



Kendall Jay Staggs

January 11, 1958 - May 11, 2023

Kendall Jay Staggs was born Jan. 1, 1958, and passed away after losing a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer on May 11, 2023. He was born in Tulsa, Okla., the second son of Erdis E. and Billie Ruth Staggs.

Kendall is survived by his Oklahoma relatives: his brother Randall Staggs and family, his Aunt Vera Jerson, cousins George Rhodes, Judy Rhodes Smith, Kerry Lyn Wilson, Cathy Busey, and Carol Temple. Also cousins Laura Prewitt Saati of Seabrook, NH, and Todd McConnell of Mission Viejo, CA.

Kendall attended elementary and middle school in Tulsa, moving to Homewood, Ill., where he excelled in track, primarily as a middle distance runner, during his high school years. His running athleticism landed him a scholarship at Oklahoma State University where he completed a BS in Economics in 1981. He then attended the University of Iowa, where he completed his PhD in history in 1990.

Pursuing his desire to teach history at the college level, Kendall returned to Oklahoma for a professorship at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. While he complained the university was too remote, it was here where a fellow instructor introduced Kendall to one of his lifelong loves -- Belgian-style beer. During his life, Kendall attended many national tasting festivals and became a BJCP (Beer Judge Certification Program) beer judge. In the mid-1990s, Kendall left dusty Oklahoma and moved to Monmouth, Ore. During this time,

he taught history at Western Oregon University, Oregon State University, and Linville University. Pursuing his avocation, he moved on, first to Utah where he taught at Utah State University, then to Wisconsin where he taught at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and University Wisconsin-Green Bay.

In 2012, Kendall returned to Oregon to teach at Oregon State University (and the beer scene), highlighting his career by combining two of his passions in developing and teaching a Beer History class. The family is especially grateful for the strong friendships that Kendall had in Corvallis, where his circle of friends provided strength and support in the last months of Kendall's life.

Tribute Wall

SM

“ I just googled Kendall's name to see what he's been up to, as we hadn't talked since around 2017 or so, and I came across his obit here. My heart fell. I taught with him at OPSU back in the early 90s when he was part of my friend group. Mercifully, we both got out of there. He and I had periodically kept in touch over the years, even got together once in Montreal. Now I wish I had stayed in touch more. My belated sympathy to his family. --Shawn Murphy

Shawn Murphy - December 31, 2024 at 12:02 PM



“ Tina Bailey lit a candle in memory of Kendall Staggs



Tina Bailey - July 28, 2023 at 09:45 PM

UV

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ute Vergin - June 28, 2023 at 02:30 PM

CH

“ Kendall was a great friend and an enthusiast of the outdoors. He and I met over the course of many summers to hike or backpack, sharing suppers cooked over a backpacker stove, cold nights in a tent and beautiful mountain views. My condolences to his brother and the rest of the family. — Casey Harison

Casey Harison - June 13, 2023 at 01:56 PM

RS

“ Randy Staggs lit a candle in memory of Kendall Staggs



Randy Staggs - June 12, 2023 at 05:58 PM