



Samuel Kennedy

October 22, 1931 - June 22, 2007

Samuel James Kennedy was born on October 22, 1931 and passed from this life on June 22, 2007. Sam was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico to Robert and Grace Kennedy. He grew up in Raton, New Mexico and graduated from New Mexico A & M in Los Cruces in 1958. He and his wife Dorothy were married on December 31, 1959 in Portales, New Mexico, and shared 47 years of marriage together. Sam retired with 30 years of government service, working in Portales, New Mexico; Amarillo, Texas; and Salem, Oregon; and ending in Denver, Colorado; where he retired as Chief of Economic Analysis Branch of the Bureau of Reclamation. His job required many travels including Brazil and to China where he was an advisor to the Chinese government in developing the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River. Sam and Dorothy raised a family including 2 sons and 2 daughters. They lived 38 years in Denver, Colorado. Sam was a private pilot and enjoyed traveling all over the world. Sam was a member of the Bear Valley Church of Christ for 38 years and served as an elder for the last five. Sam received the greatest joy administering to the members of his congregation providing a lasting influence on them. Sam and Dorothy moved to Tyler 8 months ago where they are members of the West Erwin Church of Christ. Sam served his Lord until the end. Sam was a tall man with broad shoulders that were able to hold the problems and cares of many. Whether family or friends, everyone who knew him knew they had a friend they could rely on. He will leave a large hole in every ones life and be greatly missed. Sam is survived by his wife Dorothy

Pate Kennedy, children John and Judy Knox of Oregon; Ruth Knox of Anchorage, Alaska; Rick and Karen Fedell of Whitehouse; Harry and Debbie Hays of Lincoln, Nebraska. 10 grandchildren Jason and Andréa Knox of Boulder, Colorado; Nicole Knox of Anchorage, Alaska; Rosanne Knox of Phoenix, Arizona; Russell Fedell, Cody Fedell, Payton Fedell, Tanner Fedell, and Kenzie Kunzite Fedell all of Whitehouse; Sydney Hays and Charli Hays of Lincoln Nebraska. Sister, Colleen Yates of Clovis, New Mexico. Sam was preceded in death by parents Robert Kennedy and Grace Clute Kennedy. Sisters, Sharon Murphy and Billie June Dines and son, William Knox. Funeral services will be Tuesday, June 26 at 10:00 a.m. at the Stewart Family Funeral Home with Don Canter and Keith Hodges officiating. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday, June 25 from 6-8. Pallbearers are Dr. Aaron Duvall, Greg walker, Russell Fedell, Cody Fedell, Payton Fedell Tanner Fedell. Honorary pallbearers are Jason Knox, Joe Barber, Travis Taylor, Ray Lewis, Bob Panesi, Revis Compton and Robert Walton. Memorials in honor of Samuel James Kennedy may be made to the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver, 2707 South Lamar Street Denver, Colorado 80227 For more information or to express condolences, visit www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall

NP

“ Sam was a great friend, mentor and Christian example to me and made my life better through knowing him. I have many fond memories of Sam and Dorothy. They were always very supportive of me personally as a young Christian man and with my career in aviation. I could talk of many memorable times I had with Sam but I picked one that meant a lot to me and accurately shows what a giving man Sam was. Just after I graduated from tech school, had completed all of my testing and finally received my A&P license, Sam called me. He asked if I might have some time to fix his airplane. Since this would be my first actual job as a certified A&P technician I cannot accurately describe how excited I was and how hard I tried to do everything correct. I also did not really know what I was doing. Sam calmly explained what he needed done, helped me do some of it (I have to say that I ended up watching him do some of the repairs) and let me fill out the log book using my newly acquired license. He supervised everything I did, helped me when needed and still made me feel good; like I was someone of value. On top of this, he paid me for my services and then took me for a "testflight". It still brings a smile to my face when I think back on this. I am sure Sam remembered that smile too since I could not hide it from him. He took a risk on me, but he also knew how important it would be to me so he gave me the chance. I will never forgot this or any of the many other memories I have of Sam. He truly was a great man; someone I admired and looked up to both as a friend and a mentor. I will miss Sam, but I am overjoyed in the knowledge that he has gone to the home God has prepared for him. We are sorry we cannot be with you, Dorothy, during this time of grief; however please know that you are in our hearts and minds.

Love Nate Partridge (Apryl, Mitchell and Karissa)

Nate, Apryl, Mitchell and Karissa Partridge - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Dorothy,

We are so saddened to learn of Sam's passing, but we rejoice with the angels that he is now in the arms of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sam was one of those constant kidders who could always make you smile. He had a way of taking a heavy day and just by one of his dry humor comments could change your attitude to think happy thoughts. He was a true encourager. Dorothy, you were a great partner for Sam. You could roll your eyes and get a sparkle from him as it was so obvious how much he loved you.

We were blessed to be considered friends of this great man. It has been an honor and privilege to know him.

Our sympathies are with you and the family at this time. We wish so much that we could be there with you and give you love and hugs in person, but that will be impossible. Please know that you are in our prayers. God Bless You. Love, Douglas & Pamela Partridge

Douglas & Pamela Partridge - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *I wouldn't even want to consider what life would have been like at Bear Valley without Sam Kennedy. Sam was my friend, but more than a friend. He was a support and a confidant. Sam was my elder, but also a mentor, advisor and encourager. I could joke with Sam and study the Bible with Sam. He truly cared: about me, about Bear Valley, about the lost, about the Bible Institute. When we prayed together I saw into the depths of this very spiritual man. When we discussed Scripture, I saw the love for God's Word. It is the Sam Kennedy's of this world that make life better. I'm grateful that I had this great man in my life.*

Denny Petrillo - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Dear Dorothy,

Sam was such a shining light. He sincerely cared for the souls of men and his tender heart and compassion was obvious. We thank God that we had the opportunity to meet him and get to know him for a while.

You are such a blessing, too. We will always be filled with gratitude for how well you took care of us when we first came to Colorado. Thank you for opening your home and your heart to us. You are very dear to all of us.

*Much love, and prayers,
Neal, Kathy, Gary, Dale and Carl
Pollard
Phil. 1:3*

The Pollard Family - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ A dear friend and faithful christian brother.

Jimmie & Tommye McLemore - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WN

“ Sam and Dorothy will always be in our hearts. Two loving people who lived as Christians should, setting the proper priorities and example.

One day we will meet again. We will be forever grateful that we met Sam and Dorothy.

We love you Dorothy.

Wayne and Betty Nelson

Wayne and Betty Nelson - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Dorothy,
You and Sam made us feel so welcome when we came to Bear Valley. Sam was always at the entrance when we came in to welcome us.

Gerald and I have great respect for Sam and will miss him alot. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Carolynn, Travis , Molly Roberts - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ We were blessed to walk with Sam and Dorothy at Bear Valley Church of Christ for a few years. 1993-1997.

Our lives are better because we walked together. Sam will be missed.

Our warmest love and sweetest wishes to Dorothy and all the family.

Gil and Jean Allan

Gilbert & Jean Allan - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ We are so sorry to hear about the death of Sam. Donna and I enjoyed becoming great friends with you over the years here at Bear Valley, and serving together as elders. Sam was a great influence on the eldership, he will be dearly missed.

Maynard and Donna Woolley

Maynard & Donna Woolley - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ Karen....We at ETCS in Longview are so very saddened to hear the news about your dad. Please know that we are praying for you and your family during this time and ask that God give you an overwhelming measure of love and grace!

ETCS-Longview Office - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ TO OUR VERY DEAR FRIEND SAMBO.

We can truly say Ssm was our closet friend. A fantastic Elder in the Lord's church. Sam was one of a kind.

The best kind.

I will miss the phone calls being greeted as Chief. Also the phone calls letting me know I was the Old Man for 4 days. For over 30 years.

Also the extremely funny Birthday Cards.

Heaven is brighter because of Sam.

Our Love and Prayers always to Dorothy and family. God's Blessings to all.

Our Love, Ray and Janice

Ray and Janice Lewis - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WR

“ *What mixed emotions to hear about Sam. We know the last few months have been hard for him (and all of you). He will be truly missed! But there is such a peace and joy to be found in knowing that we will be together again in heaven. Your family means the world to us! Know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers.*

*We love you all!
Wayne and Tami Roberts and fam*

Wayne and Tami Roberts - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *Sam was a wonderful person, one of God's true servants. We will remember him as being a friend to everyone, and he was always there to help any of us when there was a need: a dear church elder and friend. Dorothy, you will have wonderful memories, as will we all.*

*Love to you and your family.
Bill and Dee*

Bill and Dee Herrman - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ *Sam was always good for a laugh. If you weren't careful, you would miss his dry sense of humor. Definitely kept me on my toes whenever I talked with him. And Dorothy . . . I have such fond memories of you being my bible class teacher. You were a real inspiration and had great influence on me becoming a Christian. I am so glad that in my life I had the priviledge of knowing Sam and his family. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Phil Partridge - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ I remember Sam as a very kind person. He came to our house on several occasions to study the Bible with us. In part, if it were not for Sam's caring, making the decision to become a Christian at Bear Valley would have been a totally different experience. When I heard of his passing I too was sad but happy that knowing someday I will get the chance once again to talk to him. He will be missed by our family.

Doug, Debra, John and Fred Northrup

Douglas Northrup - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ Dorothy,

We are thinking of you and keeping your family in our prayers. Sam was a wonderful man and great example for us all to follow. We were blessed to be able to know the both of you.

In Christian love, Nathan and Jeanne

Nathan and Jeanne Adams - June 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM