



## Dennis Patrick

June 4, 1957 - January 27, 2008

Services for Dennis Patrick, 50, of Ben Wheeler, will be held on Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 10:00 AM at Grace Community Church with Pastor Todd Hinkie and Pastor Paul Henry officiating. Burial will follow at 2:00 PM in Roselawn Cemetery in Seagoville under direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. A second memorial service for students, faculty, and friends will be held at 5:00 PM at First Baptist Church in Whitehouse. Dennis passed away on Sunday, January 27, 2008 after a courageous battle with an unexpected illness with his family at his bedside. He was born on June 4, 1957 in Seattle, Washington to the late Wilbert J. and Frances J. Patrick. His family moved to Texas in 1966. Dennis attended Mesquite High School and played football on the 1974 state playoff team. He graduated from Mesquite High School in 1976. He had a great love for children and sports. Dennis coached for many years and officiated football and baseball for over 20 years. In 1990, he decided to pursue that love and made a career change. He attended Eastfield College and obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in 1995 from East Texas State University (now Texas A&M at Commerce). Dennis taught and coached in schools in Mesquite, Ferris, Garland, Van, Chapel Hill, and most recently Whitehouse, where he served as Whitehouse Junior High School Athletic Coordinator. Dennis has had an immeasurable impact on thousands of students and colleagues. He is survived by his loving wife of 31 years, Ellen; his daughter and son-in-law, Kristy and Brodie Parker of Kyle, Texas; son, Joseph (Joe) Patrick of Ben Wheeler;

granddaughters Shianne Patrick and baby girl Parker due March 9, 2008; brothers, Ron Patrick, Wayne Patrick, and Randy Patrick; sister Debbie Jimison; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, colleagues, and students. Pallbearers will be Matthew Patrick, Brandon Patrick, Justin Patrick, John Bowers, Jim Tucker, James Massey, James Allen, Gary Davenport, and Jeremy Still. Honorary pallbearers will be members of Whitehouse Athletics. The Patrick family would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of support, prayers, and love from Whitehouse I.S.D., Ramey & Flock, Grace Community Church, First Baptist Church in Whitehouse, family, friends, colleagues, and students. We love you all.

Visitation is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 2008 from 5:00-8:00 PM at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, Tyler, Texas 75703. Memorials in honor of Dennis Patrick may be made to the Dennis Patrick Memorial Fund, 3215 Old Jacksonville Highway, Tyler, Texas 75701. For more information or to express condolences, visit [www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com](http://www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com).

# Tribute Wall

PB

“ Dear Ellen & Family,

*I worked with Dennis at Carpet Services, Inc ~ DuPont Flooring Systems for 27 years.*

*Dennis will forever be in our hearts! He is a Dear Soldier for Christ and we know that he is at Peace with his maker. I rejoice with you that He is in a better place. My thoughts & prayers are with you in your time of sorrow.*

*May the Peace of God surround you and your family during this time!*

*Pami*

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**Pamela Bolton** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *What a great man, will truly be missed.*

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**Bobby Skeeters** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *I love you Dennis. I will miss You. We know that you are with our LORD and SAVIOR, and that you are in far better HANDS than we could provide. Ellen, Kristy and Joey will be kept in my prayers, NOW AND FOREVER.*

*LOVE ,  
YOUR BIG BROTHER  
RONNIE*

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**Ronnie Patrick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ I know Dennis will be dearly missed. He always had such a positive outlook on life and was such a positive influence on our students at Van High School.

*RIP!*

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**David Ramsey** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Ellen,

*Dennis was a good friend and coach. I enjoyed the times that we had together and I will remember him always. May the Lord be with you and your family.*

*Rick Jones*

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**Rick Jones** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Dennis Patrick coached both of my son's and they both liked him allot. My son's had nothing but good things to say about him and he will be deeply missed. The positive impact he had on so many young men and women in the Whitehouse schools will not be forgotten. My sympathy and prayers are with the Patrick family.

*Kenny Cantrell*

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**Kenny Cantrell** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ *Patrick Family,  
May you have peace through these difficult days. Dennis was an awesome man! I am honored to have known him my whole life.  
Love,  
Karen, Jonathan & Dominic Teoli*

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**Karen Teoli** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *Dennis, your supposed to look up to me as your big brother, guide you, help you through the hard times. I'm not sure that I have lived up to that responsibility. As you grew up and finished your education, you chose a career that I wished that I should have. I can't tell you how proud that you made me in your job, marriage , parenting. I could probably write a novel about your life, but you're the one that got the education, not me. besides Wayne would probably be the only one to read it. ( he he )  
Dennis, you and Ellen have had a great life together and I don't know that you could have chosen a better bride. Ellen, I love you for being there for Dennis NO MATTER WHAT.  
Dennis I Love You with all my heart. You will always be with me. You have been truly blessed by God himself to have been chosen to join Him in heaven.  
This is not good bye, but we'll see you down the road.*

*I love you Randy*

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**Randy Patrick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I am a substitute teacher at Whitehouse and have worked on the Junior High Campus. I am a veteran teacher myself having previously taught for 38 years. I have a great appreciation for those who have given their lives to our young people. I have heard others speak very highly of Coach Patrick and of his love and commitment to our young people. May God richly bless you and your family now and in the days to come.

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**Charles Williams** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Ellen, my precious, dear friend, I can't even begin to find words adequate enough to let you know how my heart is breaking for you. I know that Dennis was the love of your life and you two raised to very wonderful children. I remember all the years we sat next to each other at work and the countless times we shared stories. Almost all of your stories were about your family. Dennis was a wonderful man, a wonderful father and a wonderful friend. You are in my heart, thoughts and prayers, sweetie. I love you. Gina

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**GINA COLWELL** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Hello Ellen & Family

*We send our Love and Prayers, and know, your LOSS, is so great, but please know we are here, and available, with arms open wide to each of you.*

*Thinking of you in these next days of heaviness, and Pray you will feel Our Heavenly Father Arms -- around you.*

*With our Love*

*A. Rachel and U. Roy, and our families.*

*Ronda/Marvin/ Isaac/ Heather / Joel & Lilianna (The Lindsleys & Edgertons)*

*Renita / Sean/ Aaron/ Jeremy Hall*

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**Rachel Fulton** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Dennis will be missed by everyone around him, He was well respected by those in the community the state and beyond he was my cousin and my Friend  
I loved him dearly and I will miss him so very much We always had good times when we were together talking about those days in our childhood as we grew up i will always cherrish those times we have asong that we sang as children  
WE ARE THE PATRICKS MIGHTY MIGHTY PATRICKS EVERY WHERE WE GO PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW WHO WE ARE SO WE TELL THEM  
WE ARE THE PATRICKS MIGHTY MIGHTY PATRICKS  
MY HEART is sorrowful to have lost him on this Earth but to know that he is with His God ,to know that he is no longer in pain and suffering I can let go it is hard but I can do it my Love and respect to Elen ,Joey, Kristy &Brodie

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**Jerry Patrick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ It is with sorrow and shock that I send my condolences to Ellen and family, and my friend Wayne Patrick and family on their loss. Dennis was a positive influence to all he met, and one who God put on this earth to serve as an example of good nature. I am happy to hear he achieved his goal to teach and coach many students who will benefit from his time on this earth. He is with our Lord and God now. With my hands held high I just want to say, "Hey Dennis! I'll see you there!"

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**Gail Chadwick Armes** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *Patrick Family*

*May you feel God's love, peace and comfort embrace you in this difficult time. I have some wonderful memories of Dennis that I will cherish always. I know he is finally HOME - I am sure he is having a joyous reunion with Aunt Francis, Uncle Pat, and especially Meemaw of whom I miss so much!*

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**Rhonda Fruin Blackburn** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *I would like to let the family know that Coach Patrick will be greatly missed in my family. He has made a positive impact in my sons life. Whatever I needed to know or if there was a problem in my sons life, Coach Patrick was there and let me know that everything would be taken care of. The last time we talked before Christmas Coach told me that he loved the kids and that their welfare was his uttermost concern. I know he loved the kids and the kids loved him. Stay strong and remember that God will always be by your side and will help you in your trying times. I'm praying for you.*

*Pam*

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**Cedrick and Pamela Crawford** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *Ellen, Kristy & Joe:*

*I know words can't ease the pain you are going through. I am so very saddened by Dennis' passing. I hurt for you in your time of sorrow. Dennis was a wonderful man and you were the love of his life. And I know that grandbaby must have stolen his heart. I love you all and will see you Thursday.*

*Carole*

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**Carole Patterson** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

HP

“ *Dennis was a coach, I never had the privelidge to see any of his games .But heard that there was some good ones. He grew up in Texas, but can't hold that against him, ( his Parents did that to him , )But He turned out ok any way. so now that He has made his Last Touch down, on earth, , maybe God needed an assistant, for his team, in Heaven. Family, Relatives, Friends, Students, try to rejoice with Dennis'passing, He is in A much better place, No Sickness,Pain, Sorrow. Just Hope We can all join Him & all the others that have gone before ,we, that are still ,here. God Bless All*

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**Harry E Patrick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ *OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE ENTIRE FAMILY FROM THE VELEZ AND LOPEZ FAMILIES IN VERNON AND WICHITA FALLS.*

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**EVA AND KENO LOPEZ** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Dennis was such a fun, loving person. I admired him for his determination to reach his goal of coaching. I'm sure many lives have been touched by him and his family will surely miss him. God bless each of the family during this time of loss.

Cindy

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**Cindy McKinney** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Ellen, you and your family are in my prayers. There are not words to express my sorrow over your loss, please know that if there is anything I can do, I am just a call away. I will keep in touch. May God bless and keep you and your family at this time and always.

With sincere sadness- Lynn

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**Lynn Bridges** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ Coach Patrick I think was the best coach at the school, and he will be missed by many, the ones who played for him especially. He was a dear friend to many of the students and faculty.

Sincerely,  
Angele Pittman

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**Angele Pittman** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RV

“ May your family have peace through these difficult days and moments. We are in your hearts with our prayers. We send our condolences to you and your family and you will be in our thoughts and prayers for days to come.

Ricky, Mary & Adriana Velez

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**Ricky, Mary & Adriana Velez** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Dennis--when I heard I could not believe it. You and your family have been part of mine for such a long time, I feel as if I have lost a part of my family. I know you are up there watching over all of us, along with your mom, dad and my brother. I don't know what else to say, but the world is a little more quiet without your laughter and your smile. To your family, sorry does not seem to say enough, but you all are in my thoughts and prayers. May God be with you and keep you strong during this sad time.

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**Debbie Winner-Scott** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ To your family with love, prayers and the deepest heartfelt sympathy,

*Life is so precious and can change in a heartbeat. It's hard to believe our ray of sunshine is gone. Dennis was taken from us far too soon. He will be tremendously missed by all that had the privilege of knowing him.*

*The Patrick cousins had so much fun as kids. As adults, the fun times continued as the family gathered for our huge reunions. I can still see Dennis telling jokes and having a big laugh over them. Now Dennis can share his jokes with his heavenly family, without any earthly pain.*

*Ellen and Dennis had 31 wonderful years together. Ellen, while your loss is tremendous, I hope those precious memories will warm your heart as you move forward through this heaviness. Your family and friends love you so very much. We are all here with loving arms wide open for you.*

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**Jody Tief** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Our family always has and always will love Dennis. As I have said in the past, Dennis was the one who really inspired me to pursue coaching and a career in sports. My family will always remember Dennis. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

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**Kevin Bruaw** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Randy and Patrick family,  
We are truly sorry of the loss of your loved one Dennis and continue to keep all of you in our prayers. After reading the tributes it certainly seems all of you have wonderful memories of him and feel reassured that he is with our sovereign Lord. Love and peace in Christ.

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**Mr. and Mrs. Mike Martinez** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dear Ellen  
I'm so sorry about the loss of Dennis, and I'm sending my Love and Prayers to you and your family.  
Dennis and I had a couple things in common (our blood situations, and our spleens removed) but mostly our friendship as cousins. I know he was one of Isaac's favorite cousins always. I'm so glad we were able to be together at our family reunion at Uncle Harry and Aunt Ruth home this past June, our time was so short, but FUN. I pray you and your family will feel God's Arms around you even more this next few days as well as forever. Love You all.  
Ronda and Marvin and Isaac Lindsley

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**Ronda Lindsley** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Dear Ellen and Family  
God is Great and Greatly to be Praise: We know Dennis is with God, and having a great time- I know he is talking with the Lord about taking good care of each one of you, so keep your faith in the one who cares for you. We are praying for each of you. God Bless you. Love -- Renita and Sean, Aaron, Jeremy Hall (I'm A. Rachel daughter)

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**Renita Hall** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Dear Ellen & Family  
Uncle Phil and I -just want to say we are so sorry for the loss of Dennis. He was such a wonderful nephew and so much "FUN" to be around. And of course you know when he was around his Aunt Clara-- how much "FUN" we had -- with our Lemon Pie (in the face)times, at those family reunion, and with Uncle Phil --in the boat trips of fishing. I know we will all miss him a-lot. But just want you to know I'm on my way to put my arms around each of you-- today. I'm praying for you. Love you all very much

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**Clara & Phil Stewart** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Our prayers are with your entire family. We pray that God will send comfort and peace at this time. Fully rely on Him to get through each day. He is always here for us all. I am sure Dennis is celebrating at this very moment and wants you all to be comforted knowing he is in the presence of our Creator.

God bless you all.

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**Jack and DeeLynn Lopez** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

WP

“ *Dennis (Coach) Patrick - The true test of who a man is would be when the good, the bad, the easy and the difficult are blended and molded together and the end result is love and respect. Dennis had the good and Dennis had the bad and he ended this physical life with love and respect for and from his family, friends and most of all the kids he loved so much that he made them his life's work. I am so very proud of him and now Dennis has had the pleasure of hearing the words I hope we will all strive to hear: "Well Done My good and faithful servant". I will miss him greatly and will take comfort watching the "seeds" grow and flourish as I attempt to heal my broken heart.*

Wayne

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**Wayne Patrick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ *ETERNAL REST GRANT INTO HIS SOUL OH LORD AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HIM. MAY THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFULS DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE.*  
*ELLAN, MY HEART IS WITH YOU, BUT REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE COUSE GOD THE ALMIGHTY IS MORE CLOSER TO YOU THEN EVER, AND HE WILL HEAL YOU EACH AND EVERY DAY. ASK HIM EVERY DAY FOR YOUR HELP, YOU ARE VERY SPECIAL TO THE LORD, MAY GOD BLESS YOU, AND CONFORT YOU. RAMONA.*

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**MR&MRS JOHN VELEZ** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I remember Dennis when he and I both worked at Carpet Services. The first thing that stands out most in my mind is his smile. Dennis smiled as if he had a secret and if you asked nicely, he'd tell you what it was so you could enjoy the secret, too.

The second thing was that there was no doubt in anyone's mind how important his family was to him. He was in love with his wife and crazy about his son and daughter. It was during this time that his daughter was cast in the John Ritter movie "Problem Child". Dennis was so proud of his little girl!

I was proud of Dennis when he announced he was going to quit the job where he was making an adequate living to go to school to become a teacher. And after reading about his contributions as a teacher, he made a wise choice. Our world will be less joyful without you, Dennis.

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**Delores Shaffer** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *Ellen and Family: We are truly grieved at your loss! Dennis was a wonderful man with a great love of family. Being a Patrick, we know he had a playful sense of humor! (It's ingrained in the family from birth, I believe!) We will miss him, as so many others will. Not just family members, but all those whose live's he touched. Once again, we are reminded of how short life can be, (much too short for Dennis!) Dennis: We will miss you, but are glad you are no longer suffering! We know you are smiling down on us all from the golden streets. Keep and eye out for us....we'll see you in awhile! Love, Darryl and Karen*

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**Darryl & Karen Patrick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Heaven welcomes you as we miss you!*

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**Jennifer Gerwick** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ *Lee and I met Dennis at Christmas parties and weddings. What a good way to meet a man that seems to have influenced several others. In such a short time he was family. Our prayers are with the Patrick family. Life never ends it is just full of memories and we all have our memories of this man. Dennis is enjoying one big party and looking down at us. May peace be with all the family.*

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**Adam Velez** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *May you find peace and comfort through our Lord, Jesus Christ as He stretches His arms to console your pain. May He keep you nourished with those spiritfilled moments your family shared with Dennis. May He continue to bless your family as you continue to your journey in joining your loved one again someday. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen*

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**Stella and Ben Centeno, Arther Embers & family, Hienrick Embers** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ *Dennis had a great laugh and had the ability to make others laugh with him. I don't remember many times that he wasn't happy. We will always cherish the 25 years that we did get to know him. I only wish there had been 25 more years.*

*There is great comfort in knowing that Dennis is in Heaven and we will see him someday.*

*Our Love to all of the Patrick Family.*

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**Tom and Beverly Ryan** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PV

“ *Even though we are no longer living in Whitehouse my son Cameron Varing played for Coach Patrick 05-06 and 06-07 school years. He was very saddened by Coach Patrick's untimely passing. He really wanted to be there but being so far away Cameron wanted to let Coach Patrick's family know that he will be missed.*

*Thank you,  
Phyllis Varing*

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**Phyllis Varing** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

NE

“ Den,

*As I sit here trying to write something to comfort family and friends they are in Tyler celebrating your life. I know you are still busy catching up with everyone that was on the other side waiting to greet you. All the High Five's, hugs, and laughter must still be going on because I know they are as happy to see you as we are sad to see you go. I treasure all the times we have spent together and the memories are what I have left to hold on to. The legacy you have left on this earth is something to be proud of and I know you were proud of your wonderful wife, children and grandchildren. They will carry on that legacy along with the rest of your family, friends and students. When my journey comes to an end I know we will re-unite on the other side. Until that time arrives know that you will be forever in my heart.*

*To the entire Patrick Family and Friends: It is our duty to carry on Dennis' legacy with us each day of the remainder of our earthly journey so remember the honor we have been bestowed. May God's Love comfort each of us as we continue this journey.  
With Much Love and a Broken Heart,  
Miss Nettie Carol*

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**Nettie** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

UF

“ *Dennis,  
It is difficult to understand why you were chosen to pass on. You made me proud of the life you made for yourself and family during your time on earth. I was touched to hear of the crowd of people that attended your services. I know your Mom and Dad are beating you on the back right now saying what a good job you did! You may not have been a Dallas Football Player but I know you made them a better team by helping future players learn the sport. When my time here is finished I know you will greet me at the crossing. Until we meet again.*

*Love,  
Uncle Floyd*

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**Uncle Floyd** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ *Ellen,  
My deepest sympathies to you and your family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Love, Cheyenne*

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**Cheyenne Payne** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I read the tributes before the funeral and wasn't sure what to say that hadn't already been said. Mom (Aunt Regina) and I attended the funeral and burial and it struck me.

*Live, Love, Laugh altogether is*

*F A M I L Y*

*The Patricks - Dennis, Wayne, Randy, Debbie, Frances, Pat - everyone I can and can't remember or put a name to.*

*F A M I L Y*

*The laughs, hugs, kisses, just the pure joy of living life.*

*When I picture Dennis in my mind from years and years ago, he's smiling, laughing, cutting up. That's Dennis to me. JOY pure and simple.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family Ellen.*

*With lots of love, joy, and happiness that has been passed to me and my family from just knowing the Patricks our lives have been enriched. Thank you Dennis and family for that.*

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**Janell Hoedebeck - Fruin** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ I want to send my prayers to the texas family. I may not have been very close to that side but I am proud to be in this loving family. I hope and pray that things start to look up for the ones who are left behind. Love you guys.

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**Andria Patrick Klein** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ We just wanted to tell you and your family how sorry we are for your loss. My kids remember Dennis as a pee wee football coach for the Packers when they were in elementary school. I was glad to hear Dennis became a teacher and coach, he was always so good with the kids. We will keep all of you in our prayers.

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**John & Kathy McColley** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ May God be with your family during this trying time. Dennis was a wonderful man, and a great friend to those who knew him over the years. A good Man, gone way too soon. My prayers are with each of you.

*Larry Flowers, Class of '76.*

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**Larry Flowers** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Kristy,

*I am so sorry to hear about your loss. If you need anything, please let me know.*

*Liz*

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**Liz Hill** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I am glad I had the honor of being Mr. Patrick's Nurse. He was one of my favorite patients. He was truly a respected man in the community and will always be remembered for that. For the family; I am very sorry for your loss, but he is in a better place and one day we will have the honor of joining him. Again I am very sorry for your loss, and will keep you all in my prayers. -Amber Stroud-

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**Amber Stroud** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Rebecca and I attended school with Dennis and I played football with him. I am so sorry to hear about his passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. God bless you and keep you.

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**Rodney & Rebecca ( Hennig)Kilgore** - January 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM