



## Russell Kennedy Adams, Sr.

*August 23, 1929 - June 13, 2008*

Russell Kennedy Adams, Sr. died on Friday June 13th, 2008 following a courageous battle with cancer. Born in Charleston, WV, to Dr. Cecil R. and Jean Kennedy Adams, Russ was happily married to Lynn Farley for forty years until her death in April 1996. After graduating from Wharton Business School, he started a successful homebuilding business in Texas. He was President of the Dallas Home and Apartment Builders Association in 1985 and was a lifetime Director of the National Association of Builders. Russ served as a board member for the White Rock YMCA and was a fifty year contributing member of the Hella Shrine Temple. He enjoyed donating time to help others and loved working with Meals on Wheels and Feed the Children. In his later years, he was fortunate to share his life with Kathy Watts, who died in December 2007. Russ will be remembered for his great generosity and adventurous spirit. A kind man who loved the water and the outdoors, he enjoyed traveling and being with his family and friends. He is survived by his four children and their spouses: Walle and Doug Gerdts, Kenny and Kathy Adams, Laney and Stuart Burgdoerfer, Ley and Kyle Clark, his eleven grandchildren: Ben, Madison, Toni, Chase, Michaela, Petie, Jack, Abbey, McKinley, Carpenter, and Campbell, and his brother and sister-in-law: Dr Cecil R. "Pete" and Roseanne Adams, Jr. of Hilton Head, S.C. and numerous nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, the family requests all donations be directed to the American Cancer Society. A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held on Wednesday, June 18th, 2008 at 11a.m. at Stonebridge United Methodist Church, 1800. S. Stonebridge Drive, McKinney, TX. 75070.

## Memorials

*What a loving and kind man who I know will be greatly missed every day. I will always remember his encouraging words from the sidelines for the remarkable Stingers soccer team. Your parents were incredible examples of true love and*

*everlasting faith and they have left such an amazing legacy within each of you all. I am glad I knew the amazing people that they were and will always remember the entire Adams family with a smile. I wish you all peace during this time and always. Cindy "Carroll" Newsom, former Trailhill Drive resident*

**CINDY CARROLL NEWSOM, JUNE 24, 2008**

*We ALL miss him, but bless him, he had done enough. How I loved his traditional greeting every time I phoned, "How in the world are you?" Loved talking to you yesterday, Walle, and again, we are heartsick that we did not know about the service until after the fact. Would so love to have heard both you and Doug (and others?) speak and to have seen Lynn and Russ' entire wonderful family. Don't you know they were smiling down? So much love to each of you. Ann (aka Piack to Kenny)*

**ANN SHARPE MASON, JUNE 20, 2008**

*Dear Ones, The service for your Dad was so truly a beautiful and meaningful service. I just was prepared for the sadness that overwhelmed me. Doug, you're a champion and an asset, not only to your family, but to those who receive your ministry. How fortunate you are to have been an "outlaw" in the Adams clan. Tom and I have some of our fondest memories with your parents. We wouldn't give for our sailing trips together. Tom has always said your mom had an "aura" about her that couldn't be defined. They were such devoted mates. Walle, your moving words described what each of us felt in our hearts....thank you. Your video was so special, but it really "destroyed" me(I wasn't alone)! Such fond memories. Your sweet Dad will be long remembered by our family and we feel grateful for having had the privilege of being included among his friends. Our prayers will continue to be with all of you as you adjust to the future. God Bless each of you. Love, Suzie and Tom*

**SUZIE AND TOM MATTHEWS, JUNE 19, 2008**

*We came to know Russ in the years he and Kathy had together. It was such a joy that they found one another in the latter years of life and had joyous times together. It was such fun hearing about their travels at bridge. May the days pass quickly until your memories of your father bring joy in place of sadness.*

EILEEN ESTELLE ELIASON, JUNE 19, 2008

*Dear Laney and Families, We are sorrowful for your loss and send our thoughts and prayers your way. We know the many wonderful memories of your dad will bring some comfort at this time. Sincerely, Greg and Pat Huddle and Family*

PAT AND GREG HUDDLE, JUNE 18, 2008

*We have very happy memories of Russ. He was a very kind man who helped us after we both had surgery back in 2002. We enjoyed meeting him in our Fellowship Class as did the others. We celebrate his life.*

JANE & TOM LINSTRUM, JUNE 18, 2008

*Adams Family- Just wanted you all to know that your family is in the thoughts and prayers of our family. What wonderful memories we have of your dad and mom over the years. Russ was a very special man and role model for you all. Although we won't be able to be there for you at the service, you will all be in our hearts. Sincerely,*

THE BAILEY FAMILY, JUNE 17, 2008

*Walle Very sorry to hear of the loss of Russ. I remember a lot of good times with he and Lynn. What a reunion that must have been. God Bless you all.*

BILL GOAD, JUNE 17, 2008

*Adams Family: I'm so sorry for your loss. Your Dad was so very special. I loved his true devotion to your mom, you children, the daughter and brother in-laws, and the grandchildren. I know how much you'll miss him. He and Lynn will always live within each one of you. May God Bless you all, Sissy*

SISSY WILKINSON, JUNE 16, 2008

*Russ was a dear friend and a member of our Sunday School class. He and my husband Jim Denton (who passed away three weeks ago today) were coffee drinking friends at the DQ. I will miss his kindness and always "good words" for everyone. Rest in Peace Russ, good friend. Louise*

LOUISE DENTON, JUNE 16, 2008

*Family and friends: Russ was a wonderful friend. [We became friends on a Emmaus walk (spiritual retreat) and continued that friendship through church]*

*Russ was very caring and positive. He usually had a smile on his face. I admired his faith and his honesty, both with himself and with others. I know that he has "passed on" to a better place and am assured that we will all be together again some day.*

**ROGER WILSON, JUNE 16, 2008**

*Walle and family, your dad was a great man and he and your mom raised a great family. Their support for LHHS was incredible back in your high school years. Reading the article about your dad brought back fond memories of you and your family. I lost my dad three years ago and I know what you are going through and please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all. Martha Carona Lammers [lammersmk@aol.com](mailto:lammersmk@aol.com)*

**MARTHA CARONA LAMMERS, JUNE 16, 2008**

*I didn't know Mr.Adams - I only know his daughter, Walle. He must have been a great father to have raised such a wonderful daughter!*

**NANCY E. WILLIAMS, JUNE 16, 2008**

*We extend our condolences to the family at the loss of a kind and generous father, grandfather, friend.from the Fellowship Sunday School Class at McKinney First United Methodist Church*

**FUMC FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS BAUMGARTNER, JUNE 16, 2008**

*Walle: Although I did not know Russ well, my dad and I would occasionally drop by his house when we took morning walks out in McKinney . We enjoyed our visits with a kind man.May God's countenance strenthen you at this difficult time. Your friend, Gregg Goebel*

**GREGG R GOEBEL, JUNE 15, 2008**

*Dear Family and Friends - Thank you so much for your prayers and thoughts. Your love and friendships mean so much to our family! Please know that we understand if you can't make it to the Wednesday service. We know that you will be there in spirit! Take care of yourselves! The Adams kids!*

**WALLACE LYNTON ADAMS-GERDTS, JUNE 15, 2008**

*I knew your father was ill but was surprised to read the news in the paper. I have many memories of your parents and times we shared. As you know your*

*dad and my husband, Bill Skinner, were partners in Skinner-Adams Construction Company when all of you were so young. I am supposed to fly to Austin on Tuesday and the thought of not being at your father's service is so hard for me. I wish all of you well. I treasure all the years of friendship I had with your parents. Fondly, Jeanne Skinner Russell*

**RUSSELL K ADAMS, JUNE 15, 2008**

*I inspected Russ's homes in Richardson in the late '70's. His standards of construction were always high and it certainly made my job easier. Russ took pride in the product he offered to homebuyers; not only in the finished product that they could see but also in the quality of construction underneath the finished product. He seldom complained when he received a "red tag" but I know it hurt his pride a bit. He always treated me with respect; not always the case between contractors and city inspectors. I am sad to hear of his death and offer my condolences to the family.*

**DAVID STANFORD, JUNE 15, 2008**

*5/15/08 Laney and "all" - I was so sorry to hear the news of Russ' passing. Mom told me today. Your Dad was a very special soul and I will always treasure the fond memories I have of both he and your Mom. Your Dad introduced me to "Searays", Watersports, Corvettes, and the adventurous side to life. An appreciation for the finer things in life and "the work hard, play hard" philosophy that he exemplified. What an outstanding man! I know you will all miss him dearly, but I also, am sure you all have a smile through your tears as you imagine Russ and Lynn embracing once again in heaven. I can see Capt. Russ cruising the blue lakes of heaven with Lynn, his First Mate, right by his side. Much Love and Prayers, Di*

**DIANE ELIZABETH CUMMINS, JUNE 15, 2008**

*Your dad always had a smile in his voice and a bit of wisdom every time we talked. He will be missed greatly.....but leaves behind fond memories.*

**BOBBI HOENIGMAN, JUNE 15, 2008**

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