



George C. King

June 11, 2021

George C. King, 78 of Bradenton passed away peacefully at home on June 11, 2021 surrounded by family. He was born in Springfield, Missouri. As a Navy brat, he attended 15 different schools before college. While attending American University, George earned a Master's degree in English, was a member of the men's tennis team and met his future wife. He then went on to teach high school English for thirty years, including developing a successful AP program in Montgomery County, Maryland. He also coached the Rockville High School tennis team. In his retirement, George wrote six novels, perfected his tennis game and mastered the art of bass fishing on Lake Cobbosseecontee, Maine.

Friends and family relished his always entertaining ability to make puns. When his grandchildren were young, George loved making up bedtime stories for them. He also had a passion for music, sports and literature.

George and his wife, Sue, retired to the Sarasota area in 2000 in order to enjoy many of the arts and cultural events available. They were able to escape the summer heat by staying at their camp in Maine where they have summered for 53 years. It was George's favorite place to be.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Suzanne King; daughter, Kimberly Houston and husband, Thomas Houston; grandchildren, Kira and Logan

Houston; sister, Toni Maurin; niece and nephew, Lucie and Chris Bard; niece, Valerie Cunniff and husband David; and numerous beloved cousins.

A celebration of life will be held in the fall of 2021.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Tidewell Hospice, Philanthropy Department, 5955 Rand Blvd, Sarasota, FL 34238 or Team Tony Cancer Foundation, 3562 S. Osprey Ave, Suite C, Sarasota, FL 34239.

Tribute Wall

BS

“*Mr. King was my English teacher for my Jr and Sr years at Rockville High. He was a wonderful person and incredibly intelligent. We could ask him about anything and he'd be able to talk about it on our level. He had a very dry sense of humor that made it hard not to love his class. He always made puns and enjoyed a good laugh. I learned so much in the two years I took his classes, you couldn't help but learn because they way he tested us: face to face, at the front of the room, whispering the questions to the student...you had to study hard and know all about the book or all the vocabulary words. He made it fun and made us all smarter because of it. Everyone loved him and his class. He was one of my favorite people, I'm so sorry he's gone.*

Beth Snowberger - February 06, 2024 at 11:38 AM

KH

Thank you for the memory!

Kimberly Houston - December 26, 2024 at 12:21 PM

MT

“*Mr. King was my senior year English teacher. Not only did he make learning fun, he explained how to be a better writer without being negative. I recall his ability to write these cool little poems in our yearbooks instead of the cursory signature. I still have the poem he wrote to me! As a teacher for more than thirty years, I recall using his style of teaching throughout my career. Truly an amazing man and teacher-please know what a positive impact he had on education not just at RHS, but as a role model for future educators. Maryanne Tirinnanzi, class of 1980 RHS*

Maryanne Tirinnanzi - February 05, 2023 at 10:55 PM

JW

“ *What an incredibly memorable teacher and patient tennis coach! He was truly a perfect teacher for the early 70s. My favorite memory occurred when we were studying F. Scott Fitzgerald and he walked us down Baltimore Road to Rockville Cemetery where we continued our discussion around the graves of F. Scott and Zelda (the graves were later relocated to St Mary’s).*

I hope he knew he was loved by his students. 📖🎾👤❤️🎻🐕

Jan Wilder - June 20, 2021 at 11:40 AM

SK

I remember how much he enjoyed doing that.

Suzanne King - June 21, 2021 at 08:08 PM

NC

“ *Mr. King was my English teacher for 2 of my 4 years at Rockville High. We were part of the crew when the school opened in 1968, with no lockers, no gym, and no cafeteria. A learning experience for all. Mr. King wanted the best for all of us and expected us to give him the same. I remember reading Romeo and Juliet out loud as a class, and he would pause to offer sometimes explicit definitions to Shakespeare’s sometimes unusual dialog. Mr. King was equally enthusiastic when the Beatles’ White Album was released, and we spent a few class periods perusing the words of Lennon/McCartney, looking for messages and predictions. His class was always interesting, always informative and he was always a ‘punny’ guy. Rest in Peace, Mr. King, and thank you.*

Nancy (George) Carpenter - June 18, 2021 at 11:22 PM

SK

Thank you for the kind words.

Suzanne King - June 19, 2021 at 10:20 AM



“ *What a great man. What a great loss for his family. I was in his AP English class at Rockville HS. He had more enthusiasm for literature than anyone I had met before. It was a privilege to have him as a teacher. I caught up with him through GoodReads over the past two years. And read one of his novels (lots of fun). Thank you.*

Priscilla Savary - June 17, 2021 at 05:13 PM

SK

Thank you for your kind words.

Suzanne King - June 19, 2021 at 10:21 AM

NP

“ *Our deepest condolences to the King family. I met George 40 years ago, and he has been part of many summer memories since then. Cookouts by the lake. Trivial pursuit. Sleepovers with Kim and using the telescope. Dinners at Steve's.. and George's love of the little mints by the register that had the jelly in them! Two summers ago my dad was recovering from a very traumatic illness and surgery. George and Sue came to visit him in rehab and it meant the world to us. I believe that may be the last time we saw each other. Except perhaps the exchange of a wave as our boats passed each other on the lake. Big hugs and comfort to all of the family for this sudden loss.*



Nancy Provost - June 17, 2021 at 12:31 PM

KH

Thank you, Nancy.

Kim Houston - June 17, 2021 at 02:35 PM

SK

Thanks, Nancy. We had some great times at the Lake.

Suzanne King - June 17, 2021 at 04:10 PM

KK

“ *I was so very sorry to hear of George’s passing. We taught together in the English Department at Rockville High School outside Washington, DC for 19 years. George was one of the original faculty members hired when the school opened in 1968 and taught what he called—always the punster was George— The King’s English to thousands of students over those 29 years. He was a remarkable teacher: he established the school’s AP English program and had one of the highest passing rates in Maryland for his students on that challenging national exam. His alums went on to great success at many of the nation’s top colleges and universities as the skills he taught them about writing and literary analysis and critical thinking served them well in their years after high school. George also fielded very competitive RHS tennis squads during those years, as he was able to fine tune the skills of those on his teams because he himself was such an accomplished tennis player. In his final year at RHS, he was nominated for the Montgomery County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Award.*

George was my mentor after I was first hired at RHS, and I learned more about teaching from him in those early years—especially when we carpooled together in the early 1980s—than in all my college education course combined. Thanks, George, for everything, but for your friendship and guidance most of all. I think you knew that I never stopped looking up to you.

Kevin Keegan, Rockville High School faculty (1978-2001) and proud to have been your friend (1978-2021)

Kevin Keegan - June 17, 2021 at 08:56 AM

KH

Thank you, Kevin, for your memories!

Kim Houston - June 17, 2021 at 02:37 PM

SK

Kevin, you were a great friend and colleague.

Suzanne King - June 17, 2021 at 04:15 PM

EA

George was a very good friend of ours. We met George, Sue & their lovely daughter, Kim, when we first came to Birchwood Cottages in Maine in 1980 & it developed into a wonderful friendship. George became my husband Tony's fishing buddy, always talking about the fishes they caught (or didn't), the conditions of the lake, which lures worked, etc. including going on fishing tournaments. My husband has heaviness in his heart & would truly miss his fishing buddy. May you rest in peace, our dear George. You will always be in our hearts. Love, Espi & Tony.

Esperanza Alcarese - June 18, 2021 at 09:00 PM

SK

We certainly go back a long way with lots of good memories.

Suzanne King - June 19, 2021 at 10:22 AM

MS

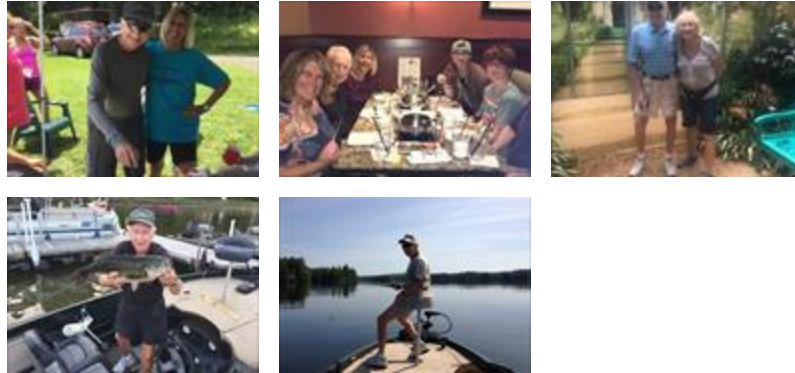
Sue...I just found out on the tennis court today. I am heartbroken. I remember Gene, Janet, Lisa, myself, and you and George getting together. We had such laughter and fun. Lisa and I are so sorry for your loss. I feel a real loss, too. George came to LWR tennis at the same time I did. He was a wonderful, smart player, and a well versed conversationalist. I will truly miss his love of music and politics. The conversations we had! We will miss him tremendously. We both send our love

Marc Steenbarger and Lisa Steenbarger

Marc Steenbarger - June 26, 2021 at 12:39 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - June 15, 2021 at 10:04 AM

BH

So so sorry to hear. I have so many fond memories of George fishing, playing tennis or dealing poker! RIP George and prayers for Sue and family!

Barbara Hubert - June 15, 2021 at 06:32 PM

ML

We are so sorry to hear of George's passing. Cobbossee will be a different place without his bass boat going out at 6:00 am and 6:00 pm regularly. He was a great neighbor with many interesting tales of his past told eloquently of course. We know he loved Maine as much as the natives. I know Sue and the family will continue his legacy at Birchwood. RIP George.

Michael Luciano - June 16, 2021 at 08:38 AM

PE

sorry to learn of his passing. Only knew him a few years in hs... he was the kind of teacher you want to have

PAUL GERALD EISENHAUR - June 17, 2021 at 11:31 AM

SK

Thank you for the kind words.

Suzanne King - June 19, 2021 at 10:23 AM