



Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith

November 17, 1952 - March 15, 2017

Kerry O'Dell Smith, 64, devoted husband, father, son and friend to many passed away on March 15th, 2017. He served our country for 6 years in the Air Force. As a young boy, it was obvious it was God's plan he pursue the engineering profession. At the age of 3, he was already curious about electricity. He then began taking every piece of equipment apart and reassembling them; sometimes extra parts remained. As a young adult, his jobs were many including working in a steel mill and painting race cars. K.O. joined the Airforce and had hoped for an assignment in Spain, but he ended up stationed in Gosse bay Labrador, Canada.

Upon discharge he moved to Florida, where he met his soulmate and wife Maria. They celebrated 29 wonderful years of marriage. Together with friends, they enjoyed hang gliding, water skiing, scuba diving, boating in the Bahamas, fishing for lobster and shrimp and his true passion was general aviation.

He worked as hard as he played. He was a test engineer at Lockheed Martin for over 39 years. This role in life was vital to his being and he took great pride in program successes.

K.O.'s pride and joy was his son Ryan. Teaching him life's lessons in the loving way that only he could do. K.O. had a deep love and caring for his parents and was proud to build a fun filled home for his family. He especially

excelled and delighted in the preparation of parties for family and friends which often included chocolate mousse, daiquiris and unique fireworks. The Smith Christmas lights could be seen far and wide. This home now provides lasting memories of good times and parties.

K.O. always had a helping spirit and true to the end, he donated his corneas to give someone sight

As his son, Ryan said, "Dad never wasted a moment". He lived Life to the fullest and is now in the loving hands of God.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Lung Cancer Alliance <http://www.lungcanceralliance.org/ways-to-give/>

Previous Events

Gathering

MAR 24. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations
910 W. Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 841-4424
<https://www.acommunityfuneralhome.com/>

Military Honors Ceremony

MAR 24. 7:30 PM (ET)

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations
910 W. Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 841-4424
<https://www.acommunityfuneralhome.com/>

Celebration of Life

MAR 24. 7:00 PM (ET)

A Community Funeral Home & Sunset Cremations
910 W. Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32805
(407) 841-4424
<https://www.acommunityfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Mass

MAR **25**. 12:30 PM (ET)

St. James Cathedral
215 North Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801

Tribute Wall

BR

“ *KO will be forever in our hearts. Sending love, hugs and prayers .
Our deepest sympathy to the Smith Family. XO- The Ramsey
Family*

Beth Ramsey - March 28, 2017 at 07:03 PM

JC

“ *Our deepest sympathy to Maria, Ryan and the entire family. You are
in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. God bless you all.
Love,
Jean, Andrew and Jean Louise Casazza*

Jean Casazza - March 24, 2017 at 06:58 PM

JM

“ *K.O. brought happiness to everyone when he was in the room. His
personality lit up every occasion. It was a blessing having the
opportunity to know him. We will miss him greatly.*

With deepest hearts,

Jeremy, Angelica, Leonardo, and Mia McKinney

Jeremy McKinney - March 24, 2017 at 03:27 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the
family of Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith.*



March 24, 2017 at 12:18 PM

AM

“ When I think of K.O. the first thought that comes to my mind is gentle, and loving. He was truly a passionate, hard working man with a vibe for life and love for his family. He will be greatly missed by all but his spirit will last forever.



My deepest sympathy to Maria, Ryan and his parents. God watch over K.O., rest in peace. 🙏

Love,
Anne Marie Caldarola

Anne Marie - March 24, 2017 at 07:30 AM

JJ

“ Jake and Star Jacobsen purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith.



Jake and Star Jacobsen - March 23, 2017 at 06:33 PM

RT

“ K.O.,

Your light lives on in your eternal warmth and through your loving family. It is an honor to know you and to have shared memories with you over the last few years. You are missed.

*Ronnie Tong
Ron Tong
Fay Tong from Nona Sushi*



Ronald Tong - March 22, 2017 at 10:21 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith.*



March 22, 2017 at 06:36 PM

MS

“ *Maria and Family,
Our deepest sympathy to all of you, cherish the good times and memory's you had*

Mike Steinberg

Jerry McKevitt

Lantz Medical

Mike Steinberg - March 22, 2017 at 01:06 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith.



March 21, 2017 at 03:18 PM



“ *Our hearts are broken at the news of K.O.'s passing. You all are in our thoughts and prayers. We are so thankful for the great memories we have of times spent with you all. We are especially grateful that we were able to see you in November when we came down to Orlando.*

*Love,
Brian, Cherri, Jackson, Cassie and Joseph*

Cherri - March 21, 2017 at 09:36 AM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray* was purchased for the family of Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith.



March 20, 2017 at 09:03 PM



“ *Eddie Bori lit a candle in memory of Kerry "K.O." O'Dell Smith*



Eddie Bori - March 20, 2017 at 02:34 PM

JW

“ K.O. my dear, dear friend. Meeting you at the Super Pool changed my life. I can not believe that 35 years has past us by. The lifetime friendship that was forged with you and Maria is a never ending story. Watching the flirting, romance and eventual marriage to Maria filled me with joy. By the way, the best wedding party I ever attended. Maria and K.O. came as a package. The yearly Thanksgiving dinner, July 4th celebrations are memories that will never leave me. If not for you and Maria, my love of scuba would never have been found, let alone lead me to my soulmate. The birth of Ryan and holding him in my arms for the first time was joy overflowing. You were always there through my joys and dramas, and that was a job! You and Maria are instrumental in keeping the Habitat group together. My memories are full and you will be with me always. I have no doubt that you are already party planning.

My deepest sympathies to Maria, Ryan, Marge and Bill.

*All my love,
Jan Watts*

Jan Watts - March 20, 2017 at 09:50 AM

PJ

“ K.O. was one of the most remarkable people I ever met. He was a rare blend of intelligence, humor, integrity, and generosity. I will miss him but am a better person for having known him. I just wish I could have know him longer. Papa Jim

Papa Jim - March 19, 2017 at 02:23 PM

JK

To my Scorpio brother & dear friend of over 35 years, you will be dearly missed! I'm sorry I won't be able to attend your service. I will be there in spirit! Our many memories over the years from the Habitat family to almost breaking my neck catching the bouquet at your & Maria's wedding to the first glimpse of Ryan in WPB as a baby are all cherished memories to name a few. Your intelligence, humor, kindness, wit & culinary delights but most of of all our friendship will be dearly missed. Big hugs & love always.

Jan Kissinger

Jan Kissinger - March 20, 2017 at 07:48 AM

CV

“ *What an amazing photo of my friend, KO. I am still reeling from the news of his passing. A friend of Ker's from many years ago, I cannot thank Maria enough for sharing what was more than shocking news of his passing.*



Sir Smith was an amazing human specimen, dedicated to life in all ways. He always loved and lived to the max - way more & bigger than most people. What KO did best was make sure that if you were special in his life that you knew it. Ker's commitment was unsurpassed if you were one of the lucky ones to be his friend; you knew you were forever loved!

Never having met you, Maria & Ryan, what I would like to tell you is how sorry I am for your loss of our mutual friend, KO Smith. Of course, your lives will go on, but probably not in the same never-ending invigorating & energetic manner without him. I am so sorry for your loss.

I loved him the way you do, a long time ago.

*All of my best - please sleep tight,
Cary
ox*

Cary VanDermark - March 18, 2017 at 08:08 PM

KC

*I only met KO briefly when I had the privilege to take care of him at Winter Park Hospital. I was inspired by his love for life and for his family, and I just wanted to say how very sorry I was to hear of his passing. Maria, you were an incredible support to him as I know you are for your son. My prayers are with you as you walk through these days, that you will know you are loved by so many and that you will find strength and hope. I'm so sorry for your loss.
Kim Creasman*

Kim Creasman - March 24, 2017 at 11:21 AM