



## Mr. John Owen Kain

February 18, 1931 - November 25, 2020

John Owen Kain, 89, passed away at home on November 25, 2020.

John was born Feb. 18, 1931 in Sherman, TX. He was raised primarily in Denison and educated there by the nuns at St. Xavier's Academy. John earned a history degree at St. Edward's University before being drafted into the army during the Korean War and serving as a military policeman. After discharge, he earned a law degree from The University of Texas at Austin.

He was hired at a major Houston firm after law school, and he knew after one day that he was not cut out for cubicles, so he left to join a smaller firm for a lower salary but more independence. In 1970, he and Richard Reedy established Kain & Reedy, which operated with integrity for over 50 years. John was also one of the earliest attorney mediators and mediated thousands of cases before retiring in 2010.

He was a past member of The Houston Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit, American Bar Association, Supreme Court of Texas, and a past president of Toastmasters International.

John was charming, with a gift for drawing people out and getting their story. His genuine interest in people drew them to him. He was a gifted storyteller, a critical thinker, and an occasional pot stirrer. He could find the humor in any

circumstance and defuse potentially volatile situations with a mild response. He had a deep intellectual curiosity and was a lifelong student. A wordsmith who could cut to the heart of the matter or crack up everyone in the room.

The same qualities that made him successful as a man made him an outstanding attorney and mediator.

He was a historian, natural teacher, perpetual learner, athlete, and hard worker. Self-disciplined, he admired discipline and determination in others. He was a die-hard Texas Longhorn fan, golfer, handball and tennis champion, sang for the Pope, and was a thoughtful and strictly anonymous philanthropist. He was the finest and most fair man we've ever known. He loved deeply, and we simply adored him.

When John was 80, he came to know that, though all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), and the wages of sin is death, the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus (Romans 6:23). John understood that God showed His great love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:6-8). He confessed with his mouth that Jesus is Lord and believed in his heart that God raised Him from the dead (Romans 10:9). Therefore, since John was justified by faith, he has peace with God through Christ (Romans 5:1), and we rejoice.

John is survived by wife Sharmen; daughters Susan Grainge (Luke), Karen Kain, Colleen Kain; stepchildren Lauren Little (Chad) and Jordan Winterfeld (Chelsea); seven terrific grandchildren; sisters Colleen Kain and Carolyn Galloway (Larry); nieces, nephews, and many esteemed colleagues and treasured friends. He was preceded in death by a sister, Suzanne, and brother, Harry.

Funeral services for Mr. Kain will be held at at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday,

December 1, 2020, in the chapel at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home, Henderson, TX, with the family receiving friends from 1:00 p.m. until service time. Interment will follow at Harmony Hill Cemetery under the direction of Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home. A Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church will be held at a later date.

Pallbearers will be Jordan Winterfeld, Chad Little, Michael Grainge, David Grainge, Larry Galloway, and Michael Galloway.

Donations may be made in his memory to The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, 909 W. Shaw Street, Fort Worth, TX, 76110.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.crawfordacrim.com](http://www.crawfordacrim.com).

# Cemetery Details

**Harmony Hill Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

DEC 1. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 S. Main St  
Henderson, TX 75654

### Service

DEC 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home  
1414 S. Main St  
Henderson, TX 75654

# Tribute Wall



“ Crawford A.Crim Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. John Owen Kain



Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home - November 30, 2020 at 08:43 PM

KR

*This is such a beautiful tribute of memories of John. God bless and comfort you.*

Kathy Reese - December 01, 2020 at 11:08 AM

DG

“ Deeanne G. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Mr. John Owen Kain.



Deeanne G. - January 30, 2021 at 08:47 AM

MR

“ Bennie and I were so saddened to hear of John's passing. He was a great lawyer, mediator and friend. He will be deeply missed. Martee and Bennie Rush

Martee Rush - December 19, 2020 at 01:51 PM

CK

“ JOHN AND THE OTHER KAIN KIDS GREW UP IN DENISON, JUST 5 MILES FROM THE OKLAHOMA BORDER. WE ALL WENT TO ST. XAVIER'S ACADEMY, JUST ACROSS THE STREET FROM OUR HOME WE WERE TYPICAL KIDS FROM THAT ERA, PLAYING KICK THE CAN UNTIL DARK, SKATING DOWN THE HILLS, OR THROWING BALLS OVER THE ROOF OF THE HOUSE TO EACH OTHER BUT ONE DAY WITH JOHN JUMPS OUT MORE THAN ANY OTHER.

ONE OF JOHN'S FRIENDS WAS BUDDY MITCHEL WHO LIVED IN THE NEXT BLOCK., BUDDY CAME OVER. THAT DAY MAMA WAS AT THE KITCHEN SINK. THE WINDOW TO THE BACK YARD WAS OPEN , AND MAMA COULD HEAR US AND SEE WHAT WE WERE DOING. WE HAD A PEACH TREE IN THE BACK YARD AND THEY, BUDDY AND JOHN, WERE THROWING PEACHES IN THE AIR. WE HEARD JOHN AND BUDDY MITCHELL TALKING AND THEIR VOICES BEGAN TO GET LOUDER AND LOUDER. WE HEARD JOHN YELL “YOU'VE KILLED POPO”!!!!!! NOW, WE CALLED OUR GRANDFATHER POPO, BUT JOHN WASN'T TALKING ABOUT OUR GRANDFATHER, HE WAS TALKING ABOUT ~~THE~~ THE ROOSTER THAT WAS NAMED AFTER OUR GRANDFATHER, POPO THE ROOSTER.

JOHN AND BUDDY WERE ARGUING OVER THE ROOSTER, AND JOHN YELLED THAT THE PEACH THAT BUDDY HAD THROWN IN THE AIR HAD COME DOWN AND HIT POPO ON THE HEAD, KILLING HIM. JOHN SAID THAT BUDDY HAD TO PAY FOR POPO, THAT HE'D KILLED HIM AND HE WAS RESPONSIBLE!! HE KEPT TELLING BUDDY HOW MUCH HE OWED US FOR KILLING POPO, THE AMOUNT, I DON'T REMEMBER I JUST REMEMBER THE ARGUMENT WAS GETTING HEATED

AND THEIR VOICES GETTING LOUDER AND LOUDER. I RAN OUTSIDE TO SEE WHAT THEY WERE DOING, AND MAMA WAS RIGHT BEHIND ME. JOHN WAS NOT GOING TO GIVE UP, HE DEMANDED THAT BUDDY PAY FOR DEAD POPO. BY THIS TIME THEY, JOHN AND BUDDY, WERE NOSE TO NOSE. MAMA WENT STRAIGHT FOR THE FAUCET, TURNED IT ON AND PUT POPO UNDER IT. AS YOU WOULD IMAGINE, POPO CAME TO LIFE IMMEDIATELY, SQUACKING AND STRUGGLING TO GET AWAY FROM THESE PEOPLE! THEN JOHN STARTED YELLING AT BUDDY THAT HE OWED FOR POPO'S BEING HIT ON THE HEAD AND HAVING TO ENDURE PAIN AND SUFFERING!! DADDY WAS A LAWYER SO I SUSPECT HE GOT THE PAIN AND SUFFERING FROM DADDY. MAMA TOLD BUDDY TO GO HOME AND FOR JOHN TO COME IN THE HOUSE! AS HE WALKED IN THE HOUSE MAMA SAID, "YOU'RE NOT A LAWYER YET" LEAVE BUDDY ALONE. HE WASN'T A LAWYER YET, THAT WAS TRUE. BUT I'M SO GLAD MAMA LIVED TO SEE THAT JOHN, POPO'S PROTECTOR, DID BECOME A LAWYER! AND A VERY GOOD ONE!!!

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**Colleen T. Kain** - December 11, 2020 at 06:23 PM

MS

“ John was a good lawyer and a wonderful person. I had numerous cases where he was on the other side of a lawsuit. He was always so easy and fun to work with. He was a man of integrity; if he told you he would do something, you didn't need a Rule 11 agreement. His word and handshake were his bond. The same was true when mediating a case with him. He had more BS and fun stories than just about anyone. I asked him once why he quit trying cases and started mediating. His response-"I just got allergic to that courthouse dust."  
I will miss him.  
My sincerest condolences to Sharmen and his family.  
Mike Shelton

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**Michael E. Shelton** - December 07, 2020 at 10:52 AM

LG

“ Uncle John was a giant in our family and a great role model for my brother, Michael, and me. In the late 70's he convinced our family to join his on a skiing holiday in Steamboat Springs, CO -- which fueled my life long addiction to snow skiing and love of Colorado!! I will always remember him for his wit and humor -- always on full display at annual Thanksgiving day gatherings -- and for his deep and genuine love of his family. Helene, Ryan, Annika and I mourn the loss of this amazing man and send our deepest condolences to Sharmen, Susan, Karen, Colleen, Mary, Jordan, Lauren and to my Aunt Colleen and mother, Carolyn.

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**Larry Gallaway** - December 01, 2020 at 10:26 AM



“ 213 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Crawford- A.Crim Funeral Home** - November 30, 2020 at 08:33 PM

EG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Erin Grainge** - November 30, 2020 at 01:08 PM

EG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Erin Grainge** - November 30, 2020 at 01:04 PM

KK

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Karen Kain** - November 30, 2020 at 10:32 AM

LL

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Lauren Little** - November 28, 2020 at 09:32 PM

SK

“ 1 file added to the album John Owen Kain



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**Sharmen Kain** - November 28, 2020 at 09:30 PM

SK

“ 2 files added to the album John Owen Kain



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**Sharmen Kain** - November 28, 2020 at 09:29 PM

BF

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Mr. Kain but one stands out. Sharmen and John were taking dancing lessons. Sharmen was unable to attend a session, so I was asked to step in. Although John was an accomplished singer, it soon became apparent he had no rhythm in his feet. He did, however, give it his best shot! Unfortunately (?) I broke my little toe the next day and was unable to attend further lessons with him. Probably best for all, as our laughter repeatedly disrupted the class.

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**Barbara (Nobles) Fields** - November 28, 2020 at 01:03 PM

WR

“ It was my honor to know John. Playing golf, drinking a beer and telling lawyer stories are very fond memories. A unique man that will be missed. My condolences to Sharmen and the family. Bill Rohrbach

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**Willam Rohrbach** - November 28, 2020 at 11:08 AM