety of church programs, and also was a member of the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community. Keith was also a long-time member in good standing of The Grand Lodge of Texas in the Masonic Fraternity, Holland Lodge No. 1, in Houston, TX.

He was preceded in death by his parents Lowell & 'Fronia' Kimmel; brothers Harold A. Brown, Charles M. Brown, Ronald L. Brown, and Roy Lee Kimmel. He is survived by his sons Jeffrey David Kimmel and fiancée Kailyn Klussmann, and Michael Lee Kimmel; brother Troy Max Kimmel and wife

Diane; sister-in-law Theda Kimmel; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews, other family; and many members of the football and basketball community.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church 506 E. 28th St., Bryan, TX 77803; Brazos Valley Emmaus Community, PO Box 10491, College Station, TX 77842; or the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG **22**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
506 E 28th St.
Bryan, TX 77803

Tribute Wall

MB

“ *My condolences to the family of Keith Kimmel. Keith and I officiated many Houston area high school basketball games and I have great memories. He was really a good man.*

*Rest in peace my friend,
Mike Brasher*

Mike Brasher - August 18, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ *White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Kenneth Keith Kimmel.*



August 15, 2020 at 10:02 AM

RD

“ *Wow, so sorry to hear of Keith's passing. He meant so much to me and many in their Officiating careers both in basketball and football. He truly was a mentor, friend, and brother in Christ. Our prayers of comfort continue with his family and friends. May he eternally rest in peace. Well done thy good and faithful servant!*

Robert Dean - August 12, 2020 at 01:08 PM

TP

“ *Truly a joy to have officiated with Keith when I first began officiating HS Football. Always willing to give constructive advice. He had a special drawl when he spoke that made you listen to him with interest. So long brother you will be missed.*

Todd L Phillips - August 11, 2020 at 10:35 PM

JM

“ So very sorry to hear of Keith's death. He was a 36 year friend, and one of the really good guys. He was just fun to work with and be around. I literally never saw him without a smile on his face, and never left him without a smile on mine. The world was a better place with him in it, and is diminished by his loss. Family, you're in my prayers. Rest in peace my good friend.

John Milstead - August 11, 2020 at 07:09 PM