



Hal Robert Kent

May 1, 1948 - January 31, 2011

Mr. Hal Robert Kent, age 62, passed away January 31, 2011 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Memorial Services will be held at Williams Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, February 19, 2011 at 11AM.

On January 16 Hal Kent started his bicycle adventure. His goal was to complete the "Southern Tier", riding from St. Augustine, FL to San Diego, CA. Hal's story ended tragically and senselessly on January 31, 2011 on Highway 26, at 1:11 pm after being hit by a pick-up.

Hal Kent retired as a Warden from the Georgia Department of Corrections after 34-years of service. Hal also retired as a Command Sergeant Major from the U.S. Army. He first joined the army in the 1960's and completed two tours in Vietnam. He then became a member of the Georgia National Guard and eventually the Army Reserves. Before retiring, Hal was mobilized and stationed at Ft. Jackson, Columbia, SC from 2006 to 2008.

Hal Kent was a husband, father, grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, son-in-law, mentor, and friend. He was an admired man and loved by many. He had a vivacious energy and enjoyed adventures that would add sparkle to his life story.

Hal kept a blog and pictures of his "Bike Trip" - blog (<https://sites.google.com/>

site/halscrosscountryblog/) and pictures (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/halrkent/5362017524/in/set-72157625503381326/>). Please visit as there will no longer be any stories to tell.

Hal is survived by his wife, Sherri Kent of Milledgeville, GA; daughter, Jill Kent of Wise, VA; granddaughters, Cara Eskew and Rebecca Eskew; brother, William Kent of Jacksonville, FL and sister, Lee C. Kent of Lakeland, FL.

In lieu of flowers, we would like you to donate to autism. Hal volunteered last fall with an autism charity and was truly excited and enthusiastic about the work he had done. Actually, Hal had wanted his bike ride to be a fundraiser for autism. Please include Hal's name with your donation.

University of Florida Center for Autism and Related Disabilities
UF Development Pediatric Center
6271 St, Augustine Rd, Suite 1
Jacksonville, FL 32217
Attn: Jeanie Bowles

If you would rather donate to a national organization:
Autism Society of America
4340 East West Highway 350
Bethesda, MD 20814

Tribute Wall



“ *My Deepest Sympathy and Heart Felt Condolences to you all!!*

I will keep you all in my Prayers!!##imported-begin##Drill SGT Brian E Jarvis##imported-end##

February 22, 2011 at 11:41 PM



“ *I first met Hal in 1992. I was working at Treutlen PBC and they were transferring 13 employees to Johnson CI. I applied for the Operations Analyst position and was interviewed by the absolute nicest man ... Hal Kent, who informed me that I really wasn't qualified, but he would help me get the training I needed. He kept his promise, and soon, with his help, I was able to become one of the first Operations Analyst Techs - and soon after that, and Operations Analyst. I now work for Dell, and I give all of my good fortune to the one man that cared enough to push me into helping myself ... Hal. He was a very caring person and will always be one of my best friends.##imported-begin##Mechelle Foskey##imported-end##*

February 19, 2011 at 10:33 PM



“ I met Hal and Sherry just about 4 years ago when they volunteered as motorcycle marshals for the Callaway Gardens MS 150. It became obvious from the beginning that both were "givers" not takers as Hal suggested I contact the BMWOG of GA. for much needed additional volunteer marshals. After a well received initial contact from the BMWOG group, Hal & Sherry became my primary contacts within the group ever growing the volunteer numbers and also serving as marshal team leaders. This allowed me to finally give the Atlanta chapter of the MS Foundation the level of service they deserved. All this happened because one man decided he had to get involved. You will be missed Hal Kent and know that you made a difference in this world.##imported-begin##Tom Van Harte##imported-end##

February 19, 2011 at 10:33 AM



“ This is such a sad time. Your family has and will continue to be in our prayers.##imported-begin##Lindy and Eddie Ruark##imported-end##

February 18, 2011 at 05:22 PM



“ card3|fh##imported-begin####imported-end##

February 18, 2011 at 04:03 PM



“ I will miss Hal forever, because he was like a son. He was wonderful person. He knew so much about many things and he would look it up for me, if, he didn't know the answer. His speciality was electronics and cars. I believe that his spirit is in Heaven with God. May God bless Sherri and help her through this difficult time. Love, Dad###imported-begin##Foy Hand###imported-end##

February 18, 2011 at 11:30 AM



“ card1|fh###imported-begin####imported-end##

February 17, 2011 at 11:15 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of the family. I also worked with Ga. Dept. of Corrections & shared many hours of training classes with Hal. I never worked directly with him, but anyone who had contact with him knew what a kind, gentle, intelligent man he was. God Bless you all.###imported-begin##Sandy Williams###imported-end##

February 17, 2011 at 10:45 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Mr. Hal's family and friends. My husband and I were the first to arrive at the scene of the accident and although I did not know Mr. Hal, I felt a connection and had a strong desire to express my sympathy. May God bless you during this difficult time.###imported-begin##Jennifer Griffith###imported-end##

February 17, 2011 at 11:35 AM



“ May God grant you strength and comfort. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Please accept my condolences.##imported-begin##Milly Thompson Day##imported-end##

February 17, 2011 at 11:12 AM



“ I worked with Hal at Corrections in the 80's. He was a gentleman. I am so sorry for your loss. May God comfort your family.##imported-begin##Patsy Bass##imported-end##

February 17, 2011 at 10:16 AM



“ I am Krystal, daughter of Lee C. Kent. I am proud to say I have met him. I am sad that I only met him once but am thankful that at least I did get to meet such an honorable man, and great family member to my mother and uncle billy (William Kent).##imported-begin##Krystal Cooper##imported-end##

February 16, 2011 at 01:11 AM



“ Thinking of Jill and her family during this time of sadness.##imported-begin##Wendy Grimes Little##imported-end##

February 15, 2011 at 09:06 PM



“ I know that Hal will be missed, but we can have the comfort of knowing all his accomplishments in life were very honorable and I am sure he made a difference.##imported-begin##Larry G Aikens##imported-end##

February 15, 2011 at 05:25 PM



“ *##imported-begin##Susie C Pearl##imported-end##*

February 15, 2011 at 02:34 PM



“ *No words can express the loss of a loved one this way. I never met Hal but have been a friend to Sherri for 30 years. I'm so sorry that you have to go through this but I know you had lots of love and laughter throughout the time you had together - and that's what really counts. Love to all the family. Susan Humphreys##imported-begin##Susan Day Humphreys##imported-end##*

February 14, 2011 at 07:53 PM



“ *Hal, I will miss your calm and cheerful presence at our family gatherings. I will miss editing your articles and learning more about your interesting life and your varied and surprising hobbies. I will miss "Sherri & Hal" and the couple you became together. Hal, I will never forget you and the awful tragedy that took you from us. You were a wonderful man, and you will be missed.##imported-begin##Renae Hand##imported-end##*

February 13, 2011 at 09:50 PM



“ Hal was an outstanding brother in-law. His love for adventure and travel was a perfect match for my sister, after all how many people do you know that proposed marriage at the Eiffel Tower? He was selfless as he constantly showed by the many things he did for our family and others. I will always be grateful for the time he sacrificed to do things for my mom & dad. He was courageous as he served our nation through several wars and in his civilian life as he worked to rehabilitate those of us that messed up and landed in prison. I have bragged many times that my sister was married to a Command Sergeant Major. I will miss Hal.##imported-begin##Allen Hand, ft. Bragg NC##imported-end##

February 13, 2011 at 06:20 PM



“ ##imported-begin##Gene and Kay Holder##imported-end##

February 12, 2011 at 10:40 PM



“ Sherri, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sincerely, Holmes and Gerry Cunningham##imported-begin##The Cunninghams##imported-end##

February 12, 2011 at 02:25 PM



“ Hal was the best son-in-law we could have ever had. We loved him as our own son. He was a wonderful kind, caring and helpful man. He was the most loving husband to our daughter, Sherri, and made her so very happy. He will be missed when our entire family get together at all our gatherings. We won't forget how much fun he had putting up the Christmas village and being such a great host. He had so many friends, he will be missed by many. May God bless Hal and keep him by his side. We ask God to keep his arms around Sherri and help her through this horrible time.

You are deeply loved by us and will always be remembered. Foy and Nancy##imported-begin##Foy and Nancy Hand##imported-end##

February 12, 2011 at 11:39 AM



“ I was saddened to hear of Hal's tragic accident. I didn't know him well (and you may not remember me), but I really enjoyed talking with the two of you (at the jewelry store) about your camping & biking adventures. Hal was very excited about both and his enthusiasm was contagious. I know he will be greatly missed. May God be with you and give you peace during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Jean Graham##imported-end##

February 12, 2011 at 12:26 AM



“ I remember CSM Kent as a man of great integrity and a passionate Leader. He strived to make a difference and succeeded. I know he's in heaven (probably correcting the angels on the proper wearing of their wings). May he rest in peace.##imported-begin##Jose Perez MSG (Ret)##imported-end##

February 11, 2011 at 06:14 PM



“ I will miss Hal's e-mail's n talking to him. I love u Hal and I know u r up there with ur mom n dad. And I know u r looking down on us and taking care of us. Love U!###imported-begin##Lee C. Kent###imported-end##

February 11, 2011 at 02:24 PM



“ Although we only met a couple of times,you were there for our son (Chris) when he need a supporter and a friend to give him guidance. You will surely be missed by a lot of people. You were a very special person.###imported-begin##DonnaJean Wagmaman###imported-end##

February 11, 2011 at 12:35 PM



“ HAL I WAS BLESSED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KNOW YOU.YOU WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HARTS. MARTY###imported-begin##JAMES MARTIN###imported-end##

February 11, 2011 at 09:51 AM



“ My deepest, and most heart-felt condolences. The world has lost a true gentleman.

My praygh go out to the family and the many friends Hal left an indelible mark upon.###imported-begin##Darryl Halbert###imported-end##

February 10, 2011 at 09:19 PM



“ Hal was such a wonderful, wonderful man. He will be missed so greatly. Sherri and Jill, we are thinking of you nonstop as you go through this terrible time. Sending you much love.

Beth, Jake and Reed##imported-begin##Perrin and Jake Davis##imported-end##

February 10, 2011 at 08:19 PM



“ I was deeply saddened to learn of Hal's death and I would like to express my sincere sadness and sympathies to his family at this difficult time.

Love Fred Jr.##imported-begin##Fred Hand Jr##imported-end##

February 10, 2011 at 08:00 PM



“ Hal was one of the best people I know. He was there for me through alot of things. I'm going to miss him.##imported-begin##Chris Martin##imported-end##

February 10, 2011 at 07:39 PM



“ I will miss you deeply at all our family gatherings. You were a wonderful husband to my sister. I loved you, Hal and you will remain in my heart.##imported-begin##Linda Martin##imported-end##

February 10, 2011 at 02:22 PM



“ Thanks for being a very good friend in our State employment and the military.

God Bless your family and you.

David N. Gibbs##imported-begin##David N. Gibb##imported-end##

February 10, 2011 at 07:56 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of Hal's family. Hal and I worked together through out his career with corrections. He was a very special person with a caring demenator. I will miss him. May God bless you all, as Hal blessed our lives with his presence.##imported-begin##Jim Durden##imported-end##

February 09, 2011 at 04:54 PM



“ Sherry,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Chris & Lori Zastrow##imported-end##

February 09, 2011 at 02:53 PM



“ My deepest and most heartfelt sympathy for your entire familiy. Hal was such a wonderful friend. He will be missed by so many. May God give you strength and comfort during this time.##imported-begin##Malana Frost##imported-end##

February 08, 2011 at 09:38 PM



“ Sherri:

We are sorry to hear about your loss.##imported-begin##Rich and Kerry Gibson##imported-end##

February 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Sherri,

Our love and prayers go out to you and the family. What a great man.##imported-begin##Danny Andrews##imported-end##

February 06, 2011 at 10:49 PM



“ Hi Sherri,

Prayers were sent this morning for Hal at St.Bartholomew's in Atlanta. Sorry for your loss. I will miss riding with him in Georgia BMW club. He was a good person, a competent and adventurous rider and he and his volunteerism will be missed.

Rest in peace Hal for your journey is now done. I pray there is a camp chair waiting for you.##imported-begin##Bill Gould##imported-end##

February 06, 2011 at 04:15 PM



“ Sherri, may Gods grace and blessings be with you and your family and may Hal forever rest in peace.##imported-begin##John M. Chumley##imported-end##

February 05, 2011 at 09:48 PM



“ We are so sorry for your tragic loss...##imported-begin##Thomas & Rebecca Cockcroft Lillian, AL##imported-end##

February 05, 2011 at 09:39 AM



“ Jill, so very sorry for the passing of your dad. Uncle Chester and Aunt Verna Rayburn##imported-begin##Chester and Verna Banks Rayburn##imported-end##

February 04, 2011 at 11:21 PM



“ Sherry, Jill and family, so sorry for the passing of Hal. May God wrap his arms around you all at this time. Debbie Murphy, Nikki Holmes##imported-begin##Debbie Murphy##imported-end##

February 04, 2011 at 11:19 PM



“ Sherri:

What an unbelievable thing to occur. How stunning and awful.

Please know, my thoughts and prayers are, and will remain, with you and your entire family during this time-period of grief and sadness.

Your friend,

Kitty G.-##imported-begin##Kitty Grubb##imported-end##

February 04, 2011 at 02:45 PM



“ Sherri:

You know you are in my prayers.

Gail##imported-begin##Gail Renner##imported-end##

February 04, 2011 at 02:27 PM