



## Mark V. and Kyong Cha "KC" Preston

December 1, 2025

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of soulmates and devoted spouses, Mark Victor Preston and Kyong Cha "KC" Preston, who passed away together on December 1, 2025.

Mark was born on May 26, 1957, in Columbus, Ohio, to the late John J. Preston (Fran) of Sparta, New Jersey, and Barbara Starr. He is survived by his brothers, Scott Preston (Linda), Todd Preston (Verla), and Greg Preston (the late Christa Preston), along with a cherished extended family of nephews, nieces, grand-nephews, and grand-nieces.

Mark's family later moved to Sparta, NJ, where he attended high school and excelled in wrestling. In 1974, he was a New Jersey State runner-up, followed by a State Championship win in 1975. His athletic achievements extended internationally as a member of the U.S. Wrestling Team that competed against Russia in the USSR. Mark went on to attend the University of Arizona on a full athletic scholarship.

Mark began his distinguished career in the gaming industry in 1978 in Las Vegas, Nevada, becoming the youngest poker dealer on the Las Vegas Strip. He later worked at the Bicycle Club Casino in Los Angeles and, in 1991, helped open Barona Casino—the first Indian reservation gaming venue in California. A year later, he relocated to Phoenix, Arizona, to assist in opening

Fort McDowell Cardroom. From 1999 to 2005, Mark served as Chief Gaming Officer of Casino Arizona. With his extensive poker expertise, he played a key role in conceptualizing the future of the cardroom, implementing innovative marketing strategies and strategic planning that helped grow it into a vibrant 50-table poker room.

KC was born on November 20, 1949, in Korea and immigrated to the United States at a young age. She lived in Alaska, where she worked in the hospitality industry before transitioning into gaming. KC began her career at Casino Arizona as a cashier and quickly advanced to table games, becoming a respected blackjack dealer and later a poker dealer. Known for her warmth, work ethic, and grace, KC made lasting connections with colleagues and patrons alike.

Mark and KC met while working at Casino Arizona in Scottsdale and were married in Fountain Hills, Arizona, in 1997—beginning a partnership built on love, mutual respect, and shared adventure.

In 2004, Mark and KC left the casino industry and settled in Lake Mary, Florida, in the Heathrow Community, where they purchased Mulligan's Restaurant and Bar in Longwood. Mark managed the front of the house while KC expertly handled operations behind the scenes. KC's famous potstickers remain a beloved menu staple to this day. After 11 successful years, they sold the restaurant in 2015 and retired to enjoy RV travel, golf, and time together. Their RV took them from the East Coast to the Pacific Coast of Canada down from Vancouver to Oregon and in 2017, where they both witnessed the Great American Solar Eclipse of the Sun in Madras, Oregon. They continued their journey throughout North America staying mostly at our great National Parks such as Yellowstone.

Shortly thereafter, Mark and KC rescued Blue, their much-loved Australian Kelpie, who quickly became a familiar and adored presence at Heathrow Golf

Club—so much so that many members knew Blue even better than Mark and KC themselves.

After retiring from their RV travels, Golf was their main activity daily, including multiple trips to Augusta, GA to watch the Masters, and endless golf outings to locations such as Reynolds Plantation Golf Resort, Big Cedar, Hammock Dunes and Pinehurst to name just a few. Both Mark and KC were able to achieve the great skill task of having a Hole-in-One, both at Heathrow GC, Mark's on July 9, 2021 and KC's on February 19, 2023!

Together, Mark and KC touched countless lives through their kindness, wisdom, humor, and gentle spirits. Their love story, partnership, and shared journey will forever remain an inspiration to those who knew them.

Family and all friends are invited to attend funeral services on Saturday, January 31, 2026, at Annunciation Catholic Church, 1020 Montgomery Road, Altamonte Springs, Florida. A Funeral Mass will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by a Celebration of Life at 11:00 a.m. at Heathrow Golf Club, where stories, smiles, and memories will be shared.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in their memory to Pet Rescue by Judy, a local dog rescue organization in Sanford, Florida.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN 31. 9:30 AM (ET)

Annunciation Catholic Church  
1020 Montgomery Road  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

## Celebration of Life

JAN 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

Heathrow Country Club  
1200 Bridgewater Dr  
Heathrow, FL 32746  
(407) 333-1450  
<http://www.heathrowcc.com/>

# Tribute Wall

TP

“ 1 file added to the album MARK/KC - TRIBUTE VIDEO



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**Todd Preston** - February 05 at 08:35 PM

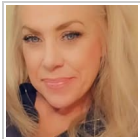
SG

“ *Sarita Garcia lit a candle in memory of Mark V. Kyong Cha "KC" Preston*



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**Sarita Garcia** - January 22 at 08:51 PM



“ *Christine Keough lit a candle in memory of Mark V. Kyong Cha "KC" Preston*



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**Christine Keough** - January 22 at 04:24 PM

CF

“ *Cheng Fang lit a candle in memory of Mark V. Kyong Cha "KC" Preston*



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**Cheng Fang** - December 29, 2025 at 08:03 PM

WS

*Mark was a good friend, we had a lot of fun together. Once we drove to the wrong golf course, we went Inverness instead of Innisbrook, luckily we had plenty of beer which was all gone when we arrived at Innisbrook. I'm still 1-0 against the state champ. He deserved the Knuckel sandwich*

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**William Shewalter** - January 01 at 08:35 AM

CF

“*About half a year ago, Brian and I arrived at Heathrow Golf Club as newcomers. Surrounded by unfamiliar faces and a new environment, we felt both hopeful and quietly overwhelmed.*

*The first time I met K.C., her kindness reached me in a way I will never forget. She stepped forward naturally, offering friendly and spontaneous instruction, and in that moment, the weight I was carrying simply eased. I still hear her words clearly: “I’m K.C. Anytime you need help, just let me know.”*

*Later, Mark and K.C. joined Brian and me as teammates in a golf tournament. Those moments were filled with laughter and warmth, and they remain deeply precious to us. Their smiles—their thoughtfulness, gentleness, and genuine kindness—have left a lasting imprint on our hearts.*

*As we look back now, we feel nothing but gratitude and a deep sense of loss.*

*Rest in peace.*

*You are loved, and you are dearly missed.*

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**Cheng Fang** - December 29, 2025 at 08:02 PM