



Carl Elliott Kraiss

May 12, 1949 - August 16, 2021

Carl Elliott Kraiss, age 72, from Orlando, Florida, passed away in the presence of his wife and daughters on August 16, 2021. He was a devoted husband, an ever-present father, a caring brother, the coolest uncle, and a fun, entertaining, loyal friend to so many.

Carl, known to most as “CK,” was born on May 12, 1949, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Carl was preceded in death by both of his parents, Clayton Elihu and Violet Candy. He is survived by his loving wife, Kathy, his two daughters, Kelly and Lacy, his brother, Clayton Jr., his nephew, David and his wife, Caira, and his grandniece, Willow. He is also missed by his granddog, Fancy, his grandcats, Phoebe and Lucy, his daughter’s partner Mike, his brother’s partner Glenda, the Kelley family, the Tucker family, the Werner family, and countless friends.

Carl was a proud alumnus of Neshaminy High School and a very proud “6th Man” on the basketball team of St. Joseph’s University, both in Philadelphia, PA. He moved away from Philadelphia in 1980 after marrying Kathy, but he remained a loyal, steadfast fan of the Phillies and Eagles throughout his entire life. He was known to be able to spend hours in his garage and yard, hosing, gardening, fooling with the pool (his family not quite sure exactly what he had

been doing), but one of his most prized projects was a green “Eagles” picnic bench that he made and placed in his yard.

Most of CK’s favorite vacations involved long car trips where he was able to drive on the open road. For 3 months in 1972, CK and his lifelong friend, Billy, left their small town of Feasterville for a summer on the road, stopping in 38 states and returning home with an unlimited number of stories which would be told for years to come. During his 72 short years, Carl visited every state except for Alaska, and, of course, he had a story for each of them.

CK never met a stranger, and the relationships in his life made him smile the most. While he loved his friends across the country, the thing that made him the most proud were his girls - his wife and two daughters. During the early years of their relationship, CK’s friends called his wife “poor Kathy” - because she had to hear his jokes and stories over and over. While neither of his daughters ever made it as a basketball player (in fact, he even accidentally broke 10-year-old Kelly’s arm when she ran into him during their basketball practice at home), he was incredibly proud of whatever sport or endeavor they pursued. He proudly wore a “Lacy’s dad” shirt for her cheerleading team and never missed a game or competition, he sat through bikini-clad Kelly’s fitness competition, he learned everything he could during Lacy’s dance recitals, and he brought his whole group of friends to Kelly’s rowing regatta in the rain on the Schuylkill River. He also loved nothing better than spending time with Kathy, Kelly, Lacy, and the girls’ closest friends, whether it was at the house, a restaurant, an event, or a karaoke bar. He became a second or adoptive dad to most of Kelly and Lacy’s closest friends. In his last days, he was more concerned about Kathy than he was about himself, constantly making sure that the girls were taking care of her.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the family's home in Orlando on August 22, and the family will scatter his ashes according to his wishes.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Orlando Area Rowing Society at <https://www.facebook.com/oars1987>. The family would also appreciate memories, messages, or photos on the Tribute Wall.

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Dear Kathy, Kelly, and Lacy -

I was just going to reach out to Carl to wish him a Happy Birthday as I did every year. I was devastated to learn that he had passed last August. We worked together for a few years at Northern Trust and stayed in touch after I left in 1991. Carl would always reach out to invite me to "Team Meetings" with former coworkers whenever he was in the Philadelphia area. Talk about a small world--I know he grew up in Feasterville and knew friends of my family - The Hoelzle's. I always enjoyed his great sense of humor and stories. He always called me "Babs"--and he was the ONLY one that could get away with that!

I am sure he is sorely missed. Please accept my deepest sympathy.

*Barbara Herbein
barbara.herbein@comcast.net*

Barbara Herbein - May 12, 2022 at 04:16 PM

EM

“ *I met Carl through Trust Imaging and Jim Sullivan. Always friendly with a huge smile and a story to tell. Each would set up the other for the next story. He will be missed.*

Edward Misiolek - October 07, 2021 at 03:35 PM

DB

“ *My condolences to the family of Carl. We were good friends years ago in Feasterville and shared memories of Ocean City, NJ and adventures in his red 69 Chevelle.
Thanks for the friendship and laughs.
Denny Bryan*

Denny Bryan - September 20, 2021 at 11:46 AM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Carl Elliott Kraiss.*



August 24, 2021 at 02:50 PM

KS

“ *Such a happy , caring and wonderful man Carl was. So easy going and willing to do anything and everything for whatever the need may be.
We feel fortunate and blessed to have known him and his beautiful wife and daughters.
May our prayers and condolences be with them now
Love, Mike and Karen Schuermann*

Karen Schuermann - August 23, 2021 at 04:17 PM

RM

“ *I met Carl through Trust Imaging with Jim Sullivan. Carl became a great friend! I shared many a "business" trip with him in the car. No one was more fun! I will miss his spirit, smile, friendship and email jokes. Randy McFarland*

Randy McFarland - August 23, 2021 at 03:17 PM

SB

“ I met Carl through Trust Imaging, as a client over 25 years ago. Always a gentleman and very funny. He made all those around him feel important. We always enjoyed when he and Sully would come to visit. One evening after work a bunch of us took them to one of our favorite restaurants, ‘Peppers’, for 99 cent burger night. Best burger loaded with whatever you wanted on it. He loved that and talked about it every time we saw him. I also remember one time when I was in Chicago at one of the NTC/TR conferences and I got on one of the buses to go to an evening dinner event and when I sat down in the front of the bus I heard a yell from the back of the bus... “is that Sue B?”... of course I was totally embarrassed, but knew right away who it was. When we got off at our destination, I was able to catch up with him. My condolences to the family. He was a special person and touched many lives. He will be missed. Thoughts and prayers for all of you. May you find peace and comfort.
Sue B.

Sue B - August 23, 2021 at 01:05 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Carl Elliott Kraiss.



August 23, 2021 at 10:17 AM

GR

“ Carl was a fun guy. I met Carl in 1998 at ImageSoft in Maitland, FL. He was always quick with a joke or a retort. He became a good friend. Carl could liven up a room when he walked in. Our love for image technology helped make our friendship stronger. He had a real knack for making every feel comfortable. Carl will be missed. My prayers are with Carl’s wife and daughters. May they find peace and comfort in the one who created them and who came to save them; Jesus Christ.



Grant Richter - August 22, 2021 at 05:50 PM

AR

“ Art Ridolfi purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of Carl Elliott Kraiss.



Art Ridolfi - August 22, 2021 at 05:28 PM

BS

“ Seventh grade, Mrs. Richmond’s English class — I had a HUGE crush on Carl. He never knew but we had lunch together (when I was in Orlando (a few years ago) and we had a lot of laughs over that. Then we kept in touch and had a blast at the reunion.

Then I was diagnosed with cancer and about a year later Carl became my cancer buddy and we’d spend time on the phone offering each other encouragement. He had the best personality and sense of humor.

He told me stories of meeting Kathy and falling in love at first sight when he walked into her office. He was always so proud of his beautiful family and loved you all so much.

I grieve with you, but I know Carl is with The Lord and I will see him soon. God’s Grace, Love, and Peace be with you! 🙏🙏🙏❤️

Beverly s

Beverly Schaffield - August 22, 2021 at 04:24 PM

JB

“ Carl and I were friends in high school and reconnected about 10 years ago. Carl, Ken Sanders, and Tia Smallwood stayed at my house twice to reminisce and laugh, and laugh, and laugh. My husband and I also met Carl and some of his work colleagues during his annual conferences in Hershey, PA. Carl “held court,” bringing everyone together. He was bigger than life with a laugh that was contagious. So many of us will fondly hold onto our memories of him. Blessings to his family and dear friends.

Judy Brough - August 22, 2021 at 04:24 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carl Elliott Kraiss.*



August 22, 2021 at 03:03 PM



“ *Dear Kathy, Kelly, and Lacy,*

I am very sorry for your loss. Although I only got to spend a brief amount of time with Carl and the family, it was warm, welcoming, and joyful. I feel really fortunate to have met Carl after hearing so many amazing things about him from Kelly over the years. He certainly wasn't a stranger to me when we met. What a special soul. Thinking of you all. -Skye

Skye Elliot (you) - August 22, 2021 at 01:56 PM



“ *Carl, you will be missed. I had the honor of knowing Carl through his role at Trust Imaging, as a client. He was loyal to his family friends and customers, a true gentleman in many ways. He wore the love of his wife and daughters on his sleeve and always added humor and stories where any gathered.*

*In his honor- go Eagles (said from a die hard Pats fan).
Thoughts and prayers to all his family and friends.*

John Haley - August 22, 2021 at 12:02 PM

MA

“ I met Carl when I started working at ImageSoft in 1998, where I had the pleasure (of which he reminded me every time we met) of sharing his outgoing, straight-forward, joke telling personality. We maintained our friendship over the years since I left ImageSoft, getting together with Rod and Cliff (who also worked at ImageSoft at the same time) over several pitchers of beer and wings, though he preferred his beloved Philly Cheesesteak sandwich. We would discuss our lives and the changes we've experienced, often discussing our wives and children. I will miss Carl dearly and extend my deepest condolences to Kathy, Kelly, Lacy and the rest of the Kraiss family. Rest in Peace Carl.



Michael Aleman - August 22, 2021 at 10:42 AM



“ I will miss the big bearhug and talking about our days at NHS at our reunions. Carl was a big presence in many, many of our lives.

Karen Bennett, NHS '67

Karen Bennett - August 22, 2021 at 10:21 AM



“ *Loving husband to my aunt, fantastic father to my cousins, best friend to my parents and larger than life uncle to me. Thank you Carl. You always treated me as a son and I've always thought of you as a second father. I love you and will miss you sorely.*



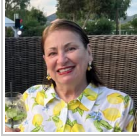
Sean Kelley - August 22, 2021 at 08:52 AM

TS

“ *Carl and I were high school classmates and rekindled our friendship during our post-child rearing years. He knew everyone, laughed often, remembered everything, was never unkind, spoke passionately, and loved life and his family to the fullest. His passing is sad for so many, but the memories will last forever. See you in the next life, my friend.*

- Tia Smallwood

Tia Smallwood - August 21, 2021 at 05:46 PM



“ To Kathy, Kelly, and Lacy,
I am so very sorry for your loss. There will be a huge Carl-sized hole in the lives of everyone who knew this dear man. I've known Carl since I was born, since he was born two days before me. Our parents were friends and his mother Vi and my dad were high-school classmates, just like Carl and me. Carl was invariably kind and brought out the best in people. He loved to bring people together and share the joy of laughter. His memory will always light up my heart. I hope the outpouring of love for Carl from his many friends over the years may help to ease your burden on this difficult road. Jane Landola Watkins

Jane Watkins - August 21, 2021 at 05:01 PM

TS

“ We have known Carl for 18 years. Our son, who is now 21 years old, was in his daughter Kelly's pre-k class at Princeton House Charter School. You didn't know Kelly without knowing her family and we quickly became very close friends. In all of these years I have never seen Carl without a smile on his face. He was so full of life and knew how to make his friends feel special and important. He embraced everything his family and friends did and was always your biggest supporter. He was kind and he was generous. He loved to play cards and used to play often with my husband and their friend Jeremy. I can see the three of them now just laughing sitting at a poker table. Men like Carl should not leave this world this early, it's too soon. We will always, always remember him with laughter and love and will miss him terribly.



Terri Schon - August 21, 2021 at 04:46 PM

TS

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Terri Schon - August 21, 2021 at 04:31 PM

RS

“ *Great Guy... May His Memory Be Eternal*

Rick Suder - August 21, 2021 at 12:22 PM