



## Charles Kevin McConnell

August 6, 1956 - April 24, 2016

Charles "Kevin" McConnell passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, April 24, 2016 at his home in Fort Collins, Colorado. He was born August 6, 1956 in Kansas City, Missouri to Charles and Beverly Steele McConnell. Kevin grew up in Independence, MO, the oldest of three sons. He spent lots of his time on the farm with Granny and Gramps in Weston, MO before he became employed by the United States Postal Service. In 1979, he married the former Carol Kerns and to that union was born two daughters, Lauren and Devin. He enjoyed 16 years of marriage with Carol in Tonganoxie, Kansas before they parted ways. His employment led him to Oklahoma where he remained until retirement in 2011. During his residence in Oklahoma, Kevin reunited with his high school sweetheart and childhood friend, Tambrie Gayler. Kevin and Tammie spent 10 years together in Oklahoma before moving to Colorado in 2014, a place he always wanted to live.

Kevin felt most comfortable outdoors and in his cowboy boots. He loved campfires and old country songs. He held a certain kind of awe for nature, finding the history and development fascinating. When Kevin wasn't working in the garden or hunting rocks and gems, you could find him riding his horse, Whiskey; playing pool, watching Gunsmoke or Ancient Aliens, and spending time with family and friends. His love for hunting was more than a hobby and led to many lifelong friendships. He especially loved the annual spring rattlesnake hunt in Oklahoma and fall pheasant hunt in Kansas; both trips he

enjoyed for many, many years. Above everything else, Kevin was always eager to lend a helping hand to those who needed it; neighbors and strangers alike. He believed in respect, hard work, and having a good time.

Kevin is survived by his parents, Charles and Beverly; wife, Tammie; daughters, Lauren Grenier (Matt) and Devin McConnell; grandson, Oliver Grenier, "the light of his life"; brothers, Craig and Keith; two step-grandchildren, Hannah and Hayden Grenier, and one niece, Katy Molthan (Brandon). He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Emma and Willie Steele, and Josephine and Gerald McConnell. He will be missed by family, many friends, former Postal co-workers and lots of hunting buddies.

A Celebration of Life will be held on May 7, 2016 from 1pm-3pm at Snow Creek in Weston, Missouri. A brief service will be held at 2:00 p.m. conducted by guest speaker, Paul Norman with the opportunity to share your own thoughts or stories about Kevin following shortly after. Dress code: Jeans and cowboy boots! The address to Snow Creek is: 1 Snow Creek Drive, Weston, MO 64098.

A special thanks to the Radiology staff at Poudre Valley Hospital for taking such good care of him during his weekly trips to the Hospital.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 7. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Snow Creek  
1 Snow Creek Drive  
Weston, MO 64098

# Tribute Wall

CB

“ I was so sorry to learn of Kevin's passing. My heart goes out to Tammie. I taught BME side by side with Kevin in Shawnee Mission KS and we had so much fun. I learned a lot in those days from this spirited guy and missed him when he went to Oklahoma. I was then fortunate enough to be there myself and see how happy he was at his retirement. I visited the house one time where we all played cards and his pet snake about scared me to death. He will be missed.

*Rest in Peace...my friend.*

*Chris Breshears  
Kansas City MO*

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**Chris Breshears** - May 11, 2016 at 04:35 PM

LR

“ Kevin was a wonderful hunting partner and good man on our elk hunting trips to Colorado. We shared many good times and lots of laughs around the campfires. Kevin often joined us for cook outs at our homes and even found a few copper heads while out and around! He will be missed by his Oklahoma families. We cherish the times we spent together with Kevin, may he rest in peace.

*Dean and Lisa Roth and family  
and  
Butch Turner*

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**Lisa Roth** - May 09, 2016 at 02:44 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.*



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May 06, 2016 at 04:10 PM



“ *Forest Dye purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.*



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**Forest Dye** - May 05, 2016 at 12:37 PM



“ *I have a very vivid picture of Kevin in my mind from the early 70's. We spent parts of the summers hoeing beans for his granddad Willie Steele. Kevin was the "cool kid" from the city, and I can hear him singing and whistling "Take it Easy" from the Eagles while we were working. It was cut offs, sunburns, and enjoying the summers. It sounds like Kevin enjoyed a lot of the outdoors, and it is sad to goodbye this summer.*

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**Cynthia Driskell** - May 04, 2016 at 04:12 PM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.*



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May 03, 2016 at 10:35 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.



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May 03, 2016 at 07:24 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.



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May 03, 2016 at 04:16 PM



“ *Sending this note to reach out to Devin who touched our lives in a special way for a time. Devin, please accept our deepest condolences in the loss of your dear father. We know how much you loved him, and in reading his lovely obituary, it is certain that you got your love of nature and of the peacefulness it brings from him. Our deepest sympathies to you and your family during your time of reflection. Georgia & Scott*

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**Georgia Scott Joachim** - May 03, 2016 at 03:43 PM



“ *Kevin my old friend, rest now and smile from the heavens knowing how many stories you took with you from our younger years.. The memories we all made with the things we did and the bonds we created have lasted a lifetime. Till we meet again, know I will still smile and remember every time I think of you. RIP Bro.*

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**Brad Dickey** - May 03, 2016 at 02:19 PM

JW

“ I was one of Kevin and Whiskey's snake hunting buddies. Kevin would sit around the fire in his nicely padded reclining lawn chair and list to Steve Fisher and myself render tunes, often into the wee hours. He was missed sorely this year, Stan and Jimmy T and some of us went to watch the sunsets from the top of a Mesa, a daily routine for Kevin out there. Thanks for the campfires buddy! John Williams

John Williams - May 03, 2016 at 01:19 PM

DD

“ Spent time with Kevin & Craig while they visited Emma & Willie Steele "around the bluff" from us as teenagers. Many hunting & fishing trips were enjoyed. A simple reminder that life proceeds very quickly indeed. My condolences to Kevin's family and friends. - Darren Driskell

Darren Driskell - May 03, 2016 at 11:43 AM

FT

“ My condolences to Kevin's family and many friends. He was a loyal friend and a great guy. I worked with Kevin at the KC bulk mail center and shared many good times with him. He will be missed, may he rest in peace.

Fred Toevs - May 03, 2016 at 08:27 AM

BD

“ My deepest heartfelt condolences to you, Tammie, and to Kevin's family and friends! May his spirit live on in the lives of those he loved so very much!



Brenda Drew - May 02, 2016 at 10:54 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.



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May 01, 2016 at 09:27 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.



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May 01, 2016 at 07:38 PM



“ *Secret Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Charles Kevin McConnell.



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May 01, 2016 at 01:02 PM



“ *Charles, Beverly,*  
*My deepest sympathies go out to you both. The loss of someone you love is never easy, particularly your child, even when you anticipate it. It's so hard when it's too soon. I hope your memories of Kevin give you peace and joy.*

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**Elaine Blair Stern** - April 29, 2016 at 12:58 PM

CS

“ Praying Gods peace for Your family. Charles and Gloria Steele.

charles and gloria steele - April 29, 2016 at 10:24 AM

JS

“ Deeply saddened by the news of the passing of classmate Kevin. My thoughts and prayers are with Kevin's family, may the memories of Kevin bring comfort during this difficult time.

JoAnn (houtchens) Shields - April 28, 2016 at 04:32 PM



“ I remember Kevin's contagious smile. He loved life and shared his zest with anyone he encountered. May you rest in peace, Kevin. Jeannette (Warren) Ballard

Jeannette Ballard - April 28, 2016 at 03:30 PM

FG

“ Blessings Charles and Bev and family on your loss of Kevin. You all are in our thoughts. Frankie and Charlie Graham

Frankie Graham - April 27, 2016 at 05:48 PM

TN

“ Until we meet again... Love you.

Tammy Kerns Nickell - April 27, 2016 at 12:14 PM

BD

I'm actually at a total loss for words. Till we meet again bro, Rlp.

Brad Dickey - April 28, 2016 at 06:52 PM

RB

*Charles and Beverly, we hurt for you. He knew how much he was loved and how you cared. Bob and Dolores*

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**robert e blair** - April 28, 2016 at 09:20 PM

SS

*Bev & Charles, you are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult and sad time. Will always remember babysitting with Kevin, Craig & Keith (oh yes & Smokey)! They were certainly fun times and I was certainly blessed to have had him in my life! Love & Comfort to you, Sandy & Marion*

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**Sandy Schlobohm** - May 06, 2016 at 07:10 PM

RT

*I was blessed to have worked with Kevin at the Postal Training Center in Norman, OK. Been to his house to meet Tammie and Carouse at the Bar and pet Whiskey. Kevin always had room in his heart to share his time with a friend. His love of his family and friends was evident. We will miss you my friend and we shall see you again. Rest in Peace brother!!*

*Robert Teply  
Chesapeake Energy*

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**Robert. Teply** - May 10, 2016 at 10:51 AM