



Christopher Lee "Kip" Jarrett

December 30, 1950 - July 20, 2020

Christopher Lee "Kip" Jarrett was a beautiful riddle. He had both a brassy wit and an intellectual disability. He flashed an impish grin but would not meet your eyes. He had an insatiable appetite for new toys and a complete disinterest in ever gifting one. On July 20th, 2020, our Kip died at the age of 69 after a long and valiant fight with the novel coronavirus. Our family is forever grateful for the time we had with him. [L] [SEP]

Kip (or "Kippy Honey" as he was known to his family) grew up in Bluefield, West Virginia, the middle child of five. The son of the late Judge Howard Marshall Jarrett and the late Doris Franquiz Jarrett, he had a special place in the Washington Street neighborhood. Always included by his siblings and their friends who came to play, no one looked at Kip and saw the things he could not do, instead they looked at him and saw inspiration. Kip taught them tolerance, acceptance, and to meet him where he was. Occasionally, he would teach his little sisters the exotic - like the joy of eating a flower or the seriousness with which chewing gum was to be avoided.

In 1992, Kip relocated with his mother to Bethesda, Maryland to be closer to family. He loved everything the metropolitan life had to offer him: international cuisine, live music, hobby stores aplenty. Later, he became a resident of the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes (JFGH) and a member of Seeking Equality, Empowerment and Community for People with Developmental Disabilities (SEEC). These organizations gave him support, camaraderie, greater independence in his living environment, and community participation. [L] [SEP]

Kippy loved James Taylor and Bob Marley, Yogi Bear, and the Charmin Bears. He loved the rind as much as the pulp. He loved seafood (and despite his WV roots, could convert a broiled New England lobster into an empty plastic shell) and game meat (the more exotic, the better). He loved parties, Christmas, fat cats, wagons, reptiles, cartoons, cartoon villains, and pinching coveted toys from his nieces and nephews (with aplomb!).

Kip is preceded in death by his parents and his nephew Adam Marshall Jarrett. He is survived by his siblings H. Marshall Jarrett (Bunny) of Falls Church, VA; Dr. Keith Jarrett (Meg) of Gloucester, MA; Beth Jarrett (Achille Tedesco) of Potomac, MD; and Cathy Jarrett (Jay Amerson) of Greensboro, NC. Left to remember him are his nieces and nephews: Josh Jarrett, Treeve Currie, Caitlin Currie, Anthony Tedesco, Dr. Zachary

Lampert, Beth Grey Lampert, Kelsey Jarrett, Ben Jarrett & Jay Jarrett, as well as seven great nephews and a great niece.

The family would like to thank the MICU Blue Team at Johns Hopkins for the excellent care and compassion they showed Kip the two months he was in their care. We are forever grateful to the staff at the JFGH for the emotional support they provided in-person to Kip during his illness. We would also like to thank the health care workers and medical teams at the different hospitals and medical centers who worked to save Kip's life these last three and a half months. They were patient and kind to Kip and, also, our family.

Due to the current crisis, we will have a private graveside interment and plan to hold a celebration of Kip's life next year, on July 20, 2021, in his hometown of Bluefield, West Virginia.

To honor Kip's life, donations can be made in his name to JFGH (www.jfgh.org) or SEEC (www.seeonline.org).

Cemetery

Monte Vista Park Cemetery

Bluefield, WV, 24701

Comments



“ Dear Cathy and family,
I'm very sorry for your family's loss. I remember Kippy quite fondly from growing up on Washington St. so many years ago. He was always sweet and funny. Everyone in the neighborhood loved him. He had the kindest of hearts and purest of souls. Myself, as well as my siblings, Bruce, Althea, and David, offer our sincerest of sympathies to you and your family. May God comfort you in your grief.
Eleanor Short and the Leedy family



Eleanor Short - August 01, 2020 at 12:12 AM



“ I remember several conversations with Kip before he and his mom moved from Bluefield. What an inspiration to all who knew him. My thoughts are with all the Jarrett siblings and extended family. This world is definitely diminished by his loss as much as it was enhanced by his presence.
Debbie Rosenthal Jackson

Debbie Rosenthal Jackson - July 30, 2020 at 06:06 AM



“ My sincere sympathy to the Jarrett family! Judge and Mrs. Jarrett, their children and extended family were definitely great strong members of the Bluefield Family and added so much to Bluefield. I remember fondly their friendly person and always smiling, laughter; their warmth with folks in town. I didn't know Kip but I do remember seeing him with the Jarrett smile and love for life. May God grant you peace and His joy as you celebrates Kip's life and your past family members. Prayers!

Lindsey Grubb Barilla - July 28, 2020 at 07:42 PM