



Gregory Keith Martin

September 14, 2008

Conway, SC.....Mayor Gregory K. Greg Martin, age 51, of Elm Street, Conway, died Saturday, September 13, 2008 at his mountain house in North Carolina. He was born in Conway, a son of Julia Johnson Martin Land and the late George Henry Martin, Sr. Mr. Martin was a 1975 graduate of Conway High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society. He then attended Clemson University and was a 1979 graduate. While he was a student at Clemson, he pledged Sigma Nu Fraternity and was involved in several campus organizations. After graduation, he was appointed to Clemson's Young Alumni National Council and was a United States Senate Intern. He received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law where he was inducted into Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity. Upon graduation from law school, he returned to Conway and served as Law Clerk to the late Judge Sidney T. Floyd. In 1983, Mr. Martin began private practice focusing on real estate law, probate law and business law. He was an agent for Old Republic Title Insurance receiving that company's Circle of Excellence Award as a top South Carolina Agent many times. During his career, he was a member of the Horry County Bar, the South Carolina Bar, and the American Bar Associations. In 1990, Mr. Martin was elected to Conway City Council. Prior to his election, his city service included the Conway Planning Commission 1986-1989, Chairman of the Planning Commission 1989, Conway Board of Appeals 1987-1989 Conway Board of Appeals 1987-1989, and the Horry County Board of Architectural Review. He

served as Mayor Pro Tempore in 1994. Later in 1994, he was elected to the first of four terms serving as Mayor of the City of Conway. He was Conway's second longest serving mayor. He served two terms as Chairman of the Horry County League of Cities. Under his leadership the city developed the Conway Riverfront, Mill Pond Road, re-vitalized downtown Conway, and enhanced the city's parks. He fought for historic preservation and worked to develop Neighborhood Associations throughout the city. Mr. Martin was involved in many community activities including service as Chairman of the Conway Planning Commission, President of the Horry County Historical Society, and Chairman of Conway Main Street USA Board of Directors. He also served on the Peedee Heritage Foundation Board and the Sandlapper Society Advisory Board. He was a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church and served as Chairman of the Administrative Board, Chairman of the Council on Ministries, Church Historian, and member of the Chancel Choir. Mr. Martin was the recipient of numerous honors and awards including Outstanding Young Man of America, Who's Who in America, Who's Who in American Law, Lifetime Achievement Award from Conway Main Street USA, the Distinguished Public Service Award by the SC Downtown Development Association. In addition he was the recipient of the SC Preservation Award from the Palmetto Trust for Historical Preservation and the Preservation Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution. In 2004, he was named Outstanding Conway High School Alumnus of the Year and was inducted into its Hall of Fame. Mr. Martin was predeceased by his grandmother, Mary Tuton Martin. Surviving in addition to his mother, Julia Johnson Martin Land, of Conway, are his Step-Father, Benjamin S. Land, a brother, George H. Martin, Jr., and his wife, Maryanne, a sister, Tamra Martin Steiner, two nephews, Scott James Steiner, Jr. and George Henry Martin, III, and two nieces, Anne Marie Martin and Emily Ann Steiner, all of Conway. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Mac Kinnett officiating. Burial will follow in Lakeside Cemetery directed by Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel.

Mayor Martin will lie in state at Conway City Hall Council Chambers, 1001 Third Avenue, Conway from noon until 8:00 pm Tuesday. Citizens are invited to come anyti

Tribute Wall



“ We send Greg's family our sincere sympathy; please know that we have prayed for you all. We resided in Conway 1996-1999 and were active in many organizations including FirstChurch, so we had the wonderful opportunity to know Greg. We enjoy the Horry Independent sent to us in NYS, and you certainly can be proud and comforted by the many wonderful words written about him. God Bless You.##imported-begin##John & Sue Ann Palmer##imported-end##

September 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ To the entire Martin family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you. I will surely miss seeing Mr. Martin at the Clemson games, it won't be the same. Justin Mullis Theta Zeta 617##imported-begin##Justin Mullis##imported-end##

September 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Although we weren't the closest of fraternity brothers, he was loved and revered by all of us. He was as honorable of a person as any of us ever knew. No one ever had anything negative to say about Greg. He is missed. Theta Zeta #163##imported-begin##John Bickley##imported-end##

September 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ In times like this may the Lord comfort and console your hearts. The prayers of the Damascus Missionary Baptist Church Family are with you. May God forever keep you...##imported-begin##Rev. Dorothy Jones##imported-end##

September 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ On behalf of the staff and residents of Kingston Nursing Center, I offer our prayers and sympathy to the entire Martin family. We were honored to have Greg visit our home on several occasions to help us either "kick off" nursing home week or assist us in other ways. He truly will be missed.##imported-begin##Laura Fowler##imported-end##

September 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the Martin family. I met Greg and his brother years ago and always considered Greg to be a fine man. He will surely be missed by his family, as he was the highlight of their lives. Conway as lost a bright star.##imported-begin##Gia Lee##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg was such a fine honorable man. I have had the pleasure of knowing him for many years. Whenever you saw Greg out and about in the city of Conway, he greeted you with a smile. This is a great loss to Conway and the many people whose lives he touched.##imported-begin##melinda benson##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ It has been a privilege to have known such a man of character and integrity through the years. Mayor Martin's gentle smile and caring spirit will be greatly missed. Our lives have been enriched for having known this true gentleman. May God give you comfort and peace in the days ahead. Dennie, Dawn, Matthew, and Lauren Lewis###imported-begin##Dawn Lewis###imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Ray and I were so saddened to learn of Greg's passing. He was such an asset to the city of Conway, and he will be missed so much. One of my best memories of him was when he came to see me after he learned I would be having heart surgery in a few days, He made a special trip in to see me and tell me he would be praying for a safe outcome, and he gave me a hug. His warmth and love for the city will be hard to replace. Heaven is a better place today because of Greg's presence.###imported-begin##Billie Ann Booth###imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My sincere condolences to Greg's family. Greg was a few years younger than me but I got to know him on my many trips back to Clemson to visit the fraternity. I'm sorry I can't make it to the memorial service and to meet Greg's Mom, but I want her to know that Greg was a valued friend and fraternity brother and he will be missed very much. God Bless.###imported-begin##Hal###imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg will be sorely missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Charles & Lisa Parrish##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg was a very caring EN brother who was always upbeat and positive. He will surely be missed by all.##imported-begin##Paul Landers##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers and thoughts go out to Greg's family. I met Greg over 30 years ago when we pledged the Sigma Nu fraternity together at Clemson. He was that "rare" find in a friend that you could count on for anything. Greg exemplified character and integrity in everything he got involved in and was very much a role model to me. The world has truly lost one of its good guys!##imported-begin##Alan Wolff##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ A man's legacy is not remembered by what he accomplished for himself, but what he accomplished for others. Mayor Gregg Martin's legacy will live for ever in the City of Conway. I am honored to have worked with Mayor Martin and I am also blessed that our paths have crossed. He was a great family man and a true countryman. Today's celebration of life for Mayor Martin was beautiful and I left the service determined to be a better person. Thank you and God bless.##imported-begin##Mayor Marilyn Hatley##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Our prayers and thoughts go out to the entire Martin family. We have certainly lost an outstanding and caring Mayor. We have come to admire and respect Mayor Martin since we moved here a few years back. He truly loved this city and his mark on the town of Conway is seen all over the city. He will truly be missed. He left us much too soon. May God bless and comfort the family.##imported-begin##Robert and Janie Zellars##imported-end##

September 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My Aunt, Helen S. and I are in complete shock, we arrived back from NC tonight, only to see on the news channel, the passing of our Friend and Attorney "Dear" Greg Martin. Mr. Martin was not only my friend but our attorney since coming to this area in 1995. No matter where he saw you, he would speak to you with kindness and compassion. I know his family is hurting deeply with the loss of this dear man, but know that a " precious and compassionate Angel was called back to heaven " and he will be there when its your time, with the welcome committee and his compassionate smile to welcome you back home as well as each one of us. "Greg " will be missed greatly by many, no matter the problem or time of day he was always there to help in matters for my Aunt and I. He was loved by many, including us. Our prayers go out to his dear family in their time of pain. You will be in our prayers. Many Blessings to you. Mayor Martin's smile and compassion will always be in our heart, memories and many others.##imported-begin##Sunshine N. Cocergine##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg and I were classmates and I always thought alot of him.He was a great mayor for conway and I know he will truely be missed.##imported-begin##wendy rider##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My Prayers go out to the Martin family may they find peace. Greg will be missed by many, Conway will always remember him and what he stood for.##imported-begin##Deborah Pruet##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear George and Maryann: I saw the beautiful memories pics on the tv and cried everytime they showed George Henry. I know his Uncle Greg is very proud of him going to the Citadel. If you need me, I'm here. I am so sorry for your loss. May God be with you all! I love you! Robin##imported-begin##Robin Goff##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg was a good friend to me while I lived in Conway. I am saddened to hear of his death. His family is in my family's prayers.##imported-begin##Marty Cunningham Brown##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I could have easily called Mayor Martin "Greg" as so many of his friends did, but I truly loved to affectionately call him "Mayor Martin". To me that's who he was meant to be and who he would always be. Soon after coming to Conway in 1996 to serve as the Visitor Coordinator I realized that this was a special place with many special people. Mayor Martin made Conway a "complete package". With his style and dignity, and his attention to detail, he led the way as Conway continued to evolve into a town that our visitors described as "the way our town use to be or could be" Yes he set the bar very high and his expectations made me want to do the same. He had a great influence on my life and left me with with many fond memories. In the few days that have passed since his death I am constantly reminded of the many contributions that he made to the town he loved so much. What he did for Conway, with the help of City Council, city staff and many other wonderful people,formed the very essence of my job. He loved his "home town" and loved his family even more. He was one of the most thoughtful people I know. Many times I heard him thank city employees "for what you do for Conway" Something he also said to me. I was blessed to have known him as my mayor and have him as a friend. I will miss him and his direction greatly THANK YOU MAYOR MARTIN for what you did for Conway!###imported-begin###Betty Molnar###imported-end###

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathies go out to the family of Mayor Martin. I will remember him as a kind person and a wonderful neighbor to my family in Conway.###imported-begin###Elizabeth H. Smith###imported-end###

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I recall Greg from the 5th grade. We all have made our way in society. Greg made a difference with his life. This is certainly a testament to his character. May God bless the Martin family and my hometown of Conway.##imported-begin##Kenny Johnson##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I am shocked and extremely saddened at this news. Greg was a personal friend ever since we were at Clemson together. He was best friends with my cousin, Ben Burroughs, and that is how we first met. We shared many activities and fun times while at Clemson. He was always friendly and had a smile or a joke to share. Our friendship continued after college as we would occasionally see each other in the Low Country or at football games. Years later, I returned to Georgetown and began a title searching business. Greg was kind enough to send me his Georgetown County work. Most recently, I decided to return to Clemson to pursue a master's degree. I needed a recommendation and so I called on Greg. He was quite gracious and agreed to spare the time to write one for me, although I know he was a very busy man. SO, I feel that he has even helped me pursue this degree. I owe much appreciation and thanks to him and his family. Conway has lost one of its most loved and repected citizens and we in South Carolina have lost not only a great citizen, but also a true friend. I send my condolences.##imported-begin##Kathy Johnson##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg and I shared many good times at Clemson. My roommates, Tommy Farthing and Steve Hart, and I always looked forward to seeing Greg and Ben and cooking, or telling stories, or just having fun. In some ways, I still miss those days. Greg accomplished much in life and had many friends. I am very proud of him and will be thinking of him tomorrow. I know he will be missed by many. Gregg Coleman###imported-begin##Gregg Coleman###imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ You are in our prayers.###imported-begin##Windel & Sandra Shelley###imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Julia,Benny and family, My thoughts and prayers are with you. I've always loved Greg so very much. Much Love,
Evelyn###imported-begin##Evelyn Hammond###imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My Condolences and prayers to the family. Greg will be missed dearly###imported-begin##Debbie Cook###imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ May God bless the Martin family. My thoughts and prayers are with you.###imported-begin##Tammy Castillo###imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg will always be remembered as a courteous man. He always had time to stop and speak with the folks around town. Years ago, I remember him working at Conway Swimming Pool. He was always a pleasant person. Just a few years ago, we planned an evening field trip for our Cub Scouts to City Hall to meet the Mayor. The boys were very excited! Greg met us at 7:00 that evening and shared the history of Conway with our youngsters and gave them a tour. Afterwards, we gathered around him at his desk for a picture and write-up for the newspaper. It was an evening they will always remember. Always professional, always considerate. That was Greg. Conway will miss him. Our heart goes out to his family, friends, and co-workers.##imported-begin##Robert Ford##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ My memories of Greg will always be the little boy I sat beside in Mrs. McBride's first grade class. At that time who knew what wonderful things he would go on to achieve. I was always proud of your accomplishments. May you soar with the angels now!##imported-begin##Donna Chitwood McCracken##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Julia and family, Greg was such a wonderful, warm, honest and compassionate man! So many people loved him and so did I. I know your heart is breaking, but oh, the angels must be rejoicing! Please accept my condolences.##imported-begin##Sarah Frances Parker##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg was a good friend and an all around wonderful person. I worked with him for 9 years and found him to be a fair, compassionate person with a great love for his family and his town. He always talked about what he wanted for our town and had great plans. I often told him he needed to run for Mayor as he would be the right person for the job. I was very happy for him when he succeeded in doing so. Greg was a good friend and I will miss him dearly. May God embrace his family in this their most darkest moment. God Bless.##imported-begin##Judy Jordan##imported-end##

September 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I was so blessed to know Greg Martin; and I am so truly saddened by the loss of his life on earth. But I am comforted knowing I will see him again one day. I met him in a professional capacity as the closing attorney for my clients in real estate. Over the past seven years Greg was probably the attorney that handled 90% or more of my business. I would tell my clients, when recommending using Greg Martin as their attorney, that he would not be telling any jokes, or making a bunch of small talk because that isn't his style. But that they could rest assured that he was a true professional and that his attention to detail and thoroughness would guarantee a smooth and efficient experience at the closing table. My clients were never disappointed. It was my mission to try and get a laugh out of Greg at my closings. I don't know why, but I enjoyed seeing a small reprieve from his usually serious and professional demeanor. And although I refer to him as serious minded, I can truly say he was compassionate, caring, and very humble. He is someone I have admired ever since I first met him, and the more I got to know him, the more fonder I grew of him both professionally and personally. I am glad that I did tell him how much I enjoyed doing my business through his office. I am glad that I not only shook his hand but that I gave him a hug and told him how much I appreciated him. My only regret is that I didn't take more of an advantage to learn from a man who was such a great example of leadership, love for people and community, and dedication to the place he called home. There was so much more I could have learned from him. His presence will be missed not just in my business, but in my life. My prayers go out to his family, friends and also for the staff of his office. With much love,
Beth Williamson of REMAX Coastal Associates##imported-begin##Beth Williamson##imported-end##

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg will be greatly missed by many. Especially by us. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family.##imported-begin##Chris & Juanita Parks##imported-end##

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family of such a well respected gentleman. I want to express my deepest sympathy for the loss of your loved one. I worked in Several City Mayoral Campaigns here in Hartsville, and I know some of the hard work of a Mayor, and by reading the honors that Mayor Martin received I know that his work on earth was well done. I know that he will be greatly missed by the City of Conway and the surrounding communities and by his loving family. It is my prayer that God will send His loving angels to wrap their loving arms around all of you and give you the peace and comfort that you need during the days ahead. It is my Prayer for the City of Conway, that you will elect a Mayor that will work just as hard as the Honorable Greg K. Martin has done to the best of his/her ability. May God bless you all and keep you in His loving care. I am sincerely, Grady O'Neal##imported-begin##Grady O'Neal##imported-end##

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg was truly a great person and fraternity brother. I was priveledged to work with Greg on Tigerama and we shared many great times. All Sigma Nu brothers will miss Greg. He represented Sigma Nu in the best way.##imported-begin##Douglas Scruggs##imported-end##

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time of grief. Greg was a great Champion for the City of Conway. He will be missed!!*###imported-begin###Danny & Cindy Calhoun###imported-end##*

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Greg was such a meaningful part of this community. It is a great loss for Conway and for all his friends. Greg never failed to stop and say a kind word regardless of where he saw you. Many times for me that was in my yard working or at the courthouse. He will truly be missed.*###imported-begin###Donna Baxley###imported-end##*

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Mr. Martin was wonderful for Conway and I believe he loved the city very much. Also, he was there for his family members when they lost someone close to them. He was very kind and always said hello. I think it was less about being a politician and more about truly caring for others. He will be missed and my sincere condolences to his family.*###imported-begin###Robin Sasser###imported-end##*

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Conway never had a better friend than Mayor Martin and it's likely to be a long time before there is another one as good. My wife, Fonda, and I send our deepest condolences and our prayers are with the family.*###imported-begin###Harry Peters###imported-end##*

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *May the Lord bring you strength during this time. Greg was one of the finest individuals I have ever known. I will never forget Greg "Too Mean" Martin. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Jennie Simmons Clemson University '78 Sigma Nu Sweetheart '76* `###imported-begin###Jennie Simmons###imported-end###`

September 15, 2008 at 12:00 AM