



Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr.

March 29, 1944 - February 20, 2024

Wendell Andrew Kaiser, Jr. hated the idea of turning 80 so much that he decided to avoid it altogether by dying suddenly on February 20th. Wendell leaves behind a legacy of faith, joyfulness, and a lovingly dysfunctional family who is not at all pleased with him for not asking their permission to do this.

Born an only-child in Massachusetts, Wendell grew up in Tampa, FL and spent the rest of his life learning to share and avoiding his parents' nickname of "Wendy." After escaping a boarding school, he met his greatest adversary and love, Kathryn (Kathy) at Robinson High School. In hopes that a uniform would distract from his ears and make him look less skinny, he joined the U.S. Navy after high school. His plan worked and he and Kathy were married for nearly 60 years, some of which were very happy.

After leaving the Navy, Wendell embodied the stereotype of a self-made man. He could sell high tech something to somebody... or something. We were never sure, but family friends suspected nefarious things based on how much he traveled and how hard he worked. Whatever it was he was really good at it and ended his career as a Vice President at some very impressive companies.

What mattered more than any of that was Wendell's family. From that only-child beginning, he became a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, sometimes sharing his toys, but always sharing how proud he was of them. That included the ones he sired (he would love how impressive that sounds) and the ones he and Kathy adopted in. The line between friend and family was mostly hypothetical.

Wendell's survivors (not to say he was something to survive) include his wife, Kathy Kaiser of Tallahassee, FL and his children: Kathy "the good one" Campbell of Longwood, FL; Stephen "the exciting one" Kaiser (Sherry... she tried to escape, but Wendell never believed it) of Apopka, FL; Suzanne "daddy's girl" Kaiser of Apopka, FL; and the Very Rev. Marcus "the favorite - obviously" Kaiser, Sr. (Kim) of Tallahassee, FL. Those who will miss their Poppy include his grandchildren Maj. Daniel Campbell, USAF (Heather), Sara "Poppy's Princess" Campbell, Matthew Campbell (Ashley), Joshua Kaiser (fiancée Jill), Zachary Kaiser (fiancée Maddison), Scot Elliot; James Kaiser, Jacob Kaiser, Samuel Kaiser, and Marcus Kaiser, Jr.; and his great-grandchildren Jackson Campbell, Isaiah Campbell, and Adeline Campbell. The Kaiser home was never just Kaisers, and a generation of kids in Central Florida grew up at Kathy and Wendell's house. Just as loved as his actual children were all those kids, but especially their unofficially adopted daughter Susan Nash (Kelly).

Those gone before Wendell to be with their Lord include many friends and, presumably, generations of his forefathers, because that's usually how those things work. Most significantly, Wendell, is now reunited with his beloved son-in-law Scot Campbell, and those two will have some explaining to do for all of the fun they had down here.

Every life he touched and those he influenced along the way can tell you that Wendell Kaiser had fun and loved well.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, March 2nd, 2024, at 2PM at St. Peter's Anglican Cathedral, Tallahassee, FL. Please make memorials to the Wounded Warrior Project. Wendell wasn't much of a flower guy.

Rocky Bevis and Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) are assisting the Kaiser family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAR 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

St Peter's Anglican Cathedral
4784 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, FL 32309

Tribute Wall

AV

“ 7 files added to the album Wendell with solidDB and Valtanen's



Anu Valtanen - March 04, 2024 at 10:22 PM

AV

“ Anu V. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..

Anu V. - March 02, 2024 at 02:32 PM

JK

“ Heart felt sympathies and prayers for strength and peace of mind. A donation to Wounded Warriors has been sent in his honor. God be with you all.

Joyce Keuling - March 02, 2024 at 09:42 AM

AZ

“ It is often hard to find the right words at a time like this. May you find peace, comfort, and all the love you need in the days to come.

With love, Angela Zambaux

Angela Zambaux - February 29, 2024 at 07:23 AM

FK

“ From Darin and Kathy Kemmer purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..



From Darin and Kathy Kemmer - February 28, 2024 at 06:58 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..



February 28, 2024 at 02:24 PM

MB

“ The best thing anyone can share of themselves is laughter. Wendell always made me laugh. He was the best!

Mary Boenau - February 28, 2024 at 01:19 PM

RH

“ Since I was the brother-in-law to Scot and Kathy I had the privilege of getting to know Wendell and Kathy. Wendell was such a fun loving person. I will always remember he and I sharing our “sissy drink “ as my daughters put it , of Vodka and cranberry at my daughter Heather’s wedding. Thanks for always making it a fun time Wendell. We have donated to the Wounded Warrior Project in your memory.

Rick Hudson - February 28, 2024 at 09:20 AM

TJ

“ *The Eusepi's, Scott, Craig and Jennifer purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..*



The Eusepi's, Scott, Craig and Jennifer - February 27, 2024 at 11:53 AM

TJ

“ *The Eusepi's, Scott, Craig and Jennifer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..*

The Eusepi's, Scott, Craig and Jennifer - February 27, 2024 at 11:53 AM

WW

“ *I am so saddened by this but Poppie would not want tears. He has not gone away, just ahead. I am better today because he came my way and loved a grown adopted son as I loved him and Mom Kaiser. I remember with fondness our walk in Orlando in the neighborhood when the baby bear cub crossed our path and I was about run and he said, " Just stay calm, he is not thinking about you. If you see his momma, then we both running." Thanks for all the advice, the visits and taking me in. I loved you with my whole heart and know that you loved me. You showed it every time we were together. PEACE OUT! Chuck Wilson, your Sumter, SC son.*

W. Chuck Wilson - February 27, 2024 at 12:47 AM

RH

“ I will always remember Wendell & my dad playing pool & making us all laugh! I've always felt like an honorary “Kaiser”! The Kaiser house was a place where everyone felt welcomed! Wendell, you are loved & will be missed.

Robin Hudson - February 26, 2024 at 04:30 PM

TA

“ The A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..

The A. - February 26, 2024 at 03:10 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..



February 26, 2024 at 12:44 PM

TS

“ Tim Surratt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wendell A. Kaiser, Jr..

Tim Surratt - February 26, 2024 at 12:44 PM

ZK

“ *We love ya poppi.*



Zach Kaiser - February 26, 2024 at 11:43 AM

DH

“ *Love you Brother!*



Dan Hascall - February 25, 2024 at 10:22 AM

KK

I love this picture of my guys

Kathy Kaiser - February 26, 2024 at 07:15 PM