



Russell Keith Church

October 3, 1980 - May 15, 2010

RUSSELL K. CHURCH GREENVILLE, SC

Russell Keith Church, 29, son of Susan Church of Greenville and Dan Church of Alabama and loving father of Caitlin Church (the light of his life) died Saturday, May 15, 2010 in Charleston, SC.

Born in Greenville County, Russ was a US Marine Corp Veteran of the Iraq War, graduate of The University of South Carolina and was pursuing his Masters degree at The College of Charleston and was a member of Westville Baptist Church.

Surviving, loving family members in addition to his daughter and parents are maternal grandparents: Bobby and Dot Coggins; stepfather: Doug Elrod; brother: Derek Billingsley; aunts and uncles: Luell and Janet Coggins, Mike and Sharon Wyatt, David and Jane Watkins and many additional family members and friends.

Russ was predeceased by his paternal grandparents: Hal and Elizabeth Church; Aunt Kathy and uncles: Mike and Donnie Church.

The family will receive friends Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 until 2:00 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary.

Funeral service will be Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary Chapel, with burial to follow at Graceland West Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to The Gideons International, Travelers Rest Camp, P.O. Box 69, Travelers Rest, SC 29690.

The family will be at the home of Bobby and Dot Coggins.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 19. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369
Travelers Rest, SC

Service

MAY 19. 2:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary Chapel
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369
Travelers Rest, SC

Tribute Wall



“ I was so sorry to hear of the loss of Russ. Russ was a student of mine at CofC this semester and we got to know each other well. My condolences to you and your family, and especially to his daughter, about whom he bragged all the time, even in class. We'll all miss Russ's enthusiasm and sense of humor around here.##imported-begin##Cara Delay##imported-end##

May 22, 2010 at 07:22 PM



“ I had the privilege of meeting Russ through a mutual friend. He was a great person who was always full of energy and ambition. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.##imported-begin##Jason Youmans##imported-end##

May 20, 2010 at 10:23 PM



“ Russ, wow, so many things I can say about him. I had the privilege of growing up with him from elementary school through high school. Although time and distance seems to grow people apart, I will never forget those memories. I am just hearing of the families loss and my heart goes out to everyone! God Bless you all, and you all will be on our prayers.##imported-begin##Dustin Woodall##imported-end##

May 20, 2010 at 08:15 PM



“ Although I never had the opportunity to meet Russ, I heard lots of wonderful stories about him from my son, a college student at CofC. They became friends and had many conversations over the past months. Russ helped my son gain perspective, and helped him to cope with the many demands of college life. My son even tells a great story about Russ being protective of him when he felt others were heckling him. You must be so proud of the man he grew to be. I want to say thanks to your family for raising such a wonderful person. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely,
Debbie Browning###imported-begin##Debbie Browning###imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 08:56 PM



“ Susan, I am so sorry to hear about Russ. You are in my thoughts and prayers!! With my deepest sympathy, Love, Trea###imported-begin##Teresa Howard###imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 02:38 PM



“ I will always remember Russ from the days spent at the Chigger Farm. Always smiling, always caring, always interesting, always a friend, I will miss him always.
Susan and Doug, words alone can not express my sorrow. My thoughts and prayers will be with you.###imported-begin##Ron Burriss###imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 10:01 AM



“ Susan, just know I'm praying for you that God will give you the strength and grace to deal with the loss of your son. I know that words will never be enough, but remember that God is a present help. What your friends and family can't give you, He can. Please let me know if there's anything I can do for you.##imported-begin##Jacquelyn D. Austin##imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 09:48 AM



“ Susan,Doug and family, My heart goes out to all of you during this difficult time. I pray that God will give you comfort and peace.##imported-begin##Kenny Bolding##imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 08:26 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I will have your family in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Jocelyn Evans##imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 08:04 AM



“ I remember us as kids playing Palmetto Estates trailer park, I remember all the fun with the fireworks..I am blessed with thought of knowing you as a friend, you will be missed....##imported-begin##Tabitha Gonzalez##imported-end##

May 19, 2010 at 12:32 AM



“ As a former Marine and the husband of one of Russell's class mates this loss is greatly felt. Although I did not have the honor of meeting Russell, I know that he will be missed.##imported-begin##Todd Roye##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 10:00 PM



“ I didn't know Russell personally, but it is always sad when we learn that one of our students has died. My heartfelt condolences go out to all members of his family.

Denny Ciganovic

Career Center

College of Charleston##imported-begin##Denny Ciganovic##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 06:21 PM



“ Susan, I am so sorry to hear about Russ.I am so sorry I have not kept up with you. I have thought of you often. I saw him on TV recently on an interview. He had really accomplished so much in his lifetime. I was thrilled to see he went to USC. I am still in shock and will be praying for you and your family.##imported-begin##Betty Edwards Bridges##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 05:07 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Russ was very Special and will be greatly missed by all.##imported-begin##Kathy & John Finley##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 02:54 PM



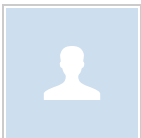
“ Russ was a super guy. We met in a history class at C of C back in the fall. We had two other classes together since then. He and I would talk after class about how we were both struggling but we were getting the work done and feeling good about things; the future looked bright for us amateur historians. He loved talking about his daughter and spending time with her. Russ was always giddy on the weekends when she was coming to Charleston. He often mentioned wanting nothing but the best for her. Russ was also the proud papa to a new puppy that he really cared for and liked sharing stories about. He was genuine guy and a good person. I'll miss him.##imported-begin##Jimmy Lawrence##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 02:29 PM



“ Dear Susan,
My heart goes out to you and your family. I will keep you in my prayers as you go through all the events of this week. Please know that Howard and I are here for you no matter what you need.
Love,
Mary Jo##imported-begin##Mary Jo Grubbs##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 01:29 PM



“ SUSAN I WAS SO SHOCKED TO READ IN THE PAPER OF RUSSELL'S PASSING. I KNOW WE HAVE LOST TOUCH SINCE BIGELOW BUT YOU ARE STILL IN MY PRAYERS AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME. IF YOU NEED TO TALK JUST GIVE ME A CALL, OR AN E-MAIL. LOVE TO YOU AND FAMILY.##imported-begin##SHIRLEY WHISENHUNT##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 12:08 PM



“ Russell will be greatly missed from classes this fall at the College of Charleston. My prays are for the comfort of the family and peace for Russell.##imported-begin##Shelia E. Harrell-Roye##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 12:07 PM



“ Russ was a dear friend who I had the pleasure of knowing while at the College of Charleston. He always carried a smile on his face and would help you out anyway he could. I wish I could have got to be around him more often. He will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##Al Mozingo##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 11:56 AM



“ As graduate dean at the College of Charleston, I wish to express the sadness of our faculty, staff, and students when we heard of Russell's passing. He was an excellent student and superb gentleman and will be missed by all of us.##imported-begin##Amy Thompson McCandless##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 11:21 AM



“ Susan, Dan, Bobby and Dot,
I'm so sorry to hear about Russ my heart hurts so much. Even though we lost touch as adults i remember the times together and we grew up together at Westville. I talked to Russ not to long ago. He was such a MAN and Hero to this country.##imported-begin##Christy Kirby##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 08:37 AM



“ I know Russ will be greatly missed by all his family, prayers and thoughts are with all.##imported-begin##Shirley Cordell##imported-end##

May 18, 2010 at 08:21 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to our extended family. Words can never express my love and appreciation for Russ. He was someone I knew I could call my friend. We love you all!##imported-begin##Travis McAlister##imported-end##

May 17, 2010 at 04:55 PM