



## Jessie Henry Kelly

November 1, 1930 - August 7, 2009

Funeral services for LCdr (Ret.) Jessie Henry Kelly, 78, of Henderson, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, August 10, 2009, at Crawford-A. Crim Chapel with Rev. Tommy Marshall and Rev. Carey Ponder officiating. Interment will be a private family service in Rusk County Memorial Gardens under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home in Henderson. Mr. Kelly died Friday, August 7, 2009 at a local nursing home. He was born November 1, 1930, in Big Spring. He was a resident of Henderson since 1991 and was a member of East Side Baptist Church. He was retired from the U.S. Navy and a Korean and Vietnam war veteran. Mr. Kelly was an East Side Baptist Church deacon, Men of Henderson Praying and a member of Rusk County Treasure Hunters. Family will receive friends from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, August 9, 2009, at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home. He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Ginger Kelly and brother, Arthur Kelly Jr. Survivors include his wife, Barbara Kelly of Henderson; son, Jess Kelly and wife Elizabeth of Waco; daughters, Tina Forsberg and husband Dan of Greensboro, N.C. and Anita Kelly of Birmingham, Ala.; sister, Pollye Smith of Weatherford, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

# Previous Events

## visitation

AUG **9**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

## service

AUG **10**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 South Main Street  
Henderson, TX 75654

# Tribute Wall

JO

“ Barbara, it has been a real inspiration to read these memorial notes and view the video of your husband. I am always humbled to see a Christian man with a lifetime of service to our country. (I served in the Army - but not career). It will be my pleasure to meet Jessie after we have all graduated for the last time. May the Lord continue to graciously uphold you each day. Jerry Owens '57

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**Jerry Owens** - October 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NC

“ It was a pleasure to work with both of you and Mr. Kelly. Your strong faith in God was evident during my visits to the nursing center. I pray that God keep you wrapped in his arms.

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**Naaaja (Jeal)** - August 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ To Anita, Barbara and Family, What a wonderful video tribute to your Dad and Husband! I cried watching it. What a wonderful family you have and have enjoyed for all of these years. I just want you to know that I love you and you are all in my prayers every day. Jesse is in heaven with the Lord now and is out of his pain and suffering. Keep your faith strong and look forward to the day that you can see him again. -Joy & Jim Hammond

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**Joy Brooks Hammond** - August 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ Dear Barbara, I dearly loved my brother-in-law. Although you rarely argued, I remember well our family reunion in Las Vegas. Why wouldn't you let Jess ride the tram? You'll always have my love. And, you'll always be in my prayers. God bless you. In His Love, Sister

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**Ginny Pratt** - August 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ Dear Tina, Anita, and Jess Patrick, When we were stationed in Hawaii, this handsome naval officer came knocking on my door. He introduced himself as your mom's fiance. I fell in love with him then, and that love only grew!! I know you know how blessed you were to have him. And, so was I. Love, Aunt Ginny

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**Ginny Pratt** - August 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ Dear Aunt Barbara and family, We love you all. And we are sorry we could not be with you. Every husband, father and grandfather should pattern their life after Uncle Jess. The world would be a much better place. Love Max & Susan Timmons

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**Max & Susan Timmons** - August 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Dearest Anita, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family through this difficult time. For the Lord says He knows our sorrows and He shall wipe away all our tears. God be with you. He who sows in tears, reaps in joy. Yours truly, Sarah

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**Sarah** - August 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ To Tina and to her family, The Kelly's, My love goes to my good friend, Tina, and my condolences to her family. I did not know Mr. Kelly, but his daughter loved him very much and that says everything. May God bless and keep you all in his arms as you mourn the loss of your loved one. Susan B. Clark

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**Susan B. Clark** - August 13, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *My prayers are with you. God Bless*

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**Paul Spangler** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Thanks to each of you who have sent your well wishes and kind thoughts to support our family during this difficult time. We miss Dad terribly but are genuinely grateful to God for releasing him from his painful existence of these last months. It is the grace of God poured out through your love that salves our hearts now. Blessings to you all. Much love, Tina*

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**Tina Forsberg** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *God is with you in your sadness and may His love help you through this time of sorrow. Thinking of you, praying for you, and sharing in you sorrow.*

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**Peggy (Berry) Warren** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *To Barbara: I was consoled at my wife's death with these words: Time heals all; what it doesn't heal, it hides. God Bless.*

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**Martin Willis** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ *The tribute to your dad was wonderful. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Be strong in this time of sorrow, for your father has raised a lovely, beautiful young lady.*

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**Gretta** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ *What precious memories your husband has provided for you and your family. May God's blessings be abundant and his presence be felt in your life. I pray that God will give you peace through the days to come. God Bless You and Yours Elaine Brademeyer McAdams*

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**Elaine McAdams** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ *Anita and Family! just got this link today from Janice and wanted you to know I had been remembering you and your family - especially in prayer - over the last week to 10 days. Father and daughter relationships are always special and I know you will miss your father very much. Please know you all are in our prayers. Lindy*

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**Lindy Chapman** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NN

“ *So very sorry to hear about your husband. Nelle e-mailed me today. You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers throughout the coming days. May our Saviour be a constant comfort to you and family*

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**Nancy Hulme Nash** - August 12, 2009 at 12:00 AM

WM

“ *barbara you may not remember me as i was in the class of 56. you probably remember my sister Frances (Bill) martin. never the less, i was saddened to hear that you have lost your life's partner. it's so wonderful though isn't it that you have a peace in your heart KNOWING where he is. absent from the body is to be present with our LORD. it will be just a short time til you see him again. may our LORD bless you and your family in the days ahead. your former school mate and friend. wanda*

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**wanda j martin** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Barbara, Hold on to your memories and let them guide you during this time of sadness. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Joyce Goode Johnson** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ We pray for you in your loss. May the Good Lord Bless, and comfort you at this time of need.

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**Pat "Gentry" Martini** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ May the Lord bless you and your family . You will be in our prayers.

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**George Johnson** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Hello Barbara,What wonderful memories I have of you during our years at Tech and the Bible Club. May God give you the peace and grace needed at this time of Jessie's passing. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.John

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**John Adair** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Tina, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I can only image the loss.....but his additions to the world were great! He left a wonderful legacy with you and yours.....hope we can get together soon. Love always, shanne

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**Shanne Adams** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Barbara, I am so sorry to hear about Jess' death. Please know you are in my thoughts.

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**Suzanne McDonald** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Barbara and Family, What an amazing legacy of precious memories your husband provided for his family! Surely he is one of the TRUE HEROES of America! The video revealed the love shared by your family members. We know his absence will be difficult for the entire family. Be assured all of you will be in the prayers of many close friends, acquaintances, and even those of us, your high school classmates, who may not have had the privilege of knowing Officer Jessie Henry Kelly. We offer our Thanks to Commander Kelly and his family for the sacrifices made while serving his country in preserving our freedom and protecting us all here at home. May GOD continue to bless and comfort you in the days to come. Sincerely, Rawley & Jean (Anderson) Cain Olive Branch, Ms

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**Rawley Cain** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ Barbara, I have not been able to get you off my mind today.... and as a result, this day has been one long prayer for you and your children. This is so difficult but God will get you through it. I sent the information about Jess to many of our high school friends and I see that they have already started to send e-mails in this guest book. We are all in this together, so if you need something that we can help with, please don't hesitate to let us know. May God's blessings be abundant and his presence be felt in your life. May God give you peace through the days to come. Love, Nelle.

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**Nelle Agee** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Barbara, I was so sorry to learn of your husband's passing. You will be in our Prayers. Georgia Stavros Stafford Class of '57.

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**Georgia (Stavros) Stafford** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Dear Barbara and Family,It seems like yesterday we were walking the halls at Tech High together. Though 1957 is in the distant past, I still remember those days. I try to keep up via email so I have sent your message about Jessie to everyone on our list of classes. I am thinking of you and pray that the sweet memories you have will be a comfort to you in the days to come. Love, Kerry

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**Kerry Arnett Chumney** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AI

“ My Uncle Jessie is a TRUE American Hero,He fought and suffered for our great country so we can enjoy the freedom that we have today. I am very proud to have my Uncle Jessie, and all the other Uncle Jessie's that fight to keep America free. God Bless America ,and my Uncle Jessie.

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**Alexander B. Chaillet III** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Barbara, so sorry to hear about your husband. It is a blessing to know that he is with God and in no pain. I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. Joan Caldwell Lemser (Tech High '55)

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**Joan Caldwell Lemser** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ I have heard numerous times throughout the years many stories from my mother (Patty Kelly Langford) and my aunt (Paula Kelly Northcutt) of all the great adventures they had growing up with JH as an uncle. My prayers are with all the family during this sad time. *Melanie Langford*

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**Melanie Langford** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ *I'll be praying for you and your family.*

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**Kevron Jimerson** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *All of you are in our prayers and in our heart.*

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**Charlie & Linda Castorina** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ *Anita, I was so sorry to hear about your dad. I know it's really difficult for you and your family right now. I just want you to know I'm thinking of you. Keep the memories of him flowing. Remember all the special and ordinary moments with him over the years. Those memories are precious. God Bless, Cheryl*

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**Cheryl Hollingsworth** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NK

“ *Anita, I never had the privilege to meet your father, but from the video he is was a loving, family man. I can see where you get your compassion and virtues. He will continue to live in your heart and help you thru good times and bad, just know he loved you always. My prayers are with you and your family.*

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**Nancy Kinnane** - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Anita, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this time.. May His loving arms surround you and your family that you will know of His presence. In Him, kathy

Kathy Cornelius - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Anita, My thoughts and prayers have been and will continue to be with you and your family. I love you dearly.

Janice Noblett - August 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Dear Barbara & family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. We will always remember Jess as a dear and faithful friend with a smile that could light up a room! To us, he will always be "a little rascal on his little rascal"! We love you, Sam & Judy Harris

Sam & Judy Harris - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ We are so sorry to hear of Jess passing. Time goes by so fast and we don't stay in touch as we should. But we do think of you both often. We will keep you in our prayer.

Jerry & Barbara Cooper - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ That was a beautiful tribute to your father. May I say thank you to your father for his years of service and duty for our country. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Brooke Gurley - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ I know your father was a great man because his love and joy show in you every day. Love you Anita

Johnnie Knobloch - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Anita, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very difficult time. The video was beautiful and I feel like I have a glimpse into your father's wonderful life with your mother, his children and grandchildren. What a great man of service to our country and to our God.

Marilyn Henry - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Jess, Elizabeth and family, We are so sorry for your loss. You will be in our prayers.

Mike & Charlotte Daniel - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Jess and Family, I am sorry for you loss. It is times like this that you realize how much your family means to you. I lost my dad in 1988 and know this pain your are feeling. I also raised my boys telling stories of my dad and all the good times we had.

Jenny - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ Barbara, we are so sorry to hear that you have lost Jess. We so enjoyed spending time with the two of you on that visit to your home, and I regret that we have not had the opportunity for another visit before his passing. Our prayers will be with you in the coming months, and we send our love to you and your family. Nelle and Bob

Nelle and Bob Agee - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to you, Anita, my special friend, and to your family. I can tell your dad was a very special person. I know you will miss him, but you have wonderful memories. The video was wonderful. Sharon

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**Sharon Biro** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ Walter and I are sorry for your loss. "Eternal Father, Strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave, Who bid'st the mighty Ocean deep its own appointed limits keep; O hear us when we cry to thee, for those in peril on the sea." The Navy Hymn

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**Nan Holmes** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Anita, This was such a wonderful tribute for your father. You are such a special friend to Sharon Kaye and we are so glad we have gotten to know you through her. We know you were very proud of your father and we see so much joy and caring in these pictures. You & your family are in our thoughts & prayers during this time. Love, Jimmy & Debbi

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**Jimmy & Jimmy Williams** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Dear Barbara, Jess could not have picked a better soul mate than you. You have proven yourself of your love and care for him all of his life. We, the Men of Henderson Praying have missed his presence since he became too ill to attend. God did not answer our prayers to mend his body but saw fit to give him a new body. We, along with you and family will miss him, but at the same time celebrate with him his new life with his Lord. Barbara, if you need help in any way, let us know. All our love.. Leon & Lonnie

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**Leon & Lonnie White** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ Barbara, I know you will miss your husband very much, as you have been with him every step of the way. I'm glad we got to be with him a few times. Love to you, Kitty Nelson

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**Kathryn Nelson** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Barbara, I am so sorry for your loss. I know Mr. Kelly was a wonderful man and you have many beautiful memories. Anita, I wish I could be there with you during this time. The video was just beautiful. I know all of you loved him very much.

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**Sharon** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Mrs. Kelly, thank you so very much for allowing me to participate in Mr. Kelly's medical care. We enjoyed the two of you when he was at Heritage at Longview and we all appreciated the beautiful flowers that you sent when Mr. Kelly moved down to Henderson. Please let me know if I can be of help to you in any way. Love, Dr. Laura Welch.

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**Laura Welch, M.D.** - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Jess,I'm thinking of you and your family, and praying that you all find peace during this difficult time.

Laura Marsh - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I enjoyed viewing this wonderful tribute to Mr. Kelly. I was happy to know his family was with him. My prayers are with you all. Anita be safe on your return trip to Birmingham.Love,Marla

Marla - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ After having talked to Anita on a daily basis since she went home to be with her family, I know what a trying, heartbreaking time this has been for all of you. I hope you can take comfort in knowing that your wonderful husband and father is in a much better place now, without suffering and pain.You have a very special family and are truly blessed to have had such a wonderful man to be the head of that family.I will continue to keep you all in my thoughts and prayers.Kim D'Amicoand it's my PLEASURE to be a friend of Anita's

Kim D'Amico - August 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Anita, Only a man of great Honor, Character and Love, could have daughter like you. I know that he is every bit as proud fo you as you are of him. Fair WInds and Following seas.God bless you and your family.

Shoozy - August 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Anita, Only a man of great Honor, Character and Love, could have daughter like you. I know that he is every bit as proud fo you as you are of him. God bless you and your family.

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**Shoozy** - August 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ You are all in my prayers. Watching the video tribute you can see that Mr.Kelly was a loving father,husband, friend. May God grant you strength, courage and grace to make it through this very sad time. Phebe Rogers(friend of Anita)

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**Phebe Rogers** - August 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ What a beautiful family and it is an honor to be a friend to Anita. Your family will remain in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Sherry Manning** - August 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ I never had the honor of knowing Mr. Kelly, I do, however, have the distinct honor of being able to call his daughter, Anita, one of my closest friends. Seeing this tribute brings tears to my eyes, and now I know where Anita gets her beautiful smile and loving heart. Words fail, and are hollow comfort at a time such as this, but in Mr. Kelly's memory I'd like to offer Anita and her family this...it just seems appropriate: My love always, Lisa True Heroes never Die Words & Music By Michael Angelo [Copyright, 1996] True Heroes Never Die Every day leads to another Each one different from the other Sometimes life don't seem fair It's a game of do or dare But true heroes never die They just leave before good-bye Hi Ho Silver away We'll meet again someday Legends live on and on You were the unknown phenomenon It's funny how time slipped by Like the blink from a teary eye I see your face in the full moon Sometimes your voice fills the room You are my true hero Your light forever glows

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**Lisa F. Wilson** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ What an honor to be the proud nephew of such an honorable and Christian man. I will miss you great Uncle H. Sherri and I will keep all of the family in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Curtis and Sherri Smith** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ God Bless you and your family.... You will all be in my prayers

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**Anne Lambiase** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ God has a special place for men like Jess. Defender of our country, and a loving husband and father to the very end. I especially remember how proud he was of his family."Billie"

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**Marcia "Billie" Wolfe** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ God's Peace be with each one of you. Know that you all are in my prayers.(friend of Anita)

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**Sharon Martin** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ I am so proud to be my fathers son. We have lost a great man and hero.

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**Jess Kelly** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ Lucky and loving daughter of this great man. Rest in Peace, dad.

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**Anita Kelly** - August 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM