



Rev. Kent Daniel Small

May 16, 1965 - March 23, 2021

Rev. Kent Daniel Small, 55, of Columbia, died on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. Born in Jackson, MI, on May 16, 1965, he was a son of Thomas Raymond and Carol Ruth Fitzgerald Small.

Kent attended Northern Christian High School in McBain, Michigan and went on to study for two years at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Kent joined the US Navy in February 1985 and served proudly in the submarine force as a nuclear missile technician until 1991. He was a veteran of the Cold War and served on the USS Will Rogers (SSBN 659) and the USS Holland (AS32).

Following his lifelong call to ministry, Kent began serving in his local church as youth pastor in the Presbyterian Church. He continued his growth in ministry at Plantation Wesleyan Church under the leadership of Carl Possehl. Kent received his licensure from the Wesleyan Church and became pastor of Longcreek Wesleyan Church in Columbia SC. Rev. Small served at various churches in northeast Columbia since then, including Faith Community Church and Sandhills Community Church. He received his ordination from the International Fellowship of Bible Churches and last served humbly at Covenant Community Fellowship Church in Columbia.

In addition to his ministry, Kent had a passion for all things computers and IT work. This passion led him to work for many places including: Hill- Rom, Blackbaud Inc., Charleston County, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Colonial Life Insurance. During his time at these locations, Kent met a diversity of people. He treasured every single friendship and opportunity, always showing the love of Christ to those around him.

Survivors include his wife, Michele Anne Waller Small; sons, Benjamin Daniel Small (April) and Jon Wesley Small; daughters, Katherine Brooke Small and Jessica Marie Small; siblings, Lora Jean Kushmaul (Rodney) and Glenn Wesley Small (Candice).

The funeral service for Mr. Small will be held at 12:30 o'clock, Tuesday, March 30th, at

Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel, 7600 Trenholm Road Ext., Columbia, with Pastor Jeff Philpott officiating. Burial with military honors will follow in Fort Jackson National Cemetery at 2 o'clock. The family will receive friends from 5 until 7 o'clock, Monday evening at the funeral home. Mask and social distancing are required to create a safe environment for all. For those unable to attend, a livestream of the service may be seen by visiting his tribute page at ShivesFuneralHome.com

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to International Fellowship of Bible Churches, Inc., 3511 N. Geraldine Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

Events

MAR 29 **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel
7600 Trenholm Road Extension, Columbia, SC, US, 29223

MAR 30 **Funeral Service** 12:30PM

Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel
7600 Trenholm Road Extension, Columbia, SC, US, 29223

MAR 30 **Graveside Service** 02:00PM

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road, Columbia, SC, US, 29229

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Shives Funeral Home - April 02 at 06:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



March 29 at 05:28 PM



“ Kent was such a loving and caring man. We often spoke about family events and times in the military. He had a way of making you feel special, kind of like an Army Chaplain who would come by just to check up on you and slide in a subtle mention of Christ. I always enjoyed hearing his sub stories, you could see his eyes light up every time. Like me, he was a tech guy, and a bit nerdy :). You could tell by the Hotwheels that adorned his desk, like the Ecto1 and the USS Enterprise. He was an inspiration and will be sorely missed. Love you buddy!

Kris Mattingly - March 29 at 03:58 PM



“ .Kent was a good preacher and neighbor. He buried my son and married us in 2002. He will be missed. Susan and Larry Arave.

Susan Arave - March 29 at 12:49 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



March 29 at 11:47 AM



“ 82 files added to the album LifeTributes



Shives Funeral Home - March 28 at 08:00 AM



“ I met Kent in the mid 1980's when we both were serving onboard the USS Will Rogers SSBN 659(G). We pretty much clicked right away and spent lots of time writing the ships newspaper, playing lazer tag in the court yards of my apartment building, racing go-carts, watching VHS tapes, talking, drinking Irish Cream and coffees while writing "The Continuing Adventures of the Galactic Rangers"

He was my best friend and sub brother during that time and, unfortunately, we kind of lost touch when he was transferred but thankfully through the wonder of the internet and Facebook we were able to hook back up and at least keep in touch even though we lived on opposite coasts. We had some loose plans to hook up in the near future before his health became an issue and I am sad beyond measure that we were never able to do so.

Kent leaves a major impression on people he meets - all positive. He will be greatly missed.

The world, and my life, is a poorer place with out him.

Fair Winds and Following Seas my friend.



Dwayne Auernheimer - March 26 at 02:05 AM



“ Jim Small, Jeff & Diane Norris, Erma Small purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



DIANE L NORRIS - March 25 at 05:28 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



March 25 at 01:45 PM



“ Enrollment Solutions, Colonial Life Team purchased the Reflections of Glory Wreath for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



Enrollment Solutions, Colonial Life Team - March 25 at 12:26 PM



“ I will very much miss Kent and miss his friendship. I met him at work at Colonial Life. I would often come into work and be excited to visit Kent and share with him what I had read in the scriptures that morning. He always had insights and often had the scripture I was referencing memorized. Often on Fridays, I would ask him "What's the sermon on this week?" and he'd give me the preview to which we'd have a great discussion.

We were from different Christian denominations, but that didn't matter one bit, Kent treated me (and everyone for that matter) with the utmost respect. He took care to understand my specific beliefs and build a friendship of testimony on our common faith in Jesus Christ.

One of my favorite quotes from Kent in my discussions with him was this, he said:

"Sometimes I feel like we mistakenly have this arrogance of the present where we feel like there's never been a generation smarter or wiser than that of our day. I think those who came before us often knew just as much. There's great value in the wisdom of the past. Their examples of devotion to God, Country and Family could go a long way in our day."

Kent was a champion of those three values. His devotion to God & his community were constant, he was ever proud of having served his country in the Navy, and he wanted a righteous life for his family. What a man & what an example!

I anxiously await the day in the next life when I can embrace him in a hug and thank him for being a supporting beam in my life. When I was first married, he made sure I knew he supported me in my efforts to build a strong marriage and raise a family unto Christ. It was important for me to have friends like Kent at that formative time in my life. And I thank God for Kent Small.

I will miss him, but trust in the ever sure promise of Paul:

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Till we meet again, Brother Kent.

-Will Edwards



“ Gunther and Donna purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



Gunther and Donna - March 24 at 09:15 PM



“ It was my pleasure and honor to know Kent, to be involved in his ordination in ministry, and to serve alongside him in the work of the International Fellowship of Bible Churches, Inc. Kent served on our International Board until he could no longer serve. He will be greatly missed. We honor his life and service.

William Sillings - March 24 at 06:53 PM



“ Your Fellow Laborers in IFBC. purchased the With Distinction for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



Your Fellow Laborers in IFBC. - March 24 at 06:48 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rev. Kent Daniel Small.



March 24 at 05:43 PM



“ Rest easy shipmate we did not serve together, we were Missile Techs do we shared the same stories and issues. Stood many hours of MCRP tours thanks for your set ice shipmate. MTCM/SS Kevin J. Ganns.



Kevin J Ganns - March 24 at 04:11 PM