



## Lloyd C. Kirkland Jr.

April 30, 1928 - August 4, 2020

Lloyd C. Kirkland, Jr. passed away peacefully at his home on August 4, 2020 after a brief series of health issues. Born April 30, 1928 in Memphis, to the late Lloyd C. Kirkland, Sr. and Sarah Davidson Kirkland, he was 92 at the time of his death.

Lloyd was a true native son of Memphis. He's a rarity for earning a post-graduate degree but only attending two schools. He attended public school at Messick for 12 years where he was valedictorian of his class, captain of the basketball team, and a member of the Memphis All-City Basketball Team in 1946. He went to Yale University on an academic scholarship for 7 years, undergraduate and law school.

Lloyd practiced law in Memphis for 67 years. He was admitted to the Tennessee Bar on August 5, 1953, and began his legal career in the law firm of Taylor and Taylor. In 1963, he started his own law practice and remained a solo practitioner the rest of his life, specializing in wills and estates. Just before his death, when he was still regularly going to court, he was the oldest practicing lawyer in Memphis. During his distinguished legal career, he served many times as a special judge in Probate Court.

Lloyd always saw that family came first, then community, then work.

He was a founder of the White Station Optimist Club of East Memphis, served as its first president in 1964, and rarely missed its weekly breakfast meetings. He was a founder of the University Churches Day Care Center and served as its treasurer for twenty-five years and on its Board of Directors. He has served his church, Buntyn Presbyterian, in numerous capacities over the years, including treasurer and elder. He served as legal advisor to and as a member of the Board of Directors of Memphis Theological Seminary for many years. Throughout his career, he was an active supporter of Memphis Area Legal Services, where a conference room is named in his honor. He was true believer in justice for all and was a tireless mentor for young lawyers. He leaves a family legacy of lawyers; one daughter and two of his grandsons followed in his footsteps.

Lloyd was also an avid sports fan. He and his wife have been Memphis Tiger basketball

season ticket holders for 58 years, dating back to the time the Tigers played in the Fieldhouse. He loved watching the St. Louis Cardinals. He took great delight in the sports exploits of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He himself was an enthusiastic golfer, with four holes-in-one to his credit, the last at age 89. Work never stood in the way of his Tuesday and Thursday golf outings at Windyke Country Club where he was a member for over 50 years, from 1968 until he retired from golf in 2018. His only regret in golf was having to pay the bar bill four times!

When he wasn't enjoying sports, he was enjoying the arts. He had season tickets to the Orpheum, Playhouse on the Square, Theatre of Memphis, and the Memphis Symphony Pops Concerts Series, and he very seldom missed a performance.

A kind and caring man, he will be sorely missed by his loving family, colleagues, many friends, and his administrative assistant of 30 years, Cyndi Watkins. He is survived by the love of his life, Ann Kirkland, his wife of 69 years; his three daughters, Dabney Shelton (Steve), Diane Vescovo (Mike McLaren), and Dena Ketchmark (Chris); his brother, Billy Kirkland; his six grandsons, Brian Shelton (Carrie Beth), Adam Shelton (Stephanie), Stephen Vescovo (Heather), Nic Vescovo (Marianna), Michael Ketchmark, and Sam Ketchmark ; two step-grandchildren, Annie Neufeld (Josh), and Michael McLaren (Courtney); and nine great-grandchildren, Ellie Shelton, Will Shelton, Lawson Shelton, Brooks Shelton, Lilliana Vescovo, Trace Vescovo, Kellan Vescovo, Max Vescovo, and Eva Vescovo; four step great-grandchildren, Isabel Neufeld, Bethany Neufeld, Mack McLaren, and Eleanor McLaren; and many nieces and nephews. A special thanks to his Home Instead caregivers – Saundria, Laurie, Julian, Gaye, Freddie, Bobbie, and Larry.

Because of COVID-19, there will be a private ceremony on Monday celebrating his life for immediate family only. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his honor to Memphis Area Legal Services, Inc., Suite 1100, Falls Building, 22 North Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103 or online at [malsi.org](http://malsi.org).

Arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis, TN 38119, 901-767-8930..."A Fitting Farewell for Everyone"...

# Comments

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“ Mr. Kirkland and I were great friends as we shared memories of one of his clients. I usually helped him when he came to Probate Court, and we would laugh about an inside joke that only he and I understood. I will miss him dearly, but I am grateful that I got the chance to know him. May God be with his family and friends during this time.

Sincerely,  
Deena Weathers

**Deena Weathers** - August 10, 2020 at 09:59 AM

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“ There are too many memories to share of our years growing up next door to the Kirkland family. I will always remember Mr. Kirkland fondly.

**Ellen Mitchell** - August 08, 2020 at 11:34 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lloyd C. Kirkland Jr..



August 08, 2020 at 12:38 PM

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“ Lloyd was a kind and gentle man. Love, prayers, and peace to Ann and the family.  
Nancy Prillaman

**Nancy Prillaman** - August 06, 2020 at 07:32 PM

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“ Uncle Lloyd was such a sweet and caring person. He always had a smile on his face and so welcoming anytime I saw him.

**Becky Jones** - August 06, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ Lloyd was one of the finest men I have ever known. An outstanding leader, a wonderful Christian, successful lawyer, and a real family man. He will be missed, but I have wonderful memories of him. John Coleman

John Coleman - August 05, 2020 at 09:50 PM



“ I'll remember Lloyd as a true gentleman-kind, generous, loving, dedicated to his family and church family, and living life to the fullest. Ron and I express our deepest sympathy to Ann and the entire family.  
Ronnie and Diane

diane bonner - August 05, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ To the Kirkland family let me say my heartfelt prayers go out to you. There is a great tug at my heart learning of attorney Kirklands demise. He was there for my fathers family (C.L. Timms Sr) from the beginning of his practice to the end. No matter what the legal problem was attorney Kirkland handled it. Automobil accidents, civil, criminal, accounting, what ever assistance my father needed with his family. And there was never a charge. When I asked him why, he said they extended the courtesy of their expertise to each other. My father kept his automobiles going as he was a foreman under the supervision of attorney Kirklands father at M.E Carter's Fruit and Produce Co.. So that his wife and children could go about their daily task and plans safely. And any other maintenance needed in his home. Being my daddy's baby girl (Gwendoline) I was always around and remember. Mrs Kirkland Sr and Jr. As well. What a wonderful family. I thought you were suppose to call the attorney to do your taxes until Attorney Kirkland informed me why he handled all of my fathers legal business. And I could take care of a short form myself. I know I've written a lot but their is not enough space to say It all. His family was their for us over 35 yrs ago during the loss of our father. But it didn't stop there. About 5 yrs ago the attorney called our home for us to bring our mom in (who is 98yrs now and at her home in our care) to update her will and mine. He wanted to make sure that if she should pass we would not lose anything our father and mother (C.L. And Ollie is what he said) worked for. He was always there for my brother during a time of segregation that I will not go into detail about. But always on our side. He told us what to do and what papers to take downtown and file should my mother pass. I am in tears for I have a deep love for this man who has always been their for me and always answered my call and returned them as well. What a Godly soul. . I shall continue to pray for you for I do know how it is to loose first a a husband and father, grandfather, head of the family, leader, confidant, mentor, pillar of strength, tower of hope, joy and undying love. Though their is a link missing in the Kirkland chain now I know that it will still hold tight because attorney Kirkland weld it together with a strong bond. I speak for my mother and sisters, may God continue to bless you Mrs Kirkland and entire Kirkland family. May peace be unto you

Gwendoline Timms-Williams - October 07, 2020 at 02:57 PM