



Terrance Arthur Totton

July 21, 1954 - November 22, 2012

Terrance Arthur Totton was born in Kansas City, MO, on July 21, 1954. He died at home in Richland, MO, on Thursday, November 22, 2012. He was united in marriage with Becky Smith of Pleasant Hill, MO, on February 14, 1976.

Terry was the beloved youngest son of Wayne Arthur and Bridie (Ahern) Totton of Grain Valley, MO. He attended Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, MO, in the Seventies. He later attended Longview Community College in Lee's Summit, MO. Terry worked in restaurant management for more than a decade, moved on to institutional cooking, commercial hauling, and various other jobs as the years passed.

Terry is predeceased by his parents, his grandparents, his aunts and uncles, and his oldest sister, Mary (Totton) Elliott.

Left to mourn Terry and cherish his memory are son Patrick Totton and his wife Carla, daughter Brooke Stevens and her husband Mike, and two granddaughters Julia and Sara Totton, all of Columbia, MO; brother Wayne (Joe) Totton and his wife Nancy of Grain Valley, MO; sister Pat (Totton) Nelson and her husband Bill of Richland, MO; brother George Totton and his wife Fay of Kansas City, MO; sister Kathy (Totton) White and her husband Gary of Park Hills, MO; brother-in-law Ronald Elliott of Lee's Summit, MO; many nieces,

nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and faithful friends.

Terry enjoyed books, films, camping, gardening, fishing, nature, pets, and modern technology. He was a hard-working man who always kept his promises.

Celebration of Life will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, December 1, 2012 in the Shady Dell Park Community Building. Arrangements are under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made in memory of Terrance Totton to the Pulaski County Humane Society.

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Terrance Arthur Totton*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - November 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Terrance Arthur Totton*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM

VE

“ Dear Family,

I've always considered you family even before our families were joined by marriage. My friendship with Pat began in grade school and I started going to Tottonville by eighth grade. Terry, there you were – the baby – sorry Terry, but you were, and we all, longer than you liked, felt that way! I never remember you being a pest or bratty baby brother – there is that 'B' word again :-). I do not have a memory of there being a problem of caring and looking out for you. It was just the natural accepted thing for any of us to do. My little brother was about the same age as you, however, he was Mongoloid with Downs'. When I was at Tottonville the added bonus for me was to see you and realize how different but special everyone truly is in their own way.

When we were grown I did not see you for a number of years, however family kept me posted on you. When I started coming to Richland in the 90's you soon arrived with that same warm, enchanting smile that I remembered.

On one of my visits to Richland I made homemade chicken and noodles. You ate and went back for more – more than once and took some home with you. I was so excited that you enjoyed them that much, because of your fabulous skills in the kitchen.

I remember the warmth of your sharing ways. Some of which was the beautiful rose Pat and I each received that you had grown. There was the sharing of fresh produce and of course sampling of your superb cooking.

Terry having you in Richland was always an added bonus for me.

Family, my heart aches as yours'.

Love & prayers,

Betty Lou

Veronica Elliott - December 03, 2012 at 05:36 PM

VE

“ 1 file added to the album *Betty Lou Letter for Terry*



Veronica Elliott - December 03, 2012 at 08:16 AM

VE

“ 1 file added to the album *Betty Lou Letter for Terry*



Veronica Elliott - December 03, 2012 at 08:15 AM

JP

“ *Terry was a dear friend that i will truely miss. We ran together in high school and shared a few places together after. We always had a good time, when we went to drive-ins or anywhere, but i think i enjoyed the times we were with his family,4th of july, camping at his sisters pat and bill's house in the country and with his brother joe, and cathy and gary. Paula and my hearts go out to his family. Terry will be missed by everyone he had touched in life*

Paula and jim Pfenenger

jim pfenenger - December 02, 2012 at 08:28 PM

VE

“ 1 file added to the album *Terry's Ballon Release*



Veronica Elliott - December 02, 2012 at 01:20 PM

BN

“ Good morning all. My writing won't be the best, but I got home yesterday afternoon. I now have oxygen. We are doing pretty good. Hope all is well with you all. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers. I was able to get on Terry's page and Pat, I couldn't have said better what you expressed. We won't be able to attend the service but will be there in spirit with all of you. The best way I can think of to say is that Terry is one of us but he is also all of us!!!! That's all for now,
Love Joe and Nancy.

Becky Lercher on behalf of Joe and Nancy - November 30, 2012 at 04:06 PM



“ 46 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - November 30, 2012 at 03:58 PM

JT

“ Uncle Terry created so many wonderfully positive memories for me. It was a privilege each time that we had the opportunity to visit, which was usually during one holiday or another. However, I can recall several times when we (Wayne Totton & sons) visited Columbia and at least twice when he, Brooke and Patrick came to Grain Valley. The only time I can ever recall seeing him upset was during one such visit when Joseph hid Brooke’s shoes as Uncle Terry was preparing to return to Columbia. His very presence always produced a fun and pleasant atmosphere. His personality was quite inviting and his conversations were always a pleasure. He possessed a perpetually jovial smile, which I can clearly see in virtually every memory I have of him. Whether the memory is from the Lake of the Ozarks, Aunt Mae’s Kansas City home, Grain Valley, Ronald and Mary’s, Columbia, wherever, he always wore a smile and helped turn a good time family gathering into a great time!

From my observation, he truly enjoyed life and set a great example for those around him. He exuded a calm demeanor, tremendous patience, and a kindness rarely observed today. While it has been some time since I last saw Uncle Terry, I am truly heartbroken as I write these words. My eyes are filled with tears this evening, yet I still involuntarily smile as I reflect on myriad good memories of a great man. Uncle Terry truly touched my life. He will be deeply missed.

Jody Totton

Jody Totton - November 30, 2012 at 05:37 AM

TD

“ My family has known the Totton's for a long time. Our families grew up together since my brother, Bill has been married to Pat, Terry's sister for 50 years. I remember the 4th of July's and Terry and Bill throwing bottle rockets at each other. We always had a good time. Terry was very quite but very caring. He was very sweet. He will be missed. My family sends their thoughts and prayers to his family. Bill and Pat, we wish we could be there with you but we all send our love.

Teresa Dicavolo

Teresa Dicavolo - November 29, 2012 at 06:27 PM

WW

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Wayne White - November 29, 2012 at 04:39 PM

“ My mom asked if I could post here what I posted on Uncle Terry's Facebook wall; she told me she laughed and cried as she read it, and I told her that I did the same as I wrote it. The opening line-- "Well, here it is Sunday morning..."--is a reference to the "letters from Forrest" I mentioned; all of his letters began that way, and for many years my mom and Uncle Terry exchanged letters that began with that line, a sort of inside joke that brings a sorrowful smile now. As I've hurried and scurried through my busy-ness this week, I've found that last week's tragic news keeps getting buried under piles of the everyday. But in quiet moments, when the unimportant stuff slows or ceases, I find myself jolted all over again with the sudden realization that Uncle Terry is really gone, and that a truly humble and gentle soul has been called home to rest from this world's troubles. My message to Uncle Terry:

Dear Uncle Terry,

Well, here it is Sunday morning, and I'm trying to come to terms with the news I got on Friday morning. I've been thinking about that time we spent the stormy night in that abandoned house, reading letters from Forrest. You and my dad set up the wood stove and built a fire, but the chimney pipe kept falling out and crashing to the floor. We went floating on the Big Piney the next day, and you were steering the canoe, my dad in front, me in the middle. I wasn't entirely confident of your steering abilities, and as the nose of the canoe headed toward the shore, I decided to step out. You and my dad went into the water, and I held on. So many memories--mixed vegetables, your shogun impersonation, your gigantic cat Rolo, the time one of our cats jumped on your face in the middle of the night. And mostly your genuine kindness and gentleness, the way you kept everyone around you constantly laughing. Also, a lot of guilt, guilt for not being around more often, for not dropping in and saying hi more often. You fought far more than your fair share of demons--never really getting to know the love of your mother, your dad dying during your fragile teenage years--but you kept smiling, and kept others smiling. I'm sure I never said it because, well, we don't say it in our family, but I love you Uncle Terry. And I miss you, as so many

other people miss you. I hope you've found some measure of peace. Until we meet again, Uncle Terry.

Wayne White - November 29, 2012 at 04:36 PM

RS

“ *Mr. Totton was a very hard worker for us. He will be sadly missed by all. You have our deepest condolences.*

Robert Schonbok

Robert Schonbok - November 29, 2012 at 03:39 PM

CT

“ *Carla Totton lit a candle in memory of Terrance Arthur Totton*



Carla Totton - November 29, 2012 at 08:33 AM

CT

Terry was a wonderful father in law. Any time that the family needed an extra hand, he was there. He did his best to be part of celebrations like Patrick's wedding and my graduation from college. He will be missed.

Carla Totton - November 29, 2012 at 08:35 AM

KW

Carla, Terry thought the world of you, too.

K. White

Kathy White - November 29, 2012 at 10:25 AM

KW

“ Lost a piece of my heart last Thursday. Suddenly he was gone...shock, unexpected, out of the blue and into the black. Still can't believe it. Waking in the night, hoping it's a REALLY bad dream.
Coulda, woulda, shoulda...always regrets...who knew???
October weekends at Lane Spring. Laughter, good food, excellent company. Gonna miss that for sure.
Kind, gentle, truly nice man. Funny, intelligent, caring.
Loved his children, grandkids, brothers, sisters and Dear Callie.
Left too soon...had many more memories to make.
Will miss you so very much.
You've left an enormous whole in so many lives.
Later, Little Brother, Love ya Terry

Kathy White - November 28, 2012 at 06:24 PM

PN

“ TERRY

*A motherless child/
The baby of the family/
Kind hearted with an outsized temper/
Both austere and humorous/
Gentle, generous, caring/
Intelligent, strong, hard working/
What a cook!
Housekeeping---not so much.
Devoted to feline friends/
Too independent/
Didn't suffer fools/
Gardener, fisherman, camper/
Son, brother, husband, father, uncle, cousin/
Lived simply, kept a low profile/
Practical/intolerant of fancy schmancy/
Reader, film fan, Internet frequent flier/
In a crisis, a true Totton man/
Too big and too complicated to encapsulate.*

*I only hope you knew how much we loved you.
We will always love you and remember you.
The family is in a frenzy of loving you and mourning you.*

Pat and Bill Nelson

Patricia Ann Nelson - November 28, 2012 at 03:07 PM