



## Michael Dennis Kelly

July 24, 1957 - February 15, 2021

Michael Dennis Kelly, 63, loving husband, devoted father, loyal American, and community servant, passed away February 15, 2021.

A native of Queens, New York, son of Charles F. Kelly of Greensboro, North Carolina and the late Patricia A. Ryan Kelly. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran, a retired FDNY/911 Hero/firefighter Engine 290 in Brooklyn, N.Y., and an employee of Greenville County School District. He was of the Baptist faith. Also surviving are his wife of 37 years, Dianne Linda Roessler Kelly of the home; four sons, Patrick Joseph Kelly of Greer, Timothy Michael Kelly (wife Sarah Kelly) of Travelers Rest, John Richard Kelly and James Charles Kelly of Greer; a daughter, Catherine Marie Kelly of Greer. He has one brother, Timothy P. Kelly of San Francisco, California; four sisters, Grace Baker (Bryan) of McMurray, Pennsylvania, Mary Kelly Iida (Claudio) of Los Angeles, California, Patricia Bossen (Kenneth) of Massapequa, New York and Noreen Finestone (Paul) of Los Angeles, California; and two grandchildren, Cheyenne Blakeney and Novaleigh Kelly.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, 2021 at The Wood Mortuary, conducted by Pastor Mike Miller. Burial will be held in M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery at a later date.

The family is at the home.

Online condolences may be made at [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com)

# Cemetery Details

## M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery

140 Inway Drive  
Anderson, SC 29621

# Previous Events

## Service

FEB 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

THE WOOD MORTUARY CHAPEL  
300 West Poinsett Street  
Greer, SC 29650  
(864) 877-3351  
[woodmortuary@bellsouth.net](mailto:woodmortuary@bellsouth.net)

# Tribute Wall



“ *The Wood Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Michael Dennis Kelly*



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**The Wood Mortuary** - February 18, 2021 at 12:21 PM

RS

*Diane, so sorry for your loss. My prayers are for Mike, you & the rest of your family.*

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**Rosemary Stein** - February 18, 2021 at 03:33 PM

DF

*My sincere condolences to you and your beautiful family Dianne. I know you are a woman of great faith and it's that great strength that will help guide you through the days ahead. I'm so sorry for the loss of your husband. 🙏🙏🙏*

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**Diane Fischer** - February 18, 2021 at 03:45 PM

NF

*In Honor Of My Brother's Life, Michael Dennis Kelly,  
I Found The Service To Be "OUTSTANDING!"*

*I was touched by the delivery & message from the Pastor.  
The chosen scriptures & stories were very effective.  
The Pastor certainly knew my brother Michael, and that was easily  
expressed in an honorable way.*

*The Pastors message to Dianne, Patrick, Catherine, Timothy, Johnny,  
James, and Family was gingerly expressed. Touching, Moving, & Well  
Received!*

*The Vocalist & Music were Perfect!  
Wonderful selection of music, and song!  
Delightful!*

*To Our Beloved Military,  
Thank You For Your Service!*

*Thank You For The Lovely Service,  
Honoring My Brother Michael Dennis Kelly!*

*Love, Sister Noreen*

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**Noreen "Kelly" Finestone** - February 18, 2021 at 07:30 PM

MM

“ I knew Mike from my days Buffing at Engine 290/Ladder 103. Mike always had a big smile on his face and could light up any room he walked into. He was a gentle giant and I always looked forward to seeing him on my trips to NYC . I remember many a night, Mike would be up in the bunk room, reading his bible and we had many great conversations about our Lord and Savior. Recently, I had been asking former FDNY members if they knew where Mike was these days and I am so very happy to know he was enjoying retirement with his loving family.

*Mark Munroe  
Derry New Hampshire*

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**Mark Munroe** - March 09, 2021 at 08:50 PM

CS

“ Our heart goes out to all of you, Tim, Grace, Mary, Patty & Noreen, (having lost Bobby & Joan) we feel your loss & as we spoke of Mike we both had fond memories of when your family live just 3 houses away from us growing up

Please give our condolences to Mike's family for their loss. You are all in our thoughts & prayers.

So sorry for your loss  
Carol Smedley & Mike Smedley

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**Carol Smedley** - February 19, 2021 at 05:01 PM

 William Moseley

“ So sorry for your loss. I knew Mike briefly in high school. Looks like he had a wonderful life, while not as long as we all would have liked, he did many great things in the time he had.

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**William Moseley** - February 19, 2021 at 12:58 AM

NV

“ I am Nick Vitucci who would like to share a memory.. I had the honor of introducing Mike to Diane. My friendship with each family spanned decades of knowing each other. I used to watch Mike wrestle in H.S. Knowing that he was always a winner. I will always value my friendship and special connection to Mike.. with a heavy heart I send my condolences to Diane and their children and the rest of the Kelly family for the loss of a special man.

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**Nick Vitucci** - February 18, 2021 at 06:24 PM

JP

“ I drove a bus with Mike at Pelham Road Elementary for 2 years. We were friends and shared a heart for ministry. I am sorry for your loss and I know he will be missed. May the Lord Bless you all and keep you during this time and the days to come. In Christ, Joey Parris

Joey Parris - February 18, 2021 at 11:02 AM

NF

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



Noreen Kelly Finestone - February 18, 2021 at 12:34 AM



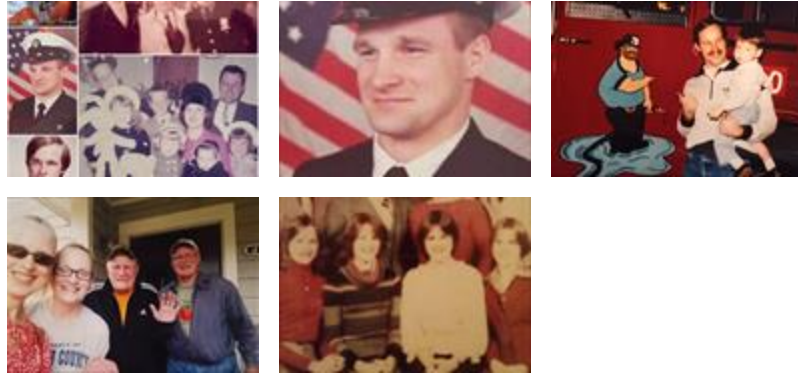
“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



February 17, 2021 at 11:13 PM

NF

“ 40 files added to the tribute wall



Noreen Kelly Finestone - February 17, 2021 at 10:22 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



February 17, 2021 at 09:55 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



February 17, 2021 at 05:35 PM

NF

“ Noreen, Paul, & Ben Finestone purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



Noreen, Paul, & Ben Finestone - February 17, 2021 at 01:23 PM

LM

“ Love Claudio and Mary purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



Love Claudio and Mary - February 17, 2021 at 12:13 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



February 16, 2021 at 11:04 PM



“ Divine Light was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.



February 16, 2021 at 09:28 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.*



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February 16, 2021 at 08:38 PM

“ I am filled with love and gratitude to have Michael as my big brother. He was always there for me. He was a man who would stop what he was doing and listen to you if you needed him. He was a kind, loving and empathetic man. He was a gentleman, i.e., the kind of man who respected women, appreciated them and knew how special they were especially to the family. Michael loved his wife Dianne so much that even after many years of marriage, he spoke of her as if they were on their first date in the local ice cream shop. As he reminisced about his date with Dianne, his eyes got teary as he smiled and shared his "date" story with me.

Recently, Michael told me how much he needed and loved his family. His life was the family he created with Dianne and without them, he wasn't complete. He was so proud of all his children and looking forward to some adventures with Dianne. "Mary, Dianne deserves to have fun, relax and see all the places she's always wanted to see. She has sacrificed so much for all of us, especially me. I just want to make her happy. I love the way she laughs and smiles. We're ready. We're ready for our adventures. I'm excited to share them with her. We've talked about them for so....long. Now it's time to just go. We want to see places, laugh together, and just have fun.

Michael and I have had many good times together. While growing up in "The Kelly Family" our home was always noisy and filled with love and laughter. All of our birthday parties were theme-based and there were a lot of decorations for every holiday.

Michael and I were close when we played on sports teams and our practices were at the same time and location. We shared a glance every once in awhile and simply smiled at each other.

I have so many fond memories of playing, swimming, and going to the drive-in movies with our entire family. I was looking forward to the next chapter of our lives. As you and Dianne went on your adventures, I wanted to hear all about them. I was looking forward

*to creating new experiences.*

*Life is filled with twists and turns and Michael passing on to heaven is clearly one of them. While I know you are no longer suffering, that makes me happy. But, I will miss you so very much Michael. I will miss your beautiful smile, eyes, and heart. I will miss your guidance and sharing family activities.*

*I look forward to watching your children grow and eventually start families of their own. I'm so proud of you. You lived the life you wanted to live and I admire that about you. May you rest as you move on to the next chapter of your life.*

*I love you and am so very grateful God made you my big brother. Thank you for everything you did to make my life easier and more enjoyable. I will always appreciate your specialness, uniqueness, and the way you made me laugh.*

*Hugs and Love,*

*Your sister Mary*

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**Mary Kelly** - February 16, 2021 at 08:17 PM

JH

*Beautiful sentiment and a wonderful description of the man Michael was and will always be. There is a simple reason that so many people have commented, and grieved, over Mike's passing. He was a genuinely good, nice, loving person. He made everyone feel better, just by knowing him or being in his presence. I know that as you look at his children, you will see Michael's goodness in them and you will smile. You will know that Michael has not left us, but continues to live on inside of many of us. May your memories of Michael bring you comfort, as he is in heaven keeping an eye on you.*

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**Joel A. Horowitz** - February 23, 2021 at 09:33 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.*



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February 16, 2021 at 06:26 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.*



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February 16, 2021 at 03:40 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Michael Dennis Kelly.*



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February 16, 2021 at 11:41 AM