



Kerry Prather

June 29, 1950 - September 21, 2018

Frankfort- Kerry Wayne Prather, 68, husband of Lisa Hicks Prather, died Friday morning, September 21, 2018, at his residence on Georgetown Road after a two-year illness.

Born June 29, 1950, in Cushing, Oklahoma, he was the son of the late Marcus W. Prather and Josephine Draine Prather.

As a young boy, Kerry cultivated a passion for fishing that would become his life's career as he watched the television program "Kentucky Afield." He was mentored by the older fishermen along the Chaplin River in Cornishville, Kentucky.

Kerry graduated from Mercer County High School in 1968. He was a charter member of the percussion section of the high school band and he represented Mercer County High School at Boy's State during his Junior year. He was president of his Senior Class.

In 1969 he started working for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources as a summer aide, a position he held for seven years. During that time he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Kentucky University and a Master's degree in Biological Sciences from Murray State University.

During his high school and college years, Kerry was an on-air personality for WHBN Radio Station in Harrodsburg.

Kerry began his professional career in the fall of 1977 as the Eastern Fisheries District Biologist in Prestonsburg when the department expanded

into districts. He worked in the mountains until 1984 when he was reassigned to the Central Fisheries District in Frankfort as a District Biologist.

During his 31 years with the Department for Fish & Wildlife, he worked on the Wild River Project, Lake Barkley Crooked Creek Study, the first State Wild Trout Research Project, the Environmental Assessment for Yatesville Lake, and countless other projects. He authored the department's publication "A Management Guide for Ponds and Small Lakes in Kentucky" as well as other technical leaflets and newspaper articles.

Kerry also enjoyed observing the migratory patterns of Kentucky birds as a member of the National Audubon Society Birding Team.

In September 2008 Kerry was nominated for the prestigious SEAFWA Fisheries Biologist of the Year Award for his service to the commonwealth. After his retirement, Kerry established a private business, Bluegrass Lake Management, to assist landowners across the state with their farm ponds. His clientele included horse farms in the Bluegrass region such as WinStar. Kerry served as an Elder and Sunday School teacher at Cornishville Christian Church for a number of years. In 1998 he moved his church membership to Capital City Christian Church in Frankfort where he served as an Elder and a member of the church board.

Other survivors include: one son, Joseph Marc (Faith) Prather of Frankfort; three step-sons, Aaron (Mandy) Hicks, Martinez, Georgia; Joshua (Katie) Hicks, Lawrenceburg, Ky.; Jacob Hicks, Frankfort, Ky.; one step-daughter, Abby Brynn Gortney, New Orleans, Louisiana; one granddaughter and five grandsons, with a sixth grandson due later this year. One sister, Kandie Prather Adkinson of Frankfort, and his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Terri & Gary Lyons of Campbellsville, grandchildren, Braxton, Cayleigh, Kolton, Hunter, Kyler, Hayes; Benton on the way; along with numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. Kerry was especially devoted to Lisa's parents namely his father-in-law, John Peckinpaugh, and his mother-in-law, Rachel Peckinpaugh, both of Campbellsville, Ky.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, September 26, 2018, at 12:00 noon

at Capital City Christian Church in Frankfort with Dr. Steve Pattison officiating, assisted by Rev. John Sutphin. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Lexington. The family will receive friends at the church from 5:00 until 8:00 on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, and from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 26, 2018.

Pallbearers will be Joseph Prather, Aaron Hicks, Joshua Hicks, Jacob Hicks, Travis Adkinson, and Gary Lyons. Honorary Pallbearers will be his family of friends from The Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Capital City Christian Church, 15 Locust Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Memorial Park

2089 Versailles Road
Lexington, KY 40504

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **25**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Capital City Christian Church
15 Locust Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Visitation

SEP **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Capital City Christian Church
15 Locust Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Service

SEP **26**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Capital City Christian Church
15 Locust Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Tribute Wall



“ Kerry Prather

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ I met Kerry while attending Vo-Tec school in Atlanta, GA in 1968. Our connection was KY and Herrington Lake. He was in the radio broadcast school and I in the dental technician school. I went on active duty and he went to college. We later reconnected through another friend, outdoor writer, Arthur B. Lander, Jr. I went to college and followed my dental passion with my doctorate in 1980. I opened a practice in Burgin, KY, the gateway to Herrington Lake. The last time I saw and talked with Kerry was 1985-6. I saw convoy of fish and game vehicles head through town so I headed to the lake and we had a great talk and a few laughs. He's in the presence of our Creator with no more pain and no more sorrow. I'll meet you at the Eastern gate my friend.
Clarke C. Moore, DMD(ret), Sparks, NV

Clarke Moore - September 19, 2019 at 02:38 AM

KK

“ It has always been difficult for me to understand why God calls home those of his children who seem to have so much more left to contribute. Those who have been such positive influences and such strong contributors in their communities. Some day I may come to understand that but for now I just feel the loss. Kerry was such a positive influence on so many people. I've been fortunate to know him for well over 50 years. We grew up in the same community and shared many friends and experiences. Life took us in different directions but anytime we had occasion to meet it was always the same Kerry with his welcoming smile, gentle personality, intelligent sense of humor and fun loving disposition. He lived his life expressing his love for nature and he devoted a lifetime of service protecting and nurturing it. I know his family and friends will miss him deeply. My prayer is for them to find peace and assurance in knowing that Kerry is now free of pain and enjoying fellowship with his Creator. Kenny Kurtz - Danville, Kentucky.



Kenny Kurtz - September 24, 2018 at 10:09 PM

LK

“ So sad to hear that another friend and co-worker has passed... Kerry and I started working for the KDFWR about the same time. We both celebrated our retirement the same night. When working in the NEFD and Kerry in the EFD we worked on several projects together. When he went to the CFD, I did not see him as often but shared district borders. We also grouse hunted together on numerous occasions. My sympathy goes out to his family Kerry will be kindly remembered by many. Lew Kornman, Morehead



Lewis Kornman - September 24, 2018 at 01:27 PM



“ 62 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Harrod Brothers Funeral Home - September 24, 2018 at 11:51 AM

 Amy Akers

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Amy Akers - September 24, 2018 at 09:38 AM

PB

“ *Kerry was a unique individual and loved by all that knew him. He was President of our class of 1968 Mercer Co. High School. We were all looking forward to seeing him at our 50th class reunion which was held the day after he passed. We all had so many fond memories of Kerry. Our prayers are with his family and may he rest in peace.*

Classmate and friend Phil Blackburn

Phil Blackburn - September 24, 2018 at 07:58 AM

DB

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Dave Baker - September 24, 2018 at 07:47 AM

DB

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Dave Baker - September 24, 2018 at 07:46 AM

JH

“ *I am very sorry to see Kerry has passed. I used see him from time to time with the Fish and Wildlife group. God's Blessings to all of you.....Johnnie Hunter Loveland Ohio*

Johnnie Hunter - September 23, 2018 at 08:41 AM