



Katherine Kelly

February 18, 2009

Katherine Kelly Katherine "Sis" Kelly age 84, died Wednesday February 18, 2009 at her residence. Mrs. Kelly was born January 10, 1925 in Reidsville, NC a daughter of the late Calvin and Frances Debbie Griffith. She was a wonderful friend and truly a "guardian angel" to many. Mrs. Kelly was actively involved in politics, community relations and worked with numerous organizations. She was an inspiration to all. Mrs. Kelly is preceded in death by her beloved husband Dr. Julian Kelly. Sis and Julian lived in Atlanta, GA for many years. They moved to Pawleys Island, SC in 1982 after buying Tip Top Inn. Sis ran the Inn until it was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo. Survivors include a daughter, Katherine King of Oklahoma; a sister, Dorothy Abbott of GA; one granddaughter, Tanya Graham of SD; one great-grandson, Jeremy Lemire and two great-great grandchildren, ; three step-children, Janice Quesada, Julie Kelly-Carnes and Mike Kelly; two step-grandchildren, Kristen Kelly and Jack Kelly; one niece, Betty Abbott; a nephew, Anthony Abbott; and two great-nieces. A celebration of life will be held at 4:00 P.M. Saturday, March 7, 2009 at Pawleys Plantation, Pawleys Island, SC. Memorials may be made to Tara Hall for Boys, PO Box 955 Georgetown, SC 29442 or Joy School, 9967 Ocean Hwy, Pawleys Island, SC 29585.

Tribute Wall



“ I had the pleasure of working for Sis at Tip Top for two summers. I lived in the Crab House and grew up more in those two summers working for this amazing woman than at any other point in my late teens/early twenties. Sis became my mom while I was there. She was, without a doubt, one of the most generous people I have ever met. I recall once we went out to lunch and I told her I liked her earrings....She took them out of her ears and handed them to me. Another time, I was headed to Atlanta for a job interview and an outfit appeared on my bed the day before I left. I was married in the Boston area the weekend Hugo hit and was headed to Tip Top for two weeks for my honeymoon. Sis called 2 days before the wedding to let me know that she didn't think Tip Top would be around. My heart broke for her...I know how much the Inn meant to her and so many families. Thank you, Sis for the love you shared, for the encouragement you gave me and the memories I cherish so. Sadly, I have just learned of Sis' passing. Her family will continue to be in my prayers.##imported-begin##Nena Hyatt Wall##imported-end##

June 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ The business card said it all: Sis Kelly, Innkeeper; Julian Kelly, Maintenance! Tip Top was home to us since 1967, and our daughter's seeing the same friends year after year led to having her wedding at Pawleys in 2001. We send our thoughts and prayers to Sis and Julian's families and to all Tip Toppers who share the wonderful experiences that so enriched our lives.##imported-begin##Linda Ghristopher and Bill Webb##imported-end##

March 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sis was one of the kindest and most caring people I've ever known. Heaven is a better place with her in it. Leslie*##imported-begin##*Leslie Moore*##imported-end##

March 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We spent at least one week there during the third week of every June for eight consecutive years. Until Hugo came and destroyed the Tip Top. And razed the dune. We learned about it from a son of the Lovering family that had a home south of the South Causeway, one lot south of the Pelican Inn. The Loverings spent their summers there. I first tried to get in the Sea View Inn, but it wouldn't take children under the age of three. The Sea View referred me to its competitor, the Tip Top. I talked to Sis Kelly, the owner. She had a vacancy for the next week, but she tried to discourage us. "All there is to do is to eat and go on the beach. If you want tennis or golf or shopping, go to Hilton Head or Myrtle Beach. No nightlife except to go to bed and listen to the ocean." "We are just plain beach and shabby accommodations. Not even a Holiday Inn. No locks on the doors. No air conditioning. No television. No radio. No telephone. Quiet period for two hours every afternoon. Musty beds that sink in the middle. Common baths and toilettes. Old pine floors that we wash down with clorox." Sis's discouragement became a challenge: What did she mean this wasn't the place for us; we'd show her. So we packed our bags, and the three of us, Susan, two-year old Meredith, and I went to Pawleys Island, South Carolina. Specifically to the Tip Top Inn. I remember it well. A bright sunny day. Clear, deep blue sky. And about 1:15 in the afternoon when we arrived. Dinner was at 1:30. "Shabby" was accurate. My wife, Susan didn't want to unpack the car. I had to use my best salesmanship to get her to stay for that first dinner. We ate on the ground floor of the main building. "Main building" is misleading. More of a house. The ground floor which you entered from the ocean-side with three floors of bedrooms above. I don't remember what we had to eat. Probably southern cooking. Perhaps shrimp. It must have been good, though, because Susan at least consented to allow Meredith and me to run out on the beach after dinner. It was low tide. The beach was a wonderful white sand. More granular than others along the Atlantic coast because it never packed down like cement. It was soft and warm and bright. Being protective parents, we tied a bonnet on Meredith's head. The bonnet had been a gift from Lee and Virginia Shield. A prized possession of two-year

old Meredith. With her first glimpse of water and her first real freedom after a day-and-a-half in the car, Meredith went running as fast as she could toward the water. \tShe reached the water, ankle deep. A wave came in. The breeze blew. Her face got wet. Her bonnet flew off. Meredith screamed. My protective reaction was to rescue my daughter. I picked her up. The bonnet disappeared in the waves, being carried out to "God only knows where". \tTears flowed from Meredith. Her prized possession lost at sea. A lesson was learned: Anticipation is sometimes better than the real thing. \tI did prevail, however. With Meredith soaking, we had to unpack. We stayed in Hazel's cottage. A small four-room cottage next to the main building. Two rooms on the first floor. Two rooms on the second floor. You entered the rooms on the first floor through a porch which went across the ocean-side of the cottage. You had to climb exterior wooden stairs to get to the second floor. Like the first, you entered the rooms through a porch that went across the ocean-side of the second floor. The second-floor porch, like the first floor's, was shared by the occupants of both second-floor rooms. \tAs luck would have it, we shared the second
Beavers Family

March 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *NULL*
Nancy and Mac Boyle”

March 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ With our children and grandchildren the Burtons and Fussells, we extend our deepest condolences to Sis and Julian's families. OUR family Tip Top Inn tradition, begun in 1974, was ended with Hugo in 1989. But our yearly vacations to Pawleys Island continued and ALWAYS included a visit with Julian and then Sis alone until last year. Sis will be sorely missed. Deepest sympathy,##imported-begin##Barbara & Fred Kraft##imported-end##

February 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM