



**DAVID EVANS
KUYKENDALL JR.**

April 27, 2020

David Kuykendall, Jr., 41, of Hueytown, passed away April 27, 2020. David was a member of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. He graduated from Hueytown High School in 1997 where he excelled in art and won many awards.

David is survived by his parents David E., Sr. and Robbie Kuykendall; sister Christy Edmondson (Jackie); and nieces Maddy and Gracey.

There will be a private graveside Thursday at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, with Bro. Jon Riddle officiating.

“Don’t be sad that I died, but be happy that I lived”

Tribute Wall

MB

“ I met David 1st day of 6th grade. He walked into Mrs. Phipps class and it wasn't long before we'd tagged each other with nicknames and established our seats at the lunchroom table. It was a scary time - 3 local elementary schools had just converged into Pittman; so we were all searching for friends quickly as there is a huge different between 11-14 years of age. I'm glad we crossed paths.

You can't talk about David without mentioning his prodigious artistic talents. I fancied myself a decent artist - painfully drawing my pedestrian Nike Swooshes and Chicago Bulls logos. I gave up all hope when I witnessed David churn out masterpieces without breaking a sweat...I swear, I don't even think he looked at the paper half of the time. It was effortless, and clearly he possessed a gift from beyond. Over the years, I'd watch him 'scribble' in front of new people, and I can't recall any of them not being amazed.

We veered in an out of each other's lives until freshman year (9th grade). He had decided he wanted to jump into my world (basketball). I was skeptical at first, but he busted his butt - always wanting to play 1:1 to get better...He ended up making the team, and I was happy to have a good friend on the bus rides. I remember him being a good re-bouncer, out performing bigger, taller kids, and being sneaky tough.

For the rest of HS I enjoyed his company...countless "camping" trips, movies, beach trip, and a billion hours at the omelette shop with our mutual friend Joel, drinking coffee and philosophizing about goofy stuff we had no clue about.

We lost touch in the coming years, as many people do. I remember him being kind, deep down behind the teenage angst we all suffer, with a sweet mama. I remember him having a different perspective than most of my other friends. He gave me good guitar tips. He could make you laugh when you didn't see it coming. He had this infuriating leg lock wrestling move...

Lastly, I'm still baffled as to how he did those constant-circular-motion charcoal drawings.

Matt B - April 30, 2020 at 09:36 AM

CE

Matt, thank you so much for sharing your sweet memories of your friendship with my brother! Me and my parents have truly enjoyed reading them! I bet I remember my brother's nickname.....Gumby!

Christy Edmondson - May 01, 2020 at 09:32 PM



“*David was a dear friend and I feel lucky to have grown up with him. We had many good times while bingeing video games, critiquing new music, taking road trips, and drinking gallons of coffee at the Omelette Shoppe while contemplating world domination (or maybe just reviewing literature or playing chess). I will remember David as a profoundly gifted visual artist, and also always insightful and original in his thoughts. He was quick to question and analyze conventional beliefs in search of the truth, and always had the courage to share and defend his own ideas. All of this while being a good listener and genuinely good person. I offer my condolences to David Sr., Robbie, and Christy and the rest of the family for their loss. With respect and sympathy, Joel*

Joel Smith - April 29, 2020 at 09:52 PM

CE

Joel, you and David were the best of friends! He was blessed to have had you in his life! Thank you so much for sharing your memories with my brother. My mom loved hearing from you and your mom!

Christy Edmondson - May 01, 2020 at 10:16 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of DAVID EVANS KUYKENDALL JR..*



April 29, 2020 at 08:48 PM

MB

“ First met David in 6th grade, Mrs. Phipps class. David walked in, and before long we had given each other nicknames and were cracking jokes at the lunchroom table. I fancied myself a decent artist, but after seeing him scribble a masterpiece in 30 secs without trying, I pretty much gave it up because my nike swoosh drawings and bulls logos (circa 91) looked pedestrian next to his prodigious talent... I can't recall a person ever seeing his artwork, and not being mesmerized.

We veered in and out of each other's lives until high school. He worked his butt off to make the 9th grade team. I remember him constantly wanting to play 1:1 to get better. It worked. He made the team and became a great rebounder, always established good position and took on much bigger kids. Stubborn. Sneaky tough.

For the rest of HS we spent a lot of time together. Kindred spirits. Camping. Beach trips. Playing tricks on my younger brother....a billion hours at the omelette shop philosophizing about goofy stuff and Drinking coffee.

I always remember him being a kind person, with a sweet mama. He was well read, intelligent, gave great guitar tips. I enjoyed going to movies with him, although we both agreed Mr. Holland's opus was one of the worst movies ever. He always had a unique perspective and was an original person.

Lastly, Those circle / black chalk drawings he would do still blow my mind.

Matt Brown - April 29, 2020 at 05:15 PM

ML

“ Every time I hear someone mention how much fun you can have with a cardboard box, I think about one of my first trips to David’s house. David Sr. and Robbie had purchased a new refrigerator and there was a massive box at our disposal. Their backyard (before the basketball slab was installed) had the perfectly sloped, grassy hill to roll and slide down in this box, together, falling all over each other. I remember David and I both laughing so hard until we cried, and eventually destroyed the box. From there it was army men, to wrestle mania figures, to skateboards, to sega genesis, and to basketball our freshman year. David always catered to my hobbies, and looking back, I think it’s because he knew I was terrible at art and my guitar skills were non existent. Ultimately, he wanted me to have fun at his house. We enjoyed many hotdogs together. He was a genuine, nice person! I wish I would’ve shared all those memories with him. My heart aches and my thoughts are with David Sr., Robbie, and Chrissy. I wish you all peace and happy memories.
With Love - Matt Love

Matt Love - April 28, 2020 at 10:11 PM

CE

Matthew, thank you so much for sharing your sweet memories of your friendship with my brother! Me and my parents truly enjoyed reading them! My mom loved talking to you earlier this week and hearing about your family.

Christy Edmondson - May 01, 2020 at 09:56 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of
DAVID EVANS KUYKENDALL JR..



April 28, 2020 at 02:03 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of DAVID EVANS KUYKENDALL JR..* ”



April 28, 2020 at 10:35 AM