



Kelly Renae Rakes

May 8, 1977 - October 15, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Kelly Renae Rakes, who left us unexpectedly at the age of 48. Born on May 8, 1977, in Springdale, AR, Kelly spent her early years on a farm in Nebraska, where her days were filled with adventure and laughter alongside her siblings, aunts, uncles, and beloved lambs-Bucky and Bambi. Her love of animals never left her. She embraced the joys of country life and was often the ringleader in her neighborhood, organizing games and mischief with the other children.

In 1989, Kelly and her family moved to Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where she went on to graduate from Bartlesville High School in 1995. Throughout her high school years, Kelly's vibrant and warm personality shone brightly. She was active in art and band while also being an integral member of her youth group at First United Methodist Church. Kelly's friends knew her as a fierce and loyal companion—always the first to offer a word of encouragement.

After high school, Kelly pursued her passion for beauty and art, studying at Oral Roberts University for three years before earning her Cosmetology license. Kelly's clients and friends alike were drawn to her kind heart and genuine spirit—she never met a stranger and had the rare gift of making everyone feel like family.

In addition to her work, Kelly was an incredibly talented artist, a fierce champion at trivia, and a lifelong lover of music—from Elvis to the Rolling Stones to modern rock classics and a whole bunch in between. Whether she was creating art, winning trivia contests, or simply enjoying her favorite bands,

Kelly brought a level of passion and joy that was contagious to all who spent time with her.

Kelly is survived by her parents, Larry and Coleen Rakes; her brother and sister-in-law, Travis and Becke Rakes; her sisters, Erinn and Kendra Rakes; her brother, Jared Rakes, and her nephews, Oliver and Tobin. She is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless friends who cherished her dearly.

A private service will be held for Kelly, as her family honors her memory. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you honor Kelly's life by doing something kind for a friend, loved one, or even a stranger—a small act of kindness in her spirit.

Kelly will be deeply missed, but her memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Tribute Wall

HH

“ Here I am, months into 2026 and I am just now seeing this devastating news. Kelly, you were too precious for this world. I never got to say thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for all you did for me in my desperate times of need. You were a true gem, that shined brighter than the sun. We were stuck like glue from the moment we met. We were true Virgos and never ran out of things to gab about. You were a shoulder for me cry on, gave me all the belly laughs when my world was falling apart around me. We came from such different parts of life, but had so much in common. You were solidier and would fight any great fight for anyone who couldnt do it on their own. I cherish the time we shared. I am grateful for the love you gave me when all I had was darkness around me. This truly breaks my heart. I pray your family and loved ones have found peace in knowing that you are with your maker, in the most beautiful kingdom where you couldnt wait to be. I love you Kells. There will never be anyone else like you.



Hailey Hamilton - March 19 at 11:03 AM

RW

“ Kelly n I was close I luv u kell



Retha Williams - October 22, 2025 at 09:54 AM

HM

Kelly and i were friends in high school. Miss you every day my friend

Heather Mayfield - December 04, 2025 at 10:10 PM

JH

“ JEAN HARRIS lit a candle in memory of Kelly Renae Rakes



JEAN HARRIS - October 20, 2025 at 09:26 AM

PB

“ I love kelly Rakes you will be missed

Peggy Beers Joseph Barnes - October 20, 2025 at 12:19 AM

PB

“ Peggy Beers Joseph Barnes lit a candle in memory of Kelly Renae Rakes



Peggy Beers Joseph Barnes - October 20, 2025 at 12:11 AM

PB

“ Peggy Beers purchased the "Forever In Our Hearts" Memorial Garden Stone – A Lasting Tribute of Love and Remembrance for the family of Kelly Renae Rakes.



Peggy Beers - October 20, 2025 at 12:08 AM

PB

“ Peggy Beers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Renae Rakes.

Peggy Beers - October 20, 2025 at 12:08 AM

RM

“ Richard McClain lit a candle in memory of Kelly Renae Rakes

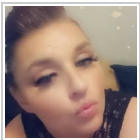


Richard McClain - October 19, 2025 at 01:13 AM

ST

“ I remember when Kelly came to my daughter Anna's house and cut and styled her hair. It was a wonderful thing for her to do because Anna was really having a hard time .Kelly also helped me with my hair several times and always did a good job and was so nice. As a family we are saddened by her loss, Rest in Peace Kelly

Sherry Thompson - October 18, 2025 at 06:07 PM



“ Kelly was one of my best friends and I am so thankful to have had the time I did hav with her. She always knew just what to say. I love you Kelz!

Regina Baginski - October 17, 2025 at 06:50 PM

DQ

“ Beautiful tribute to Kelly, and the spirit and heart she generously shared!

Doug & Penny Quinn - October 17, 2025 at 04:17 PM