



Arthur T. Kelsey

January 3, 1944 - May 26, 2016

Arthur Thomas Kelsey, 72, of Eaton Rapids, died on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at his residence. Arthur was born January 3, 1944 in Saginaw, MI, the son of Leon B. and Margaret Mary (Ferguson) Kelsey. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy as a radioman aboard the icebreaker USS Edisto in both the Antarctic and Arctic circles. Upon his return, he served 8 years as a Michigan State Trooper. Many will remember him for his 16 years of outstanding service as Eaton County Sheriff. Art enjoyed his involvement with the Michigan Sheriff's Association, 40 and 8, Knights of Columbus, Rotary, Commander's Club, Glen Erin Pipe Band, American Legion, Ruffed Grouse Association, and Pheasants Forever. He was dedicated to being sure law enforcement officials were recognized for their service. His beloved friend Mary would type the letters for this, as typing was not one of Art's strengths.

Art enjoyed his time in the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. He loved watching wildlife, and cherished the pets he had throughout his life. He made many wonderful memories with his family and friends at his cottage on Thunder Lake, "Kamp Kelsey". He was an avid reader, and a humorous and gifted story teller. He was a kind-hearted, loving, gentle, and forgiving man. Art loved politics, and is remembered for his wise advice and encouragement. Above all, he loved and cherished his family. He is survived by his son, Gavin (Kristy Kellogg) Kelsey; daughter, Morgan (Michael Hall) Kelsey; granddaughters, Dyllan Hall and Guinevere Kelsey; former wife and forever

friend, Candy Dykstra, extended family, and countless friends.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at St. Mary Catholic Church, Charlotte with Rev. Fr. James Lothamer officiating. Visitation will be from 2:00 - 4:00 and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. with a Rosary Service at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Interment will take place at Maple Hill Cemetery, Charlotte. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors, micops.org <<http://micops.org/>>, or to a fund for the family of his outstanding friend and fellow Serviceman, Robert "Thunder" Thorton, www.gofundme.com/267t4cez <<http://www.gofundme.com/267t4cez>>. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Arthur on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com <<http://www.PrayFuneral.com>>. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Funeral Ceremony

JUN 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Arthur T. Kelsey



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 02, 2016 at 09:56 AM



MelNicole Franklin

Sending love and prayers to all of you Art was such a sweet amazing man! Love all of you 🥰🥰🥰🥰🥰

MelNicole Franklin - June 02, 2016 at 01:06 PM

AK



Amanda Kuhn - June 02, 2016 at 01:24 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Arthur T. Kelsey



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 01, 2016 at 12:14 PM

OD

“ my name when i was born was Odette Kay Doyle..In Saginaw...a guy named Owen w. Doyle was my father and Nora Fern Odette was my mother...Owen apparently died young at age 34 ...my mother married Charles Featherly ...Frankly he was the only dad i know...I worked at a dry cleaners in Okemos Michigan 8n high school and a guy named Art Kelsey asked about me and said he knew my mother and my father...Ive really never even seen a photograph..I am mentioned in Owen Doyles obituary and i just saw that today..

Im to late to ask your dad about my dad and my mother seems to have erased him from existence .and also she died....its pretty young to die at 34..of a short illness..so i am curious about a cause of death..I did find out I am 1 of a kind ..no siblings i dont know about.. anywsy sorry about Arts passing...he sounds like a guy people had fun with..If you run into photos with Ferguson or Doyle references..text me at 714 329 3770...If this message is inappropriate here..please accept my apologizes and certainty delete it .

.Fondly, Odette

Odette - July 31, 2025 at 04:37 PM

RW

“ My condolences to the Kelsey Family. We were friends through good times and stressful times. I will remember Art for the love and devotion he showed to his family. We just talked on the phone and shared our health problems last month. May he rest in peace with Marge and Leon, God Bless him. Sincerely Rick Wahl, Eaton County Sheriff Retired.

Rick Wahl - June 15, 2016 at 12:59 PM

SW

“ Morgan and Gavin - I am so sorry for your loss. I will always remember your dad and the smiles he brought to the residents at Dimondale. He was a devoted son to Grandma and Sunday night pizza was a highlight for her and for Helen. His gift of connecting to people was a special gift - I hope you both inherited that gift and continue to touch others as he did. Good Bless -- Sandi and Brian Wood

Sandi Wood - June 04, 2016 at 09:16 AM

MJ

“ I lived in Eaton County for a long time, and worked at the State Capitol when Art was on duty there - but did not know him. I met him working on the Brian Rooney campaign and we became fast Face Book friends through those endeavors. It has been heart warming to see Art's love of his family - and if it weren't for Art I NEVER would have discovered Cops & Donuts. Prayers for comfort and healing for Morgan, Gavin and the grandkids.
Marcy Jankovich

Marcy Jankovich - June 02, 2016 at 09:42 AM

TJ

“ Art and I went hunting at his cabin. It was so cold we really had to go outside to come back in to feel any heat. We got lost in a blizzard hunting and drove out during the storm to avoid getting snowed in.
It was a blast. Many great memories.
Rest in peace good and faithful servant.
Sheriff Terry Jungel (ret)
Executive Director
Michigan Sheriffs' Association



Terry Jungel - June 01, 2016 at 10:39 PM

WC

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Wilma Campbell - June 01, 2016 at 06:17 PM

BV

“ *Morgan and Gavin, As your Dad for me, I hope an unexpected friend comes along at that perfect time to show you things you might not otherwise experience. It's been twenty some years since we sat together in his office or mine at the end of the day, reflective, sometimes spent, and so happy to be engaged in our profession. Time has passed but even recently, your Dad never ended a conversation with me without an update on you both! Candy, its been years. What a wonderful snapshot in time!!*

All our love and prayers.

Bill and Jean Voigt

Bill Voigt - June 01, 2016 at 05:58 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Arthur T. Kelsey .*



June 01, 2016 at 05:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Arthur T. Kelsey .*



June 01, 2016 at 01:17 PM

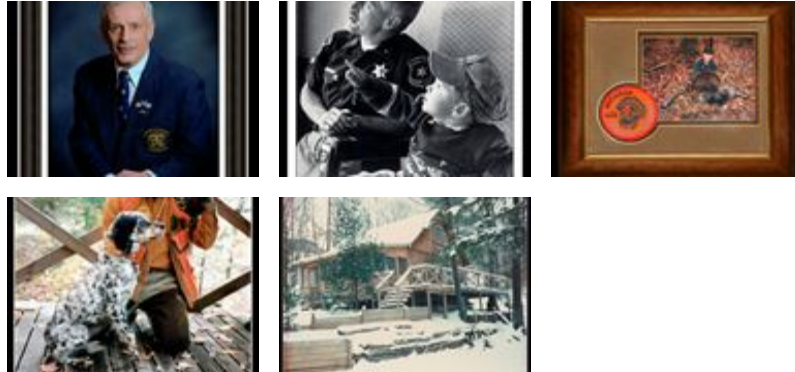


“ *Morgan, Gavin and Candy - so many great memories, will miss his phone calls and chats. He was a great Sheriff and it was an honor to work for him. I will always cherish the times we were all together, now we have two angels to watch over us.
Love to you all!
Theresa O'Dell*

Theresa Spagnuolo-Odell - June 01, 2016 at 11:54 AM



“ *44 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 01, 2016 at 11:51 AM

PM

“ Gavin and Morgan, I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. He is a very special man who was loved by so many. My mom thought the world of him, not to mention what a special place in her heart that she held for you two kids and your mom. I remember you used to call my mom DoeDoe when she babysat you two.. she adored you kids. Now your dad is with my mom waiting for God to ascend them to heaven. Your dad is at peace now!! Sending prayers to you for God to blanket you with the power of His healing grace as you go through the upcoming days and months ahead. Sending love!
Peg Mohr (Dorothy Bovee's daughter) xoxo

Peg Mohr - June 01, 2016 at 09:05 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Arthur T. Kelsey .



May 31, 2016 at 08:56 PM

MF

“ Our condolences to all of the Kelsey Family on the loss of Art. Here in Hot Springs Village we shall be praying for the repose of his soul and comfort for his loved ones.
God Bless, Mike & Chris & K of C council 10208

Michael Frantz - May 31, 2016 at 04:41 PM



“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Theresa Spagnuolo-Odell - May 31, 2016 at 01:40 PM



“ *Spring Has Sprung Mixed Basket was purchased for the family of Arthur T. Kelsey .*



May 31, 2016 at 12:59 PM



“ *We met the Kelsey's when we lived on Waverly Road back in the late 80's.
Had a few good times with Art and Candy.
I want to express my condolences to the Kelsey Family.
God Bless*

Joseph Andrew Faggion II - May 31, 2016 at 11:13 AM

DH

“ I remember many years ago Marge and Leon, Art's parents kind of adopted me, as my folks lived in Vermont. Art and I used to kid each other about being siblings, We would get great craic on that one. Irish to the end and a very loyal person to all. Rest in Peace Hon, tell Marge and Leon I said, "Hi". Diane Hudson

Diane Hudson - May 31, 2016 at 07:42 AM

MB

“ I only knew Art through Facebook, but he seemed to be a great guy. My condolences to his entire family.

Myer Blatt - May 30, 2016 at 09:02 PM

WL

“ Sorry to hear about Art. I enjoyed working with him at the Charlotte Dinner Train.

Wes Livingston - May 30, 2016 at 07:20 PM

KA

“ My deepest sympathy to the family.

KatrineFrank - May 30, 2016 at 12:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Arthur T. Kelsey .



May 29, 2016 at 08:00 PM

DM

“ Art was a great friend and pal all the way back to Capitol security days, the State Senate run, Sheriff and years after. I'll miss him and that easy smile and sense of humor...

Dennis Muchmore - May 29, 2016 at 06:48 PM

LC

“ To the Kelsey family, my deepest sympathy. Art was a great guy and a good friend in high school. It does not surprise me that he was well thought of by a lot of people in his career as a law officer and sheriff. I always remembered his great smile and easy going personality.

My prayers and thoughts are with you all.....

Linda Chavez Corder

Linda Chavez Corder - May 28, 2016 at 11:33 PM

KH

“ Art and Candy were both very, very kind to me many years ago. Art was a man of integrity and vision. He laughed easily and he was a humble and excellent public servant. My sincere condolences to Candy and family. Art was a wonderful man and I'm sorry to hear of his passing. Kevin Handy, formerly of Delta Township, Eaton, County, Michigan (now Allen, Collin County, Texas).

Kevin Handy - May 28, 2016 at 09:39 PM

DF

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name

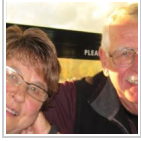


Dave Ferguson - May 28, 2016 at 01:08 PM

CD

David, Thank you for sharing the pictures. Candy

Candy Dykstra - May 29, 2016 at 12:15 PM



“ *Morgan.gavin and candy.
We will always treasure the memories of art from yearsss ago and
when he was in our wedding in 1967.he was a veryyy special
friend.hugs,and sympathy and love from glen and liz.*

Liz Griffore - May 27, 2016 at 06:27 PM