



Kyle Dean Kern

February 25, 1958 - November 30, 2020

Kyle Dean Kern, 62, of Dongola, Illinois, reached out for his Lord and Savior's hand and was taken to his much-deserved heavenly home on Monday, November 30, 2020, at the Lourdes Hospital in Paducah, Kentucky.

Kyle was born February 25, 1958 in Mt. Vernon to Reverend John and Lydia (Wells) Kern.

Kyle accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal savior at young age and used his gifts of teaching, compassion, his willingness to help others, even strangers, and praying with so many in need that also served as his testimony to countless others. In his youth years he was a member of the Challengers Quartet and continued to use the most beautiful tenor voice the Lord had blessed him with at Shawnee Community College and Southwest Baptist College. Kyle was an active member, deacon and music director at the First Baptist Church in Dongola for many years.

The following was Kyle's favorite verse, in which he wholeheartedly believed in:

"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength" from the book of Philippians, chapter 4, verse 13.

He was a graduate of Century High, Shawnee Community College, Southwest Baptist College, Southern Illinois University, and Eastern Illinois University. Kyle was an EMT for the Pulaski County Ambulance Service for many years. He became a correctional officer then educator for the Illinois Department of Corrections until his retirement. When our country was attacked on September 11, 2001, his students asked him what they should do. Kyle told them we must pray, and he said he looked around and every student had their head bowed. This is just another testament to this wonderful Christian man. Additionally, over the course of many years, Kyle was a part-time instructor for the Shawnee Community College where he continued to teach until his untimely illness and passing. He enjoyed watching Cardinal baseball with his daughter, Gracie.

Kyle was united in marriage to the love of his life, Cynthia Lingle on June 26, 1982 at the First Baptist Church in Dongola and she survives. To this union were two daughters, who were the light of his life and to whom he was so proud of: Erica Rachelle (Jacob) Poat and Gracen Elisabeth Kern; two precious grandchildren who he adored: Carson Dean and Aubrey Jo Poat, all of Dongola. Additional survivors include three brothers, Randy (Teresa) Kern, Terry (Ivy) Kern, of Olmsted, Jeff Kern of Perks, and one sister, Debbie (Tracy) Meyer of Cypress. His brother-in-law, Roger (Rosalind) Lingle of Dongola, sister-in-law, Pamela (Loren) Ferguson of Anna, and brother-in-law, David Lingle of Austin, Texas; an Aunt, Maribelle Sweetin of Flora, Illinois; many nieces, nephews, cousins, colleagues, and so many dear, dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. John and Lydia Kern, a sister-in-law, Janet Johnson, and his special family, Barney, Jo and Jan Porterfield.

Graveside services will be held on Saturday, December 5, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Friendship Church Cemetery in rural Dongola with Reverend Paul Sadler officiating.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church music fund.

Crain Funeral Home in Dongola is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Friendship Cemetery

Dongola, IL

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Friendship Cemetery
Dongola, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Kyle Dean Kern*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Gaylon and Goldie Cruse; Josh, Treena and Brian Di purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kyle Dean Kern.*



Gaylon and Goldie Cruse; Josh, Treena and Brian Di -
December 05, 2020 at 12:19 PM



“ *To Cindy, Erica, Gracie, Carson & Aubrey. My thoughts & prayers are with you today. What a great loss for all your family. Kyle was wonderful person. I'm so glad I got to thank him for all the love & help he always gave to Aunt Jo, Uncle Barney & Jan the last time I saw him. Love to all of you. Vicki*

Vicki Womack - December 05, 2020 at 11:49 AM



“ *Trisha G Porterfield lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



Trisha g Porterfield - December 05, 2020 at 09:42 AM

LL

“ *Lauren Lambert-Goheen lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



Lauren Lambert-Goheen - December 04, 2020 at 10:43 PM

MV

“ *Michael And Shari Verkey lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



Michael and Shari Verkey - December 04, 2020 at 07:17 PM

KR

“ *Kevan & Susie Ragsdale purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kyle Dean Kern.*



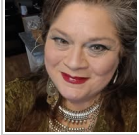
Kevan & Susie Ragsdale - December 04, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kyle Dean Kern.*



December 04, 2020 at 11:02 AM



“ *My heartfelt sympathy to Cynthia and to Kyle's family. He was the nicest person. We considered him family on many levels. Growing up I visited with my Grandparents, Edna and Louie Rose, my Aunt Susie Rose Ragsdale and dear friend, David Lingle in Ullin. Through them and the Church where Kyle's father was Pastor I met and got to know Kyle. He was a gracious, kind, wonderful person. He will be missed here, but I look forward to meeting him again in the presence of our Heavenly Father. Love, peace and healing to you all. Your sister in Christ, Jennifer Smith Mertz McCann.*

Jennifer McCann - December 04, 2020 at 10:05 AM



“ *My heart breaks for all Kyle's family. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*



Kay Niestrath - December 04, 2020 at 09:47 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kyle Dean Kern.*



December 03, 2020 at 10:45 PM



“ *Cindy, Erica, and Gracie.....My heart goes out to you all. All I can say is that Kyle was a one of a kind man. I don't recall ever him not having a kind word to say to me. Cindy, I was always in awe at the love you and Kyle evoked when I was in your presence. How blessed you two were! I send prayers and hugs your way and know Kyle will be greatly missed!*

Elizabeth Aldrich-Burns - December 03, 2020 at 04:46 PM

MH

“ *Martha Henshaw-Crane lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



Martha Henshaw-Crane - December 03, 2020 at 03:28 PM

CG

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Kyle was such a special person. He saved my daughter after a car wreck in Olmsted when she was 21 months old on Christmas Eve by doing CPR many years ago. The odd thing is, I never knew until he was teaching me a CPR re-certification class at Vienna Prison about 6 years ago and he started talking about his first time doing CPR on a child. He holds a special place in my heart and always will. When I hear the song "Thank You" by Ray Boltz I think of Kyle.*

Carol and Randy George - December 03, 2020 at 01:18 PM

MF

“ *Missie (Cooley) Freburg lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



Missie (Cooley) Freburg - December 03, 2020 at 08:31 AM

KC

“ *Randy and Family im so sorry may God Bless and Heal your Pain I love you guys!!*



Kathy Goins Carlton - December 03, 2020 at 06:15 AM

PE

“ *Kyle was the best. We grew up together in Ullin and played many Khoury League and Century High baseball games together. Always pleasant and fun to be around. We went our separate ways after high school, but we were still good friends whenever we would run into each other. My condolences to his family.*

Paul Echols - December 02, 2020 at 11:37 PM

AD

“ *I'm gonna dearly miss Mr. Kern! He was the only reason I graduated high school and with a 4.0 GPA! I will forever be grateful and I'll miss you, Mr. Kern. Keep smiling on in heaven. 🥹*



alexandria davis - December 02, 2020 at 11:04 PM

VE

“ Vicki L Eastwood lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern



Vicki L Eastwood - December 02, 2020 at 10:09 PM

LZ

My heart goes out to all of you . Such a tragic loss. We send our prayers to you and your family 😞

Lisa Zeschke - December 03, 2020 at 12:55 PM

KJ

“ Kim Johnson lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern



Kim Johnson - December 02, 2020 at 09:02 PM

SJ

“ Steve And Darla Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Kyle Dean Kern



Steve and Darla Jones - December 02, 2020 at 08:18 PM

AW

My prayers are with your family. Love to all

Alice Whiteside - December 02, 2020 at 10:29 PM

MS

Prayers for the family. We share a great loss. I met Kyle over 35 years ago taking my first CPR class and throughout my nursing career he has been an inspiration, a true professional and very compassionate. He will truly be missed.

Mary E. Smith - December 07, 2020 at 11:03 AM

RL

“ Rachel Lamm lit a candle in memory of Kyle
Dean Kern



Rachel Lamm - December 02, 2020 at 06:59 PM

JS

“ Jack Sartin lit a candle in memory of Kyle
Dean Kern



Jack sartin - December 02, 2020 at 06:50 PM

DW

“ I REMEMBER BRO KYLE AS A MAN THAT LOVED THE LORD
AND HIS FAMILY SO MUCH TO HIS FAMILY I CAN ONLY OFFER
MY PRAYERS TO YOU,BRO KYLE WAS A VERY SPECIAL GIFT
FROM GOD,I WILL NEVER FORGET HOW HE TOUCHED MY
HEART SO MANY TIMES WITH HIS GREAT MUSIC,HE WILL BE
MISSED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM BOTH YOUNG AND OLD.

Douglas Wagoner - December 02, 2020 at 05:44 PM

JC

“ John Cox lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern



John Cox - December 02, 2020 at 05:25 PM

JP

“ Jackie Craft Pritchett lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern



Jackie Craft Pritchett - December 02, 2020 at 04:06 PM

JP

Have known Kyle since 4th. grade and lived in the same neighborhood until his family move. Prayers and thoughts for Cyndi and the girls.

Jackie Craft Pritchett - December 02, 2020 at 04:08 PM

TC

I knew Kyle and all the Kerns from the years Bro. John served as pastor of the Perks Baptist Church. Good memories. To each of you, you have my most sincere sympathy, love and prayers. May God comfort you, give you strength to go on living without your loved one and to continue as Kyle did - showing love to others in Jesus' name. Your friend, Teresa Sickling Cherry

Teresa S Cherry - December 02, 2020 at 09:24 PM

MD

“*Maryann Dalton lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



maryann Dalton - December 02, 2020 at 03:45 PM

Teri Goldsberry

“*I taught CPR with Kyle for many years. He was a mentor, a fellow teacher and a friend. His bright smile and quick wit will be missed by all of us. I never heard Kyle say a bad word about anything or anyone. He was truly one of the most special people. The world is forever changed without him in it.*



Teri Goldsberry - December 02, 2020 at 03:13 PM

LM

Kyle was a classmate and a great person. He was one of the good guys. I never heard anything negative come from his mouth and he always stayed the same. The last time, I saw him he had that great smile that he always had. I no you are with God and in peace. You will be missed by many, but not forgotten classmate.

LaWanda Massie-Jones - December 03, 2020 at 02:22 AM

JT

“*J. C. & Tammy Thomas lit a candle in memory of Kyle Dean Kern*



J. C. & Tammy Thomas - December 02, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Kyle Dean Kern.



December 02, 2020 at 10:58 AM