



## Dennis Wayne Cotton

March 11, 1951 - December 23, 2021

Dennis Wayne Cotton passed peacefully into the loving and everlasting care of our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the morning of December 23, 2021. He was at home and surrounded by his loving family.

Dennis was born on March 11, 1951, in Milan, Tennessee, to Kenneth Hubert Cotton and Billie Sue Cotton. He was preceded in death by his Mother and Father. Dennis will forever be cherished and loved by his wife of 50 years, Theresa Frances Cotton, his 2 sons, Jeofrey James Cotton and Kyle Harris Cotton, his sister, Laurie Faye Mendez, and many more family members and friends.

Dennis had a strong belief in God since his childhood, largely attributable to the influence of his grandparents, Rev. Kester Cotton and Laura Cotton.

Dennis had several careers during his life, but his true passion was his love of music which was ever present in all that he did and experienced. He was a gifted musician and vocalist and shared his gift to the enjoyment of others.

Dennis will be remembered as a loving and devoted husband to Theresa and always the champion of his sons, Jeofrey and Kyle. Our family was truly blessed.

# Comments

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“ Having Dennis as a family member was our good fortune. He cared deeply and showed it in so many ways. Two I will especially always hold in my heart were his tenderness and patience with my Mother and his special kindnesses to me.

I will truly miss our conversations which his intelligence and quick wit made so interesting and fun whenever I visited. Dennis could talk about any and everything.

It's a wonderful thing to have memories of wacky times, special moments, kind words, thoughtful gestures and so much more of a beautiful person whom you have loved and has loved you,

Thank you Dennis for who you were and for enriching my life.

And special love to Theresa, Jeffrey and Kyle and prayers for each of you.

Jeanette

**Jeanette Murphy** - January 15 at 10:10 PM

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“ I am so sad to hear about Dennis' passing. He and I grew up in the same neighborhood as kids and went to the same high school and were musical compadres all through our lives. He was one of my favorite people and he will be sorely missed. I would like to express my sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Mark Richardson

**Mark Richardson** - January 12 at 05:08 PM

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“ Kyle lit a candle in memory of Dennis Wayne Cotton



**Kyle** - January 10 at 01:38 AM

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“ I love you Dad miss you tremendously buddy c u real soon poppa bear ur my #1 pal always xooxoo



Kyle - January 10 at 01:33 AM

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“ Robi and I are saddened to hear about the loss of our good friend and fellow musician Dennis Cotton. In the time we spent together I have such great memories of him. He was always kind to me and others, especially in the musicians world. We had many years of great fun playing in bands. His humor and wit would always bring a smile to everyone. And what a great musician. I am grateful for being a part of his life. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Theresa and the boys. And may God bring them comfort in the days ahead in knowing that Dennis was loved and admired by so many.

Tony Kelly - January 07 at 02:36 PM

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“ It is really something when your big sister marries a musician. To a young teenage girl, my sister's boyfriend was a "celebrity". He played the keyboard and sang with some pretty cool people. I loved listening to him. How cool it was to go see him play! Then she married him and he became my "brother". He teased me a lot! He loved not only my sister, but my entire family. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do for us. He was completely devoted to Theresa and his sons. He loved their pets too! The love and comfort he showed our Mother was like no other. She loved him as her own. He was a true Christian man and loved our Lord. I truly believe he will watch over Theresa and the boys from afar and I pray they take comfort in knowing this and feel his presence and love surrounding them. Rest easy Big Brother and we will see you again some day. I love you Theresa, Jeofrey and Kyle.

yvonne hudson - January 04 at 10:13 PM

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“ I have the great pleasure of working with Theresa and I got to meet Dennis when I served as his case manager. While I knew Theresa to be one of the sweetest people I have ever known imagine my surprise when I met Dennis and he was equally as sweet as she was. Instead of discussing what his needs were we spent our time together discussing Theresa. Dennis went on and on talking about his beautiful, generous, and selfless bride. He let me know that there was no one more perfect than her. No matter how many times I tried to redirect him he would always end by saying that he had the best nurse at home and was in good hands. The two were perfectly paired and I am so glad that they were blessed to find each other. My prayers are for comfort and peace for this family as they go through this trying time. I sincerely hope that Theresa continues to light up when she thinks of or speaks of her high school sweetheart. I pray that she knows that he will live forever in her and their children's hearts. Theresa, I am sending you love, light, and the contentment that comes with knowing that you were truly and most certainly loved. ~~Angela Jackson

**Angela P. Jackson** - January 04 at 09:31 PM

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“ Dennis was a dear and special friend. I met Dennis as a teenager when he played in a local band, the Union, of which I was the fan club president. He was both a talented key board player and vocalist. He could sing The Bee Gees even almost better than the brothers Gibb.

He attended college at the University of St. Thomas with my ex-husband and me. My then husband was a Cotton, but not related.

I loved hanging out with him. He was funny and creative. Dennis had a motorcycle and took me for a ride. I will never forget him ending up in the hospital after an accident. At that point, I no longer thought motorcycles were cool except for Peter Fonda in Easy Rider.

I regret that hubby, Steve Hitt, and I had no time to bring him one of my homemade lasagnas. Also, I will always wonder how a Union reunion would have been with him on the key board and hubby, Steve Hitt on lead guitar.

I admire his devotion to his wife Theresa and his boys. He was always smiling and joking.

His music was his ministry, and many of us are better people from listening to him play and sing as his grandparents before him had used words to preach the gospel.

He loved our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I know when our Lord received him, Dennis was welcomed with the words, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

I miss you, my friend. Please be there as part of my welcome committee.

Rest in Heavenly peace, my sweet friend.

**Mary Stepleton-Hitt** - January 04 at 08:35 PM



“ Thank you dearly Mary well said. God bless u

**Kyle** - January 10 at 01:36 AM

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“ I knew Dennis way back in the early 70's when we played in a band together. We briefly reconnected in recent years. I am so sorry to hear this. I had hoped we eventually would get to visit face to face. Dennis was a great guy. I am sure he will be missed by all.



**Tommy Laird** - January 04 at 08:05 PM



“ Dennis and I went way back. What a great and unique guy he was. I'm shocked. Sorry I put off calling you. I'll always remember o gigs together. RIP Dennis.

**David Cutaia** - January 04 at 09:00 PM

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“ Dennis' wife Theresa has been a close friend of mine for many years. I first met Dennis when Theresa and I were in nursing school. I know they were married 50 years (they married very young) and were always inseparable! They served as the perfect example of what marriage was created to be. As a nurse I had the privilege of caring for Dennis on several occasions. I would often pray with both he and Theresa. I remember recently I had a conversation with Dennis where I asked him, "what is the greatest blessing of your life?" Dennis quickly said, "Theresa, she is the best wife in the entire world!" I agreed, there was nothing she would not do to help Dennis or their boys.

I always respected Dennis greatly. He was a Christian influence in this lost and hurting world. He always had something kind to say. I must say he was an encourager and a helper. I remember nights when my husband was on hospice years ago, Dennis would often bring Theresa dinner to work and he would always include me. He was fun to be around! What I loved most about Dennis was his faithfulness to Theresa, and their boys!

Theresa, I am praying for you & the boys daily. My heart is broken for you and I am happy to do whatever I can to help you through this extremely tough time. I know well that truly Jesus offers all the Peace, Protection and Provision you need. Please lean on him. Jesus wants you to turn to him! The Bible says, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you, For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened"

Matthew 7: 7-8

I Love You,  
Kathy Winburn

**Kathy Winburn** - January 04 at 07:49 PM

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“ Dennis had and will always hold a very special place in my heart. He was the sweetest most caring brother in the world. I pray that the Lord will bless Theresa, Jeof and Kyle with the peace that surpasses all understanding. You are truly missed Bubba.

**Laurie Mendez** - January 04 at 07:16 PM



“ Dad loved you a whole lot aunty. You were very special to him.

**Kyle** - January 10 at 01:37 AM