



Kent M Bratton

December 31, 1941 - April 27, 2023

Kent M. Bratton, age 81, of Cape Girardeau, MO, passed away Thursday, April 27, 2023 at the St. Francis Hospital.

Born in Dodge City, KS on December 31, 1941, Kent was the son of Ivan G. Bratton and Christine (Vang) Bratton. After graduating high school as a Dodge City Red Demon, Kent attended Dodge City Junior College and graduated with an Associate's Degree. His career began with his father working at Ivan G. Bratton Construction Company in Dodge City Kansas.

Kent went on to attain both an undergraduate degree and a masters degree. Kent graduated from Fort Hays State College in Hays Kansas in 1969 with a degree in Earth Sciences & Geology. Kent then graduated from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, IL with a Masters of Science in 1971. Kent went on to become the regional planner at the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission in Perryville, MO, working from 1972 to 1988. He then moved to Cape Girardeau, MO where he assumed the position of City Planner, where he worked as Cape Girardeau's City Planner for 19 years before retiring in 2007.

One of Kent's proudest accomplishments was the Cape LaCroix Creek/Walker Branch Flood Control Project in Cape Girardeau, which was a culmination for him of all the flood projects he did throughout the Southeast Missouri region.

Kent was also instrumental in the Marquette Hotel and Schultz School restoration project.

On June 23, 1962, Kent married the love of his life, Lavetta Bratton at the Dodge City First Church of God. On June 23, 2022, Kent and Lavetta celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary at Celebrations in Cape Girardeau, MO.

Kent enjoyed reading and visiting the Cape Girardeau City Library. Kent loved watching college basketball, specifically Kansas University in Lawrence, KS. He was part of the ROMEO Club (Retired Old Men Eating Out) and enjoyed spending time with old friends. He respected everyone, but especially his Grand Ladies.

Above all, Kent devoted his love and time to the love of his life, Lavetta, his daughter Jennifer, his three grandchildren and his beloved cats, Patches, Gizmo, Comet, Sunshine, Puff, Snuffy and Cham.

Though Kent is gone from our sight, we never lose those we love. We loved Kent dearly, and he will remain a part of us forever. He left us with memories to cherish and a lifetime of laughter and love.

Survivors include his wife Lavetta Naylor Bratton; daughter, Jennifer (James) Lockridge of Charleston, SC; two sisters, Jonel Bell and Martha Woods; three grandchildren, Elizabeth, Annabelle and Jack Lockridge. Kent also leaves behind niece Christy Ruback, and nephew William John Woods; as well as many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Ford and Sons Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau, MO will be hosting both the

visitation and funeral services. Visitation will be held Saturday, May 20, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. The funeral service will be at noon following the visitation.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Smile Train, the Cape Girardeau City Library and Abbey Road First Christian Church.

Arrangements entrusted to Ford and Sons Funeral Home, 1001 Mt. Auburn Rd., Cape Girardeau, MO 63701.

A special thank you to St. Francis medical staff who showed great kindness, care and empathy to Kent, Lavetta and Jennifer.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 20. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1313
info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Ceremony

MAY 20. 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn
1001 N Mt Auburn Road
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall



“ *Lavetta, sorry for the stupid autocorrect. Love you*

Mary Henson - May 19, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ *Layette and family: We were so saddened to hear of Kent's passing. Cape Girardeau was very lucky to have such a brilliant man as a planner. And, he was one of the nicest, most humble men we were to know. Sly sense of humor though. Loved it. Our sympathies and you all are in our nightly prayers.*

Mary Henson - May 19, 2023 at 10:56 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kent M Bratton.*



May 17, 2023 at 12:57 PM

KM

“ How does one put a 50+ year friendship into words. Kent Bratton was a special human being. He was a precious soul who wrote the most beautiful letters and yet could be such a trickster. Everyone should know that famous Bratton twinkle, just like his father's. His writings could make me cry and his humor could make me cry with laughter. Our St. Louis days and Kent and Lavetta's Edwardsville days were weekends filled with lots of projects, parties and laughter. Ohh, the stories I could tell.

Kent was a dear precious friend. He was really brilliant but never made you feel lesser. He was kind and patient and devoted to his family.

I will miss that man because I loved him and he love me back. My dear friend, Kent Bratton. RIP

Kim Myers

Kim Myers - May 16, 2023 at 08:52 PM

JC

“ Lavetta, I am so sorry to hear about Kent. I tried to call you but am not sure I have the right number. Sometime later when you feel like talking my number is 402-423-2792 or cell 402-309-4041. Again I am so sorry. Jane Craig.

Jane Craig - May 16, 2023 at 04:53 PM

LW

“ Sending my love and prayers. May you always remember the memories you have made through your years together ❤️

Lalana Webster

Lalana Webster - May 15, 2023 at 05:23 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kent M Bratton.*



May 15, 2023 at 03:33 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss sending prayers and love* ❤️🙏🙏❤️

Marie Steinhoff - May 15, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *Laveta and Jennifer, I am so very sorry for the loss of your wonderful husband and father. All I can say is you and the world are lucky to have had him for the last 81 years. From the first time I met Kent, we had a great friendship. He was one of my very favorite people. He was so kind and considerate of everyone. He will leave a big hole in the lives of everyone who knew him. May God bless all his family and friends.*

Gene Tucker - May 14, 2023 at 09:03 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to you! May God give you strength and peace as you go through this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers! We also remember visiting you and that's been quite a few y ago before you moved to Cape. May he rest in peace! Rosella and David Bohnert*

David and Rosella Bohnert - May 11, 2023 at 01:34 PM

WF

“ With love Margie Miget family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kent M Bratton.



With love Margie Miget family - May 04, 2023 at 11:01 PM



“ I was honored to work with one of the most honest, down to earth individuals I ever knew. I will always cherish the work Kent and Tom Tucker and I accomplished. But Kent was the catalyst for the vision and project design. He was a good man, and a great planner.

Dan Bollinger - May 02, 2023 at 11:08 PM

LZ

Dear Lavetta and Jennifer, I am so sorry to learn of the passing of your husband and father Kent. You all are such a wonderful and pleasant family. With sympathy...LouAnn Hays Zoffuto Midlothian, Virginia

LouAnn H Zoffuto - May 16, 2023 at 01:29 AM

HW

*Hugh White
Dear Lavetta and Jennifer, I too mourn the passing of my friend Kent. Now that heaven has a new planner; we can take comfort in knowing that it will be well organized by the time we arrive there. I share your loss and send heartfelt blessings.*

Hugh White - May 17, 2023 at 10:30 AM

JR

Kent and I shared a love of geology and maps. During the time he and I shared at the City of Cape, we planned and constructed Lexington Ave and the Cape La Croix/Walker Branch stormwater controls. La Salle was planned, though I left before construction. All of this is to say that Kent was a forward looking planner and I learned a lot about city planning from him. We will all hold shared memories like these for a long time. May God be with you all.

J Kensey Russell - May 17, 2023 at 08:05 PM