



## Dustin Ellis Knight

April 15, 1982 - January 28, 2021

“So we are always confident, because we know that while we are living in the body, we are away from our home with the Lord. We live by faith and not by sight. We are confident, and we would prefer to leave the body and to be at home with the Lord.” -- 2 Corinthians 5:6-8

Dustin Ellis Knight, 38, of Millbrook, Alabama, went home to the Lord he loved so much on January 28, 2021. Born in Montgomery, Alabama, on April 15, 1982, to his doting parents, Don and Ginger Knight, Dustin grew up in Prattville, where he was known from a tender age to always put everyone else before himself. Even as a little boy, he reached out to neighbor children who were hungry or alone, and brought them to his parents' home to be sure their tummies were full and their hearts were happy. Throughout his passionate life, when Dustin noticed folks in need, he gave them what he had, be it money or food, or time and love. He'd gladly give you the shirt right off his back, even if it was sweaty and dirty, and he'd be a friend for life.

Family was always at the top of the list of things that mattered to Dustin, and he counted his grandparents as the cream of his crop. His paternal grandparents, Dolphus and Mary Jane Knight, were overjoyed to welcome such a lively baby boy into their clan, and right away, he stole their hearts.

Dolphus was known to Dustin as Papa, and they were cut from the same cloth. Papa never missed a ballgame where his grandson was playing, and he was always his biggest fan. Even when Papa was fighting cancer in its toughest stages, and was advised not to attend, Papa summoned every ounce of strength he had left, got in his own car and drove himself to his grandson's game to cheer him on. When Papa passed away, the only thing that Dustin requested was his Papa's rocking chair recliner, as it represented such depth of love for a grandson left to carry on his Papa's name.

Dustin's paternal grandmother, Mary Jane Knight, who he knew as Grandma, led him to be a follower of Christ, taking her first little grandson along with her to Bible class and worship every Sunday morning at First Baptist Church in Prattville. Grandma welcomed three more grandchildren in her life, and until her passing in 2012, she took every opportunity to whisper to Dustin that of all the others, he was the Sweetest One. Years later, he would find out that Grandma had of course adored all four grandchildren, and had been whispering the same blessing to each one since they were born. While he was shocked to learn that he had unknowingly shared such an honor all along, he kept her influence close at heart, and the Bible verse that settled inside his soul was Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Dustin was also close to his maternal grandparents, George and Edith Shores of Eclectic. Grandma Shores drove him to karate lessons twice a week, and always waited right there for her special grandson to finish his class and proudly show her his new moves. She took him to meet up with Papa George, and they spent many a happy afternoon fishing, telling stories and soaking in the glory of each other's company.

Dustin was a spirited Alabama fan and enjoyed a friendly rivalry with his beloved little sister, Donica, who attended Auburn. Roll Tide Roll Champ! He loved her unconditionally from the moment she was born, and always spoke of her with stars in his eyes and fierce loyalty in his heart. There is no doubt that from his viewpoint, she was a reflection of their beautiful mother, Ginger, who loves them both so deeply, so humbly and gently, so truly as the Lord loves us all. Ginger fondly called him Dot, and he was the apple of a mother's eye. As soon as his little league schedule was filled with baseball and football practices, his father, Don, lovingly nicknamed him Stanky, as he was so busy excelling in sports that there just wasn't time for a bath in between. There was no one more proud of a son than Don Knight, and he always made room and time for his boy. Don has always been famous for his unmatched people skills, accomplished business expertise and hilarious jokes, and as the apple never falls far from the tree, Dustin soaked in his father's talents, and success and joy became second nature to him as he helped his parents and grandparents in their family's store, K-Bar-K.

By way of his favorite Bible verse, the Good Lord did strengthen Dustin through the years. He graduated from Trinity Presbyterian High School in Montgomery, as an undeniable sports star and member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Dustin helped lead the Wildcat's baseball team to a State Championship and represented Alabama in the Dixie Majors World Series Championship. He attended Faulkner University on a baseball scholarship, and counted his favorite privilege there as his allowance of three meals a day. Dustin earned a black belt in karate, had a great love for fishing and all sports, and claimed to have never lost an arm-wrestling contest.

Years later in 2010, Dustin met the love of his life, Trisha Frith. He made her his bride in 2016, and was faithfully and happily committed to his darling new wife and their two children, April and Tyler. Trisha called him Big Daddy, and together they made a family, bound in true love, completing one another's lives with compassion and worshipping together at the Church of the Highlands. Dustin put every ounce of his great Phillipians 4:13 strength into lifting up his wife and children in their daily lives, and his legacy will forever live on in the unmistakably precious words of his son, "He always believed in me."

A man of many more endearing nicknames, Dustin was also known to those who loved him as Doo Stang-Kee, Howdy, Kitsy, and Knight, just to name a few. He always loved to have a good time and thoroughly enjoyed light-hearted pranks, silly phone messages, goofy dances and made-up songs to sing to his sweetheart love. He just loved to laugh, and to bring others into that feeling of joy. His laugh will echo forever in the hearts of those who were blessed enough to know him.

To put it simply, Dustin Ellis Knight loved his life and everyone in it. He will always be remembered as a devoted husband to his "Trisher," Trisha Frith Knight, loving father to April and Tyler, cherished son to his parents Donald Ellis Knight and Ginger Shores Knight, and loving brother to his sister, Donica and her husband, Wesley Holdman. He is survived by his aunts, Susan "Gidget" Smith and Bonna Swicord, who loved him so much and were always entertained by his humor and wit. He also leaves behind his dearest cousins, Brittany Smith, Chad (Ashley) Smith and their daughter, Autumn, Kim Baughman, Tim Dollar, Ryan Dollar and many more. They may have been "cousins" by definition, but Dustin counted them as his brothers and sisters. He led them all in countless adventures, and created an environment where

they all felt seen, heard, important, needed and celebrated, as it was his nature to seek out fun or create it from scratch, and he brought everyone he loved along with him.

There would be no way to count the number of friends and colleagues who Dustin brought into his circle, and they will continue to tell the stories of this man who always gave 110%, whose heart was the biggest in the room, who never met a stranger, and knew no limits in helping others. And Dustin counted them all as family. The man who picked up groceries and medicine for his grandmother, gave his own mouthpiece to a fellow little leaguer who didn't have one, and emptied his pockets into the hands of those in need. By Dustin's faith, we can trust that he is, indeed, at home with the Lord, where there is no pain, no sorrow and no tears. All four grandparents, Dolphus and Mary Jane Knight and George and Edith Shores, were waiting for him there, and his legends will continue to be told and cherished here, where we carry the gift of his memory in our hearts, until we meet again...yes-sir-got-em!

Funeral arrangements are being administered by Prattville Memorial Chapel & Memory Gardens in Prattville, Alabama.

Visitation for Dustin will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. until 1:45 p.m.

A grave-side service will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd at 2:00 p.m. and Dustin would be honored for all friends and family to attend. The family has asked that you wear your Alabama Football attire to his service.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 3. 12:00 PM - 1:45 PM (CT)

Prattville Memorial Chapel and Memory Gardens  
841 Fairview Avenue  
Prattville, AL 36066  
(334) 365-7147  
prattvillememorial@live.com

## GRAVESIDE

FEB 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

Prattville Memory Gardens  
841 Fairview Avenue  
Prattville, AL

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ Nearly 4 months have passed and there hasn't been a day go by I haven't thought about you D. I never told you while you were here what you meant to me and I regret that every single day. I reached out to Trish the other day to just check in, and a part of me still hears your voice every time I text her. I pitched to Cooper's baseball team this year and kept hearing you in my head screaming "We need a peeeetcher, not a belly eeeeeetcher." Every time I would hear it, I would get the biggest smile on my face as I saw yours behind home, cheering Cooper on, the same way you would Karsen when you and Tyler came to games. I know you are up above making everyone laugh and giving tips and advice on so many things you were good at. We miss you and love you down here bro! Till we meet again, just know that my family will always love you man!

Josh Meil - May 20, 2021 at 05:31 PM



“ Mrs. Fields Nibblers® and Brownie Bites Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.



February 03, 2021 at 10:32 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.



February 02, 2021 at 01:48 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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February 02, 2021 at 01:23 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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February 02, 2021 at 10:55 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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February 02, 2021 at 09:21 AM

DB

“ My prayers go out to all of the Knight family. I was fortunate enough to run the Parts & Service department there from 1990 to 1999. The Knights treated my daughter Kayla & I like family. There was a room across from my parts counter that she & Donica would watch TV & I could lock from the outside as I worked. They lived behind Kmart & I would go over and Kayla & Donica would play & I would challenge Dustin to a pool game. He was pretty good & Dustin spent the night w/me & we fished a Bass tournament together when he was probably about 12. Dustin unfortunately lost a 5lb bass and we may have had a chance to win but I have put myself in the same situation. We had alot of fun though & thay was my last time spending quality time together before regretfully moving on with my career that I regret because I was at home with friends & my Knight family. When I was in my senior year in High school I was T-Boned by an 18 wheeler. I can say from experience that he never knew what hit him & did not suffer. He is in heaven with his grandfather now & I pray the lord gets his family thru this but it's going to be a rough road as I have lost so many friends way 2 young & just lost my Dad in November after losing my mother in 2016. It is going to be tough with a huge void. I am 🙏 4 You especially for Don, Ginger, Donica & the wife & kids.  
Love U All.  
David

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David Brazell - February 02, 2021 at 01:07 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.



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February 02, 2021 at 01:04 AM

SO

*“ I will never forget the day Terry and I came over to see Dustin for the first time. A tiny little newborn all stretched out on the couch. I walked in and just scooped him up and everyone was a little upset because yall had finally gotten him to sleep. I laid him on my shoulder over my heart and he never even woke up. A precious bundle of love and joy.*



Susan Oehlman - February 02, 2021 at 12:35 AM

JC

*“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Please know I am keeping the entire family in my thoughts and prayers. I pray that God wraps His Loving Arms around all of you and give you the peace and comfort only He can give.*

Julie Israel Crowe - February 01, 2021 at 03:34 PM



*“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



February 01, 2021 at 12:09 PM



*“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



February 01, 2021 at 12:00 PM



“ *Majestic Heart was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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February 01, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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February 01, 2021 at 11:07 AM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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February 01, 2021 at 09:38 AM



“ *Our hearts are heavy over the passing Dustin. We are lifting all of you up in prayer. We are sorry we will not be able to attend the service but our thoughts and prayers will be with you. Love to all, Aunt Betty and Uncle Marshall*

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**Marshall Betty Williams** - February 01, 2021 at 09:22 AM

JD

“ We have fond memories of Dustin at our wedding. He danced almost every song with various dance partners! He lit up the room for sure. We send our deepest sympathy, love, hugs and prayers. Gone way too soon, never forgotten. We love you Don, Ginger, Donica and Trisha.

*Jan & Steve Duckworth  
(and Courtney & Brooke)*

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**Jan Duckworth** - January 31, 2021 at 10:24 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.



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January 31, 2021 at 10:05 PM

EG

“ Dear Knight Family,  
Mary Glen and I are so saddened to hear of the passing of Dustin... He was a genuine, good-guy, and a great brother and son, and I'm VERY sure, a great husband and dad. As Baker says, we are of "the Age", so we cannot attend due to the China Virus concerns... please know ya'll are in our thoughts and prayers...SO sorry,

*Edgar and Mary Glen Grant  
Camden, AL*

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**Edgar Grant** - January 31, 2021 at 07:53 PM

TJ

“ *Don and Ginger,  
I remember when Dustin was four years old, and he would come through the drive thru at the bank where I worked with Ginger. He was so adorable, and would be so friendly. I knew he was going to be very special.*

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**Tressa Jallath** - January 31, 2021 at 03:10 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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January 31, 2021 at 03:07 PM

AL

“ *Don and Ginger.....I cant imagine the struggle and pain your going through doing this. ...Dustin was a great young man. Indeed he loved Alabama football. I remember how he loved being at the store with Mr Dolf and Ms Mary Jane. He always had a hug for me and always asked where his pecan pie was if I didnt have it when I walked in. His laugh and smile lit up every room he was in and he never met a stranger. Prayers for you and Don..Donica her family...his wife and family. May you all find Peace-Comfort and Strength at this difficult time and in the weeks ahead....*

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**Anita Linneman** - January 31, 2021 at 02:31 PM

JT

“ *Jan, Steve, Court & Brooke, Aunt Cake, Tammy&Cody purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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**Jan, Steve, Court & Brooke, Aunt Cake, Tammy&Cody -**  
January 31, 2021 at 02:06 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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January 31, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dustin Ellis Knight.*



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January 31, 2021 at 12:45 PM

GS

“Dustin was special to me as my only nephew. He was born into this world ready to live life to the fullest! He was active and excited about everyone and everything in this world! I loved watching him grow and learn. When Brittany, Chad, and I moved back from Atalanta, he was the leader of the four little musketeers!! They loved growing up together throughout their school years at Trinity. Those were the most wonderful years. Of course, Dustin gave me a nickname, “Dark and Dangerous”, because I was always telling them to be careful and not to do dangerous things in their Grandmother’s pool like turn the lights off!! Yes, Dustin was special!! As he got older, he was the person I could call on when I needed a man’s muscles to come to the rescue!! He and Tyler came to help me bring in my Christmas tree and put it together each year as the tree parts were too heavy for me. They would return after Christmas and help me put it back in the box in the garage. It touched my heart when Dustin found the love of his life, Trish! I knew what it meant to have found that kind of love! It was magical to see him with his “Trisher” and just watch them smile as they were the picture of complete happiness!! Dustin loved Trish, April, and Tyler with all his heart, and for that I will forever be grateful!! I got to visit with Dustin and Trish on Christmas Eve this past Christmas when they came by my house. I have a precious video of Dustin and Trish laughing as they had some funny gag gifts to surprise us with! I will treasure that time spent together forever! Dustin, know you are loved and will be forever missed! Love you so much! Aunt Gidget

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**Gidget Smith** - January 31, 2021 at 11:21 AM

ML

“ I called my best friend and asked him to be my best man. He flew out to Iowa and stood there with me. That was 2 Feb 2001. Me and Jill celebrate 20 years next week. I'm thankful Dustin was there with us then and that we were back here for him now. He was too good for this world.

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**Matt Lofton** - January 31, 2021 at 12:08 AM

MR

“ I am so sorry for your loss...sending prayers for peace and comfort at this difficult time..Dustin was a good one with a heart of gold ..He is loved and will be missed by many...love you Ronnie and Michele Reeves



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**Michele Reeves** - January 30, 2021 at 09:43 PM