



## Dayton Leo Kendall

November 20, 1935 - January 7, 2017

Dayton Leo Kendall, husband of 55 glorious years, dad, grandfather and friend joined his daughter and Jesus on Saturday, January 7, 2017. This inspirational man was born on November 20, 1935 to Neal and Lilly (Wright) Kendall of Russell. He was the youngest, by 9 years, of five siblings, Geraldine (Atkinson), Juanita (Miller), Dean and Donald Kendall. He graduated from Russell High School in 1954 where he was known for singing and traveling in a quartet.

After high school he worked construction in Iowa City, on a dude ranch in New York and traveled the country with his friend Larry Linville. He was drafted into the army before returning to Iowa where he worked as a sales rep for the Gambles store.

He married his beautiful wife Linda, on January 7, 1962. They had two children, Dee and Larry Kendall. He hunted coons with his not-so-great coon dogs, camped on the river, sang and played guitar for the Roadrunners, enjoyed cold beer and great company. He was always helping in the community for the Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce.

They raised sheep and cattle on the farm, much to the disappointment of his kids. He loved business and he and Linda bought the local Gambles Hardware Store in 1982. He was thrilled when his son came to him with a business plan to install computer cables, he not only supported that endeavor but owned half of Midwest Computer Cable. He named and helped start Quiktron and was always there to help or at least to drink coffee and talk with

the employees. When Larry needed help with Muddy Outdoors, he ran the pallet jack to get those containers unloaded in under 90 minutes. Always being directed by Linda. He taught himself to play the mandolin in retirement and could pick with the best of them. He never stopped enjoying the outdoors and took Mule rides almost daily.

He leaves his wife Linda, son Larry, his wife G and their three children, Gage, Lainy & Jack to carry on in his absence.

Funeral Services will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Pastor Richard Grimes officiating.

Burial will follow services at Osborn Cemetery in Lovilia.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, January 16, 2017 at Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Dayton's family present 6 to 7:30 p.m. to greet friends and family.

Memorials may be made out to Osborn Cemetery.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 16. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-3129  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

## Funeral Service

JAN 17. 11:30 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home  
116 Benton Ave.  
Albia, IA 52531  
(641) 932-3129  
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dayton Leo Kendall*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Dayton Leo Kendall*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I just seen this. I am so sorry. Prayers and comfort to family.*

**Maggie Gardner Popson** - January 17, 2017 at 08:23 AM

KE

“ I have been so blessed in my life to have spent over 300 Saturday nights playing music with the "Roadrunners". Dayton was so talented with a guitar that it was a second language for him. He could be play soulful lyrics and sad songs of lost loves and lost dreams, or sing of the joy of the simplest pleasures in life. My best memories were toward the end of the evenings when we played happy songs by Johnny Cash of trains-a-rollin or Waylon, Willie and the boys down in Luckenbach, Texas. When Dayton let his guitar loose, a small curl of hair would drop from the front his forehead just like Superman in the last hours of the evening. The man who was like Clark Kent with never a hair out of place would transform right before your eyes. I always knew he was happy in that moment. We even kept playing right through a few fistfights- the biggest being in Lovilia during a Volunteer Fireman's Dance. Dayton never even skipped a beat and demonstrated a quiet strength that I admired and wanted for myself as a young, high school kid. When Dayton played the "Coonhunter's Stomp" (an original song of his) the dance floor would fill and everyone within earshot was suddenly happy. Dayton had a gift but more importantly he was a great husband and Dad who spoke often about his life with Linda, Larry, and Dee on our ride back to Albia in the early morning hours. I will miss that light Southern twang in his voice and the story of him playing his guitar with Buck Owens. Most of all I will miss his rock solid character. He epiromized a good, honest man.

I am a better man because of him and only wish for one more song with his smile shining at me.

My prayers and grief for Dayton will continue for the rest of my life but faith tells me that the Lord just gained a new lead guitar. And that makes me smile.

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Kevin Engstrom - January 16, 2017 at 09:31 PM

AS

“ My husband and I will always remember Dayton as the first person to sell us something on credit. Two young kids, fresh out of college, new to Albia and starting new jobs--needing a deep freeze for pork we had just gotten butchered. He didn't require a co-signer. We remembered that all the time, and returned to him for other purchases as the need arose. He was a good man.  
*Mark & Ann Simms*

Ann Simms - January 16, 2017 at 03:21 PM

DF

“ Dean and Tyke Butler and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dayton Leo Kendall.



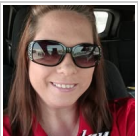
Dean and Tyke Butler and family - January 16, 2017 at 12:31 PM



“ Uncle Dayton will be greatly missed. I will miss his singing and play for us all.

*Love always Brandy Sheets-Hall family*

Brandy Hall - January 15, 2017 at 05:17 PM



“ Brandy Hall lit a candle in memory of Dayton Leo Kendall



Brandy Hall - January 15, 2017 at 05:00 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dayton Leo Kendall.*



January 15, 2017 at 03:20 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dayton Leo Kendall.*



January 15, 2017 at 10:13 AM



“ *I heard today of Dayton's passing. Priscilla and I are very saddened to hear this. I was company store manager of the Gambles Store in Albia from 1979 until it was sold to Dayton. I was so lucky to have Dayton, Janie and the other fine employees. Because of this I was able to eventually be a District Manager for Gambles and I owe much of my success to Dayton. May he rest in peace.*

**Bill & Priscilla Davis** - January 14, 2017 at 08:17 PM



“ *Linda, I am so sorry for your loss and the world's loss as he will surely be missed by many. Rose and I are in Florida until the end of the month but our hearts and prayers are with you. We had this vacation planned and paid for months ago or we would be right there. Love you all and again, prayers going your way*

**Beth Tindle** - January 14, 2017 at 07:34 AM

BO

“ *Barbara Osberg lit a candle in memory of Dayton Leo Kendall*



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**Barbara Osberg** - January 13, 2017 at 11:51 AM

BO

*Dayton is with his mom,dad,brothers and sister. The family is whole again. Daytons laugh is want I will miss the most.*

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**Barbara Osberg** - January 13, 2017 at 11:55 AM

RG

“ *Robin Good lit a candle in memory of Dayton Leo Kendall*



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**Robin Good** - January 13, 2017 at 09:27 AM

RG

*I am Gene Sheets Oldest daughter, I have heard great stories about Uncle Dayton!*

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**Robin Good** - January 13, 2017 at 02:16 PM

LW

“ *I and Dave always looked forward to playing music with Dayton and visiting with his family..always a joy to be around. I'm not very good he said first time we met him in Derby then he'd make the Gibson mandolin talk.*

*Liz Wiley*

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**liz wiley** - January 12, 2017 at 06:33 PM