



## Philip "Bart" Barton Key

May 22, 1944 - January 14, 2024

Philip Barton (Bart) Key, 79, of Stevensville, Maryland, passed away on January 14, 2024 after a short but courageous battle with leukemia.

Bart was born on May 22, 1944 to Francis Scott and Elizabeth (Betty) McKeever Key in Washington, D.C. He was a member of the first four-year graduating class of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in 1962 and went on to earn a business degree from Georgetown University.

After college, he began an illustrious, 27-year career at Singer Link Systems, where he became the Director of Tactical Nuclear Simulation. After retiring from that position, he enjoyed a second, equally successful career at the Sherwood Forest Community, where he served as the General Manager for 25 years. He was widely admired by the residents and his colleagues not only for his expertise in business matters, but also his winning, charismatic personality.

Bart married his beloved wife, Kristie (Sheehan) Key, in 1981, and together they created a large, loving, blended family that would grow to include eight children and nineteen grandchildren. He had a life-long passion for boating, fishing, and crabbing on the Chesapeake Bay, and he loved to share those pastimes with his family and friends. He also loved being on the sidelines to cheer on his children and grandchildren as they competed in various sports.

He is survived by his dear wife of 43 years, Kristie Key, their children, their spouses, and grandchildren. They include: Anne and Michael Ardizzone and their children, Luke, Colin, and Emma; Philip and Erika Key and their children, Madeline, Chloe, and Philip III; Fred and Karen Key and their daughters, Emily, Courtney, and Abigail; Johanna Merryman and her son, Ryan; Kristin and Richard Demma, and their sons, Preston, Aidan, and Ronan; Janis and Joaquin Sequeira and their children, Amelia and Sebastian; Sarah and Kenny Seeling and their children, Kenzie and Colton; and Mary and Mark Parme and their children, Hayden and Tilghman.

Bart is also survived by his brother and sister, Francis Scott Key (Ann) and Mary Hendricks and her family.

He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all, whether they knew him as Bart, Dad, PopPop, or Captain Key.

A viewing will be held at Fellows, Helfenbein and Newman Funeral Home in Chester, Maryland on Friday, January 19th from 1:30-3:30pm. All are welcome to join in a Celebration of Life following the viewing from 4-6pm at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club in Stevensville, Maryland.

Bart's family wishes to thank the amazing nurses who treated him with such care and compassion in his final days. In lieu of flowers, gifts in memory of Bart Key may be directed to support Oncology Nursing at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. Please make checks payable to Johns Hopkins University. Gifts may be mailed with a memo indicating that this gift is in memory of Philip Barton Key to the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, 750 E. Pratt Street, Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202 or make a gift online. If you'd like to make a gift online, please visit the link (<https://secure.jhu.edu/form/Kimmel>) and select 'Other' from the drop-down menu. Please type in

"Oncology Nursing". In the next step please note donation is in Memory of Philip Barton Key.'

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 19. 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619

## Celebration of Life

JAN 19. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Chesapeake Bay Beach Club  
500 Marina Club Rd.  
Stevensville, MD 21666

*In the Garden Room*

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Philip "Bart" Barton Key*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - January 18, 2024 at 02:24 PM

RH

*What a life! Just what he wanted...*

Rick Hendricks - January 19, 2024 at 11:45 AM

VJ

“ *What sad news to hear about my old friend and classmate from Georgetown days. The duck and goose hunting, followed by stripper fishing and crab feasts in the summer, will always stand out in my memory. Most of all I remember Bart resolving to give up smoking by consuming large quantities of Vicks cough drops instead. When all of us in the dorm rebelled about the smell of the cough drops, he switched to Life Savers until his dentist told him his teeth were on the verge of ruin. God bless you Bart and bon voyage.*

*Charlie Jackson  
Washington, CT*

V. Charles Jackson - January 20, 2024 at 07:45 AM

NS

“ Deeply saddened to learn of the passing of my friend of 60+ years. Bart and I were classmates at Georgetown University from 1962-1966.

*I have fond memories of visiting the family farm on Kent island. I learned how to ride a horse, fire a shotgun and field dress a goose under the “close” supervision of Bart’s dad.*

*Bart was always the ” adult “ in the room, a great hearts player and a reliable designated driver.*

*RIP old friend.*

*Nick Spiridakis*

*Rehoboth Mass*

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**Nick Spiridakis** - January 19, 2024 at 10:36 AM

KA

“ I am a lifelong friend of Bart's son, Fred. As a young adult, I have great memories of spending time at his place on the Chesapeake Bay. He graciously opened his beautiful home to friends and family. He will be missed. My condolences to you and those close to him during this difficult time.

*Kevin Afshar*

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**Kevin Afshar** - January 19, 2024 at 09:43 AM

EB

“ Dear Family,

*I must echo the words of my sister Mary when remembering the summers we use spent with all of you. You introduced us, as Mary said, to all the magic that happened on Kent Island and the Eastern Shore, starting with the Cockey's cabin and then moving on. The joys of catching crab, catching fireflies, summer days and nights on Mascobar (the boat). We slept peacefully, with our stomachs full of crab dreaming of our adventures. How wonderful it all was. Warmest personal regards to all at this time of loss. Elizabeth Butterfield*

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**Elizabeth Butterfield** - January 17, 2024 at 06:36 PM

FK

“ *Bart was my first mentor after I graduated from the University of Maryland in 1966 at General precision link group in Silver Spring. We were just young men starting our life in the business world connected to the aerospace industry. And on top of that, we had the same last name – KEY(Melvin “FRANK “Lin Key- but no relation. He taught me the ropes of how to get things done. My prayers are with the family. God bless all. Frank Key(301-908-7594)*

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**Frank Key** - January 17, 2024 at 12:35 PM

AM

“ Dear Family,

*Although we have not seen each other for many years, I will continue to remember Barty as our fun and energetic cousin who showed us how to enjoy fireflies and how to catch crab on the Chesapeake!*

*Our condolences on his passing.  
Alan and Mary (Butterfield) Morran*

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**Alan Morran** - January 17, 2024 at 11:56 AM

LF

“ *Condolences for your loss. Thoughts and prayers with you.  
Michael and Lisa Fox*

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**lisa a fox** - January 16, 2024 at 05:55 PM