



## Mr. Keith McIlwain

October 24, 1962 - February 5, 2017

Funeral services for Mr. Keith McIlwain, 54, of Carthage, Texas will be 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 10, 2017 at the Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Randy Miller and Bro. John Boland officiating. Services are under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 6-8:00 p.m. Thursday evening at the funeral home. Mr. McIlwain passed away February 5, 2017 at his home in Carthage.

Mr. Brian Keith McIlwain was born October 24, 1962 in Carthage, Texas to Bobby Jack and Phyllis Sharon Davis McIlwain. Keith was raised in Carthage and graduated from Carthage High School with the class of 1981. He later attended Southern Technical College and graduated in 1989 with a Drafting Technology Degree. He married Jean Marie Blair on May 18, 1985 and together they celebrated 31 years. Keith worked for the City of Carthage for 15 years as a drafter and most recently as the Civic Center Director. He was a member of the Macedonia Baptist Church, the Chamber of Commerce and Carthage Main Street. Keith loved skating, bowling and cars and was a member of the Classic Antique Car Group.

Mr. McIlwain is survived by his parents, Jack and Sharon McIlwain; loving wife, Jean McIlwain; daughters, Rachel M. Laney and husband Lt. Col. Brian Laney; Brandi N. Bjorgaard and husband Andrew; brother, David McIlwain and wife Carol K.; grandchildren, Wesley Laney, Sarah Faith Laney, Gabriella Laney, Aidan Laney, Bailey Rae Bjorgaard, Brooklyn N. Bjorgaard, Brayden Bjorgaard, Brody Bjorgaard; mother-in-law, Frankie D. Blair; brothers-in-law,

Terry McEwan and wife Mary; Mark Blair, Greg Blair and wife Gail; sister-in-law, Jodie Blair; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins; special friends, Wayne and Sherry Bailey, Carl and Lori Bardwell, Chris and Michelle Wilkins, Tommy and Christy Cox; and a host of other friends.

Honorary pallbearers will be Judd Jones, Neal Sarter, Wayne Bailey, Carl Bardwell, Tommy Cox, Rick "Mad Dog" Davis, Brian Rickert, Andy Patterson and the members of the Carthage Antique Car Group.

The family suggests that any memorials be made in Keith's name to the Texas Oncology Center of Longview.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **9**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home  
307 West Wellington Street, P.O. Box 188  
Carthage, TX

## Service

FEB **10**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Hawthorn Funeral Home Chapel  
307 W Wellington St.  
Carthage, Tx

# Tribute Wall



“ Hawthorn Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain



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**Hawthorn Funeral Home** - February 08, 2017 at 04:28 PM

KJ

“ Very sorry for your loss. Obviously, I am out of the loop. Just came across this and was just shocked. Keith was a positive influence on me in my teen years and always was someone I enjoyed talking to and knew I would get a laugh out of the conversation anytime I seen him. Last I saw he just retired. Now, I see his obituary. He had an impact on me and I will have good memories of Keith. Once again, very sorry for your loss.

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**Kevin Jones** - February 21, 2017 at 05:23 AM

DS

“ Jeanie, I will not be able to attend Keith's service today but want you to know that it was a pleasure to have worked with him during my Main St tenure and later at City Hall. We always shared our family events and pix. My hope is that you can get some much needed rest and peace that The Lord will provide. God bless you and yours. Donna Sickel

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**Donna Sickel** - February 10, 2017 at 06:37 AM

TH

“ Tammye Hudson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain



Tammye Hudson - February 09, 2017 at 03:40 PM

PD

“ Dear Jack and Sharon....I was sorry to hear of the loss of your son Keith...Y'all are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Even though I didn't know your son, knowing what special people y'all are, I know he too was a fine man. Love Y'all, Patty Dawson

Patty Dawson - February 09, 2017 at 02:55 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Keith McIlwain.



February 09, 2017 at 12:00 PM



GS

*Jeanie, It was with deep sorrow yesterday that I learned of Keith's passing. He was a kind, easy going friend like this world is in such a short supply of these days. I'm sure that in the days ahead, the pain will slowly subside & be replaced with the comfort that his suffering is over & his memory will never leave you & your family. Please feel free to call on me if I can be of any help in the days ahead.*

**George Shuttlesworth** - February 07, 2017 at 11:51 PM

CP

“ *Jeanie and Family,  
We want you to know just how sorry we are about Keith. Our love goes out to you and your family. He was a wonderful, caring man who touched so many lives, was a good roll model, and will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. We love you and Keith and think the world of both of you.  
Clay & Delores*

**Clay & Delores Pinnick** - February 07, 2017 at 06:45 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Keith McIlwain.*



February 07, 2017 at 03:42 PM

KR

“ *Karen Beasley Ross lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



**Karen Beasley Ross** - February 07, 2017 at 10:45 AM

JH

“ Jeannie & Roger Hartless lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Mcllwain



Jeannie & Roger Hartless - February 07, 2017 at 09:30 AM

JE

God bless you at this time of sorrow.

Jeannie - February 07, 2017 at 09:30 AM

#RileyStrong



“ Kid was always a great friend. Even after many years of not talking we were still great friends. I will keep the while family in my prayers. Until we meet again my dear sweet friend. Love and miss you.

Tina Harper - February 07, 2017 at 12:24 AM

DH

“ You are in my prayers as you have been since Keith's illness. God will give you comfort and Keith will be remembered by many people and the witness he was.

Doris Hollister

Doris Hollister - February 06, 2017 at 09:30 PM

TF

“ The Palmer Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Mcllwain



The Palmer Family - February 06, 2017 at 07:29 PM

Janet  
Davis

“ *Janet Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Keith McIlwain*



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**Janet Davis** - February 06, 2017 at 06:43 PM

DW

“ *Deepest Condolences sent..Keith was always  
a great friend growing up...May God give  
comfort and peace to the family*



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**Deborah Whittlesey-Newell** - February 06, 2017 at 06:25 PM

CY

“ *So sorry to hear about Keith. We always enjoyed running into him in  
town. His smile and laughter was contagious. Prayers for the family.  
Cathy and Jeff Youngblood*

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**Cathy Youngblood** - February 06, 2017 at 06:09 PM

MA

“ For Jeannie, Rachael, Brandy... Jack, Sharon, and David, It is with my deepest prayers that God holds you steadfast in these moments. Keith was a light in so many lives, and he shines still. Memories of him will always be of a beautiful spirit that brought joy and laughter into all of our lives. Of all the memories that are precious to me of Keith, I have to say that the most special occurred in the last 3 or so years when my brother Matt, died. Keith reached out to my son Holden, knowing what a devastating loss that Holden was going through. He was able to bring life to memories of Matt because we had all been together so much when we were young. Just after Matt died, when Keith, Jeannie, and I all went skating together again with Holden, Keith was still able to do so much of the incredible skating moves that he had done when we were all just kids!!! I could never express in words how much that act of kindness meant to me.

*He will be missed, and was a fine Christian man. I love each of you... God bless you always!!!*

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**Madonna McClure Ashmore** - February 06, 2017 at 05:10 PM

JS

“ *JD Strawn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



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**JD Strawn** - February 06, 2017 at 05:09 PM

MA

“ *Madonna McClure Ashmore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Mcllwain*



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**Madonna McClure Ashmore** - February 06, 2017 at 04:53 PM

LK

“ *Lori Kruebbe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Mcllwain*



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**Lori Kruebbe** - February 06, 2017 at 02:36 PM

SK

“ *Sharon Kyle lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Mcllwain*



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**Sharon Kyle** - February 06, 2017 at 02:06 PM

CG

“ *Cynthia Griffin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Mcllwain*



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**cynthia griffin** - February 06, 2017 at 01:19 PM

JS

“Gone way too young but never forgotten! RIP dear child!



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**Jackie/Sybil Smith** - February 06, 2017 at 12:36 PM

LK

“Lisa Ritmanich Kowis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain



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**Lisa Ritmanich Kowis** - February 06, 2017 at 12:36 PM

PS

“Pat Slocum lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain



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**Pat slocum** - February 06, 2017 at 12:32 PM

PS

*Jeanie, i cannot imagine the devastation you feel, i remember when you married your Keith, how youall loved each other, we are so sorry for your loss, thinking of you and the girls,praying for sweet comfort*

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**Pat slocum** - February 06, 2017 at 12:35 PM

LF

“ *Lori Young Fuller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



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**Lori Young Fuller** - February 06, 2017 at 10:02 AM

DC

“ *Debbie Crawford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



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**Debbie Crawford** - February 06, 2017 at 09:51 AM

PW

“ *PAM WORKS lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



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**PAM WORKS** - February 06, 2017 at 09:23 AM

CB

“ *Cyndi Bell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



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**cyndi bell** - February 06, 2017 at 08:45 AM

EH

“ *Elinor Humphreys lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith McIlwain*



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**Elinor Humphreys** - February 06, 2017 at 08:21 AM



“ *Dearest Jeanie & girls, I am praying for you and your families as I know you're going to miss Keith so much. It comforts me to read Jesus' words "In my house are many mansions. I go there to prepare a place for you that where I am, you may be also." Keith is rejoicing in the arms of Jesus--no pain, no worries--just pure happiness and joy. I remember so fondly the Easter musical we did at FBC Clayton years ago. Keith played Jesus, and there were so many funny experiences as we practiced & put the musical together. At the performance, I remember being amazed at how much Keith looked and acted like I pictured Jesus looking/acting. It was so "real" that it gave me shivers. We love you all and ask that God wrap His loving arms around you and carry you forward.*

*Susan Corley*

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**Susan Corley** - February 06, 2017 at 08:12 AM

PD

“ Dear McIlwain Family,  
What sweet and precious memories we have  
of Keith. Jerry and I watched him grow up  
from a little boy to an amazing Christian man.  
He loved each of you in a very special way.  
Cherish his sweet memories and always keep them close to your  
hearts. We will remember you in our thoughts and prayers today  
and in the days to come.  
We love you all so much,  
Jerry and Pat (Edens) Dorman  
Proverbs 17:17



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**Pat E Dorman** - February 05, 2017 at 09:50 PM

DL

“ Jeanie and family, sending you much love and  
prayers. Keith was a man that lived his faith. He  
will live on in all the lives of all the people that  
had the privilege to know him. He never failed  
to make me laugh. Love and prayers, Vic and  
Donna xoxo



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**Donna LaBorde** - February 05, 2017 at 07:21 PM

MS

“ Jeanie , my thoughts and prayers are with you...love you so much  
girl ..Mona Schultz

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**Mona schultz** - February 05, 2017 at 05:35 PM

KW

“ I have so many memories growing up with Keith at church, camp,  
and the skating rink !! I will miss you my friend 💜

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**Kandi Wallace** - February 05, 2017 at 03:24 PM

SE

“ So many memories growing up with Keith. My parents and Jack and Sharon playing 42 and Keith and I hanging out together. I know he is home with the Lord. Praying for the whole family.

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**Shannon Ebarb** - February 05, 2017 at 02:49 PM

NG

“ Jenny and Girls,

*I am so sorry to hear this except I do know that Keith is at home with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I will always carry lots of memories of Keith on our trips, etc. He was a mighty good man and he loved you'll so much.*

*God Bless you and Keep you until you'll meet again.*

*Sincerely,  
Nancy Gibbs*

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**Nancy Gibbs** - February 05, 2017 at 02:37 PM

JW

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. Such a special guy, you have so many special memories. He is with the Lord and has no more pain.*

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**Jan Wilt** - February 05, 2017 at 02:47 PM

LM

*I have so many memories of keith at the skate rink and being such a sweet man good friend so many R I P my friend*

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**lori mcdaniel** - February 05, 2017 at 03:50 PM

MC

*Am so sorry for the love of your life's passing. Keith is with his Lord and in no longer in pain and suffering. You got a rare jewel when you married Keith, was a great husband and father, always willing to help others. Can't say enough good things about him. We here in Kansas will miss him.*

*Love Aunt Midgie and Uncle Rod*

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**midge& Rodney casselman** - February 05, 2017 at 09:00 PM

BS

*So sorry to learn of Keith's passing. Jean, we shall be praying for Gods comfort during the days and months ahead.*

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**Billy & Betty Sipes** - February 05, 2017 at 11:00 PM

KP

*I grieve for you, Jeannie, and your girls, for Sharon and Jack, and all of your family. But I rejoice for Keith...that he has received the healing he so desperately longed for! Words cannot help during this time, but know that the sweet incense of prayer is being lifted by many to the Lord on your behalf and He will send the Comforter to you all. We love you all so much.*

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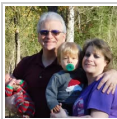
**Kathy Birdwell Penner** - February 06, 2017 at 02:22 PM

RT

*So sorry to hear about Keith's passing. He was a great guy. I'll remember the fellowship from bowling at Oil Bowl in Longview*

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**ricky d todd** - February 06, 2017 at 06:14 PM



*We grieve because we miss Keith so much and we celebrate because we know he's healed and is in the presence of our Lord and Savior. Praise God that Keith once lived by faith, but now he lives by sight!*

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**Mark-Linda Horn** - February 07, 2017 at 12:31 PM

DB

*It is hard to sit here and think about the loss your family is going through. May the Lord bless you and watch over you and pray that someday we will meet again. The best things are the good times we had when I came to visit. The best one was at Xmas time, going to the parade, visiting some of the historic sites and all the beautiful lights. Meeting your mother when we went to the airport.. You always seem to have that happy smile on your face. The girls and I decided that a gift to the Oncology Fountation will do more good and more flowers. Jeanie, the girls and Frankie we love you even if we are not able to drive that far. Health is the reason we can't come to say our goodbyes. The Bouse family, Dee, Dale, Judy and Ellen*

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**Dee Bouse** - February 09, 2017 at 11:05 AM

DB

*A short note to let you know I worked on the family tree today. It looked so lonesome when all Keith's friends are sending him goodbye wishes.. I had all the material in my computer, just had to transfer it from my program to the one one this site. Aunt Dee Bouse*

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**Dee Bouse** - February 09, 2017 at 05:32 PM