



Todd S. Kenee

April 19, 1964 - March 20, 2024

We have suffered the loss of first a son, then a husband, father and grandfather with the passing of Todd Stewart Kenee, affectionately known as Chef Todd to many and Dad to 4 children and PopPop to 13 grandchildren. On March 20, 2024, Todd passed away at home next to his wife (the place where he said was his favorite place in the world). Todd had been ill off and on over the last several years and desperately wanted to retire with his wife to a place near her hometown where he could fish, grill, garden and play with his puppies. Todd leaves a legacy of honor, integrity, kindness and limitless knowledge of all things culinary. He was truly a genius with food and will be sorely missed by all of his family, past and current staff, friends, and customers whom he called family.

Born on April 19, 1964, to Patricia Stewart and Stephan Lawrence Kenee, Todd was their first born and only son. Todd enjoyed many rides with his mom in the family sports cars as a child and train rides to his grandmother's bakery for "Hopple" (Apple) Pie. He was joined later by his sister Stephanie whom he loved to tease and often tricked into eating unusual foods making her forever suspect when he offered anything. Todd enjoyed fishing and trapping and spoke often of his childhood traipsing around the banks of the Susquehanna. He spoke of delivering prescriptions for his father's pharmacy to the local nursing homes. And of his many friends, concerts, and shenanigans along the way.

Todd graduated from Hershey High School class of 1982, having also attended Cedar Crest High School for some of his high school years he considered himself an alumnus of both. Todd spent about a year at a local HACC campus before, with the support of his parents, pursuing his dream of Culinary Arts receiving a degree from Johnson & Wales University in Providence Rhode Island. Todd had too many stories from college to mention but thoroughly enjoyed reliving his college years with anyone who would listen.

Todd's professional career was wrought with great accomplishments and accolades wherever he was. Most mentionable were his years at Lancaster Country Club followed by an executive chef position at Williamsport Country Club from which he maintained many friends made up of customers, coworkers and leaders. His knowledge, skill, and gregarious personality made him an unforgettable coworker, leader and chef. He also loved racing Porsches during his Williamsport days.

Wanting to return home to his roots, possibly have a family and own his own business Todd returned to Lebanon County. With the support of his parents, he finally settled on Franz's Tavern & Restaurant in 1998. He opened the day after closing on the deal and got to work creating a wonderful neighborhood restaurant and tavern. His slogan was "Cold Beer &....Pretty Good Food". He was humble, and as far as accolades for his cooking, he was a bit shy. But after a few drinks he would wow the staff and customers with late night snacks, many stories of his life adventures and expansive musical knowledge.

Shortly after opening he met Belinda, who joined him in running and working in the business. They were partners in every way with Todd also taking on the care of four children, James E.P. Stevens of Pittsburgh, Konrad C.R. Stevens of Spokane, WA, Elizabeth S wife of Ezra Braun of Myrtle Beach, SC and

Pamela C wife of Anthony Kertulis of Schaefferstown, whom he loved as his own. Todd and Belinda were finally married on May 15, 2017, in the Outer Banks. They honeymooned by taking a deep-sea fishing trip, which was successful and one of his greatest joys. He enjoyed taking the kids fishing, teaching them about food and music. He was also a PopPop to 13 grandchildren, whom he loved in ways only he could, taking them fishing or introducing them to interesting foods. When able he loved to take vacations with his wife Belinda, and when possible, with his parents and sister. He was an avid reader and loved learning about anything he could. He was larger than life and unforgettable to everyone who met him. There are not enough words to describe him or the impact he had on everyone around him.

Todd was predeceased by his father, grandparents, uncle, and cousin. His wife Belinda will cherish his memory and try to keep his legacy alive through sharing recipes and stories with the many, many customers, staff, friends and family he gained in his too short life.

A memorial to honor and celebrate Todd will be held in late May when all the children can attend. Details will be published as soon as possible.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ *I'm so sorry to learn of the loss of Todd! He will be missed by many. My prayers go out to Belinda and the rest of the family.* ”

Shane Strobel - April 20, 2024 at 04:29 PM

TH

“ *My sincere condolences to Belinda and family. Like many, I know Todd and Belinda from Frantz's Tavern. The aroma of Chef Todd's kitchen and the welcoming atmosphere always made Frantz's a favorite spot for my family and many friends as well. I will fondly remember the food of course, but also the good times accompanied by Todd's stories, late night sing-a-long tunes on the "jukebox", Belinda's "Dirty Martinis" but most of all as a favorite gathering spot for my family. My Mom & Dad, Brother Carl & Barb, my Uncle Mark, all gone now as well, they all loved it there. As did my nieces & nephews from far and wide when they came to town, always had to have Frantz's Baked Onion Soup and Crab Cakes! Belinda, hoping that your many memories of love will help to guide you through this difficult time. ... from the Hilton Family, here and gone ... Sending hugs, Terry* ”

Terry Hilton - April 20, 2024 at 11:50 AM



“ *Thank you everyone for your condolences and flowers and gifts and just the stories bring me a smile. He was so many things to different people and I know you all will miss him greatly. His loss has left a hole in my heart that will never be filled until I see him again. Thank you all so very much.* ”

Belinda Kenee - April 04, 2024 at 02:02 PM

SL

“ Todd and I spent a lot of time together "doing our time" at HHS. Then summers and during breaks while we both were away at college. There were early morning "fishing" trips to the local streams, after school pheasant hunts on my grandfather's farm and countless trips to the range or one of the State Gamelands and many more activities that I will never forget, nor ever tell. I still can't believe the Sunbird survived everything he put it through. You will be forever missed my friend.

Steve L - April 04, 2024 at 09:44 AM

JG

“ Grew up with Todd and such sad news. Our aimless sunday evening drives listening to great music and king biscuit on the radio, taking flight in the Pontiac Sunbird then the Fiero and 944, the road trips to Fivepointville, taking out your Christmas present rifle and the miracle-mile crow shot with the new 30 30, the Rolling Stones concert bus trip, getting rich trapping muskrats mornings before school and together that strange day John Lennon died, Tina the hound, the gunshot out the window greatest prank pulled on me of all time. Thank you Todd for all the smiles and laughs and rest in peace. My love to Steph and Mrs. Kenee and condolences to all Todd's friends and family.

John Grimm - March 28, 2024 at 09:49 AM



Love the stories - he was such an amazing man - my partner my best friend - thank you! Belinda Kenee

Belinda Kenee - March 28, 2024 at 02:47 PM

JP

So sad to hear this, Todd was always so sweet and kind and always smiling. My condolences to entire family, may peace find its way to your heart. 🙏

Jill pauza - March 28, 2024 at 06:01 PM

SK

Thank you John for the memories you shared

steph kenee - March 30, 2024 at 02:46 PM

RC

“ *We had some great vacations with Todd, cheeseburgers at midnight, grass skirts and coconuts. We had great meals with Todd, paella for the whole gang, Eck burgers and home wreckers. Loved it all, Todd, you will be missed, and your cooking to. Condolences to your family, Roy and Gail Craig.*

Roy D Craig Gail L Craig - March 27, 2024 at 02:07 PM



Thank you Gail and Roy. We sure did have some fun together, didn't we! He was the light of my life. My life feels very different and empty without him. I appreciate all the people we knew that have reached out and helped me find some solace in their stories. Love you guys.

Belinda Kenee - March 29, 2024 at 06:02 PM

MB

“ *My memory of Todd is how generous and kind he was with food and sharing with his customers and friends. Franz's Tavern was our neighborhood go to many nights. He provided late night food for all and it was delicious ❤️ I went home carrying quarts of soup on numerous occasions and got to taste some delicious recipes. Belinda~I hope in time these memories will warm your heart. You are in our thoughts and prayers ❤️🙏*

Michelle Bishop - March 26, 2024 at 06:37 PM

BK

Thank you Michelle

Belinda Kenee - March 27, 2024 at 12:20 AM

BS

“ *Barry Sauter purchased the Cheeseboard Gourm et Gift for the family of Todd S. Kenee.*



Barry Sauter - March 25, 2024 at 10:52 AM

BF

“ *It was all my pleasure my good friend!! The business was fabulous but your friendship was the best. Prayers to you Belinda and family.*

Bill and Cindy Shay and family - March 24, 2024 at 06:35 PM



Thank you Bill and Cindy and your family for you condolences and kindness. Checking on me weekly and everything youve done. The flowers give me a smile every morning. Greatly appreciate your friendship. I remember the night Todd and I came over and we sat outside and visited. I wish we had done that more often.

Belinda Kenee - April 04, 2024 at 01:56 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Todd S. Kenee.*



March 23, 2024 at 08:32 PM

CF

“ I worked often for Todd for over 2 decades. The memories and friendships I made are priceless. The memories are too many to share but will always remain in my heart. Not to mention the many great cooking tips, he gave me. He loved to cook and entertain. Such great times.

Clint Fern - March 23, 2024 at 04:21 PM

KP

“ Did I ever tell you the time I backed my porch into a wall doing 90 mph? Spent many of years listening to stories with great conversations with lots of laughter. You will be missed my friend.

Keith "LT" Phillips - March 23, 2024 at 04:09 PM



Oh LT?(Little Todd) he so appreciated you and the friendship you shared. I am assuming you meant Porsche (LOL).

Belinda Kenee - April 04, 2024 at 01:57 PM

AF

“ Over the years we had the pleasure of sampling Todd's different soups and chowders. The Feitzinger family sends it's condolences to Belinda and the Kenee family and may God bless all of you.

Alan J Feitzinger - March 23, 2024 at 01:09 PM



Thank you Alan for your condolences. I will try and get you some soup when I make it again.

Belinda Kenee - April 04, 2024 at 01:59 PM

DH

“ I have great memories of spending time with Todd mostly late night after closing time . Lol. He would always cook up something special for us . He enjoyed talking about (current events) and music. Many,Many laughs . I love the guy . “ I’ll see you on the dark side of the moon friend “ hopefully not too soon .

dave houtz - March 23, 2024 at 11:37 AM



Dave you were one of his favorite people to talk to. We enjoyed our dinners out when we had a chance to go together with you and Betsy and the picnics at your home. He really enjoyed whipping up something special for people and watching people enjoying his creations brought him great joy.

Belinda Kenee - April 04, 2024 at 02:00 PM