



Kimberly Renee Congdon

July 15, 1957 - October 6, 2020

Kimberly Renee Congdon, age 63, died on Tuesday, October 6th, at Hospice of the Chesapeake in Pasadena, MD, after a valiant battle with cancer.

Born in El Paso, TX, Ms. Congdon is preceded in death by her father, Gene E. Congdon, Sr.; her mother, Sarah Woodfin; and her brother, Gene Congdon, Jr. She is survived by her sister Valerie Rogers, two brothers, John and Fin, stepmother, Catherine G. Congdon, two nieces, five nephews, and one great-nephew. Kimberly also is survived by her three maternal aunts and their husbands and many cousins in Texas, her fraternal uncle, and cousins in El Paso. Her adoration for her family was mutual and she made it a point to stay connected.

Kimberly was an intelligent, independent, and inspiring woman. She spoke three languages and was a globe trekker, having lived in the United States, Australia, Canada, Papua New Guinea, and Ivory Coast. She was a professional linguist, a successful educator, and an accomplished artist. Kim loved France, and she was intent on sharing that love with others. Many of her friends, family, and former students experienced the beauty of the French language, country, people, culture, and spirit, only because Kim took them along on one of her countless trips to the Continent. A child of divorce, Kim often remarked in later years that she felt blessed to have two families (one bonus being that it gave her even more opportunities to travel). Kim was up to

any challenge; even when confronted with her cancer diagnosis, she faced each new circumstance with a positive attitude, renaming the chemo suite “The Spa.” She called her cancer journal “The Adventure Book” and she took us all along with her on her journey. She picked out several fun wigs and called them each by a different name and assigned them each a different personality. She received such an outpouring of love from her exceptionally large and loving circle of friends and family that she admitted to feeling guilty because she felt so well and each day she was blessed with help and gifts and cards from around the world. When the treatments failed, her doctor told her to go live! She took his advice literally and continued traveling the world over to enjoy time with friends and family. Kim was an inspiration for so many. She was the epitome of grace.

The abundant life which Kim led was the direct result of her faith in Jesus Christ. A teenager when introduced to her Lord, His love towards her was evident throughout her life, as was her love for Him. Kim had one fear in this life – that she would be alone in death. This fear proved unfounded, for Kim was encompassed by family, friends, her church, and kind hospice staff throughout that last journey from this world to her eternal home in glory.

A celebration service will be held at 10 am on Saturday, November 7, at Broadneck Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 235 Bay Dale Dr, Arnold, MD 21012. For those wishing to remember and honor Kim from the safety of their home, the service will be streamed live via Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/BroadneckEPChurch/videos/?ref=page_internal and will also be available on Facebook for watching later. PLEASE NOTE you do not need Facebook to watch the video (this is a public page). The family requests that memorial donations and donations in lieu of flowers be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 90 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122 (please note “Kimberly Renee Congdon” in memo line) or online at <http://www.hospicechesapeake.org/giving/donate-now>. Her ashes will be laid to rest beside her father

and nephew at Mountain Grove Cemetery in Easton, CT.

Tribute Wall

AC

“ I met Kim through Next Door. She was asking for help with her trash cans. We never met face to face. Wish we had but I guess it wasn't meant to be. Glad I was able to help her. God bless and rest her soul. Anne Cooper

Anne Cooper - November 19, 2021 at 06:52 PM

DI

“ Valerie and Family, I am grateful and honored to have been able to get to know Kim a bit. Strong faith filled her and everyone she touched...I had the privilege to be part of her process toward healing. Puerto Rico transformed her and it was a joy to watch her get strong and ready for her travel adventures. (Heck yeah!!) I found out she had passed about the same time I was reading the post below and was thinking of her... As I was sending condolences, I came to realize her strong faith was a comfort to me, knowing she was going to be ok. God still teaching lessons through her❤️ I am thinking, glory be to God is her legacy 🙏🏻❤️ with love and blessings..Dori Keep your fork! ❤️❤️❤️ Kim certainly did ❤️ There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things 'in order,' she contacted her Pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes. She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. Everything was in order and the Pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her. \"There's one more thing,\" she said excitedly.. \"What's that?\" came the Pastor's reply. \"This is very important,\" the young woman continued. \"I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.\" The Pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say. \"That surprises you, doesn't it?\" the young woman asked. \"Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request,\" said the Pastor. The young woman explained. \"My grandmother once told me this story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, \"Keep your fork.\" It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!\" \"So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder... \"What's with

the fork?" Then I want you to tell them: "Keep your fork ... the best is yet to come." The Pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming. At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the Pastor heard the question, "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled. During his message, the Pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come. Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. Cherish the time you have, and the memories you share. Being friends with someone is not an opportunity, but a sweet responsibility. And just remember ... keep your fork! The BEST is yet to come!

Dori Insalaco - November 07, 2020 at 07:19 PM

EO

“ Kim and I met at EP Church in Annapolis in the late 1990s. After I lost my job in 1997 and I stood at my kitchen window, watching everyone else going to work and feeling sorry for myself, I heard a knock at the door. When I opened the door, Kim was standing there with her arms full of groceries. From that point until the Lord took her home, I was blessed to have been her friend. Through good times and bad, Kim always found something positive to say and she genuinely cared about the people whose lives crossed paths with hers, no matter how briefly. I'm glad she decided we'd be friends -- my life has been enriched by it and I'm grateful for that. -Eric

Eric Orr - November 07, 2020 at 04:51 PM

BR

“ It is truly my privilege to have known Kim. I was proud to be her brother in law, and I am proud to be her brother in Christ. I thank God that Valerie and I will see her again!

Blake Rogers - November 07, 2020 at 09:56 AM

BA

“ Our family's were close for a few years when we were all quite young. We lost track of each other and reconnected again last year. Such blessed times of getting reacquainted. I loved hearing about Kim's life and her faith in Jesus. Turns out she and I had mutual friends from Papua New Guinea, and lived in the same city... at different times. It seems like she had time for everyone and made everyone feel loved by her and by her Lord. I praise God for Kim!

Barb Adamson - November 06, 2020 at 02:03 PM

MS

“ I am Kim's Aunt Marilyn, sister of her mom, Sarah Woodfin, and was also born in El Paso, TX, married John Wesley Sullivan in July 1963. As we had just graduated from UTEP, we left El Paso for employment elsewhere. About the same time, Kim and her family also left El Paso. We lost touch until until the late 90s when Kim came to visit some of her Congdon family in the Austin, TX area near us. Kim stayed several days with us, and we had a wonderful time catching up. We were overjoyed to learn that the three of us were believers in Jesus Christ. This was Kim's reintroduction to her Texas Woodfin Family, and she was eager to join our annual family reunions and celebrations. We had such great fun! As time passed and health waned, we became encouragers to one another. We talked often, sometimes wept, and always prayed. I miss those moments but know that Kim is safe with our Lord now. One day soon we'll rejoice in His presence together!

Marilyn Sullivan - November 06, 2020 at 11:30 AM

CW

“ The entire Peter Willcox family send our Love & Sympathy to all who knew and loved Kim! Her BEAUTIFUL SMILE was so evident of her peace and faith in her Lord! She literally glowed even through the harshest of days during her treatments! Kim was such a beautiful Christian woman and God's grace shined brightly through her! This light will live on in the hearts of all who were blessed to have known her!

Carolyn & Peter Willcox - November 01, 2020 at 09:21 AM

KD

“ We could always count on Kim to bring a loving positive attitude wherever she went. It was so enriching to paint with her and experience her joy. She will be missed and remembered by many.


Kathy Daywalt - November 01, 2020 at 09:02 AM

PK

“ I’ve knew Kim most of my life but it was only in my 30s and 40s that we become good friends. I traveled a lot for work and had to go to Baltimore several times a year for almost 10 yrs. She never missed a time I was there and would drive in to spend the evening with me. We connected over many areas but our love for Jesus Christ, our childhood church community and our desire to walk out our singleness with joy and purpose spurred our conversations most of the time. We did the Ideal Protein diet together and often called each other to swap recipes and encourage each other. I spoke to her the day she went into hospice... I’m glad I did. She walked out her life with purpose including the years of her illness. I am honored to have known her and honored she was dear enough to me to call me Pammie. I’ll miss you Kim. Thanks for running the race with great joy and abundant purpose. Til I see you on heaven’s shore...
Pammie (Helm) Keegan

Pam Keegan - October 31, 2020 at 01:56 PM

JS

“ Kim taught both of our children! They have fond memories of her- our daughter traveled to France and will have memories of a lifetime ! When we had a French exchange student, who barely spoke any English, Kim jumped on board and helped us make her time in the US meaningful . I was beyond blessed by Kim during her last years! The tremendous grace she exhibited and encouraging words for others was nothing short of God living through her! She absolutely glowed ! Perfect in Gods glory now, no doubt her Savior greeted her with “ Well Done my good and faithful servant!” Rest well my friend


Jill Strickland - October 31, 2020 at 01:14 PM

MS

“ We met Kim at CCBS back in the 70's. We later 'caught up' because of Facebook, and a few years later, Kim became ill. It was an honor to walk with her through it all, and getting to know her heart, her resolve, her hope, and her faith. Blessings and prayers for her loving family and friends that were there to support and care for her. She's now painting the glory of Heaven, free of pain and walking with her Saviour. You are loved and missed, Kim. Love Michelle & Norm Smith CCBS Class of '76

Michelle & Norm Smith - October 31, 2020 at 01:13 PM

GA

“ Since we met at AACCS many a year ago our friendship has been beneficial to both of us..but more to me than you precious Kim who is now sitting at the feet of Jesus. How I treasured our conversations and the joy you emitted even in the hard times. Your love for Jesus easily transferred to the hearts of many including me. You are/were the best of the best and I will forever have you in my heart. Your name goes on my legacy page of Psalm 116:15 precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones. You are now #10 in that list of all of those I have loved and are now ahead of me in the line of the throne. Missing you Kim! Thankful our paths crossed and we shared the Lord together!

Gaye Austin - October 31, 2020 at 01:04 PM

VR

“ Kim just remained so positive and upbeat throughout this journey. She was so beautiful and radiant! While she really missed her lovely hair, we discovered what a perfectly shaped head she had and she kept that smile. Her beauty came from deep within and just radiated!

Valerie Rogers - October 29, 2020 at 08:43 AM

“*Kim. I wrote this for my sister May 14, 2018. “Tonight as I close my eyes, I’m not counting sheep or stars... tonight I’m swinging a hammer and I’m forging Chainmail armor around my sister. Nothing can get through this armor, although it is permeable. Only God and light and love can enter and move through this armor. God, whom my sister loves with a passion and faith so strong that the light radiates from her and wraps around her in His protection. Doubt, fear, and worries cannot permeate her armor. Kim! You are a knight and you shine so bright! You are a diamond! I had to kick the covers off as I can feel the heat even here. I need sunglasses to gaze toward the East! You will be okay. You know this, I know this! Keep the joy and the light burning bright! I need you to light the dark and the path!!! I love you!!! You are amazing and radiant!!! Sleep peaceful tonight... I’m sorry, not sorry that I’ve got each ring and bit of your armor hammered and fit together... no chinks open.”*

Kimberly, You are the most magical thing in my life. I remember us with scarves wrapped around our heads against the harsh west Texas winds as we played in the dirt planter boxes before we had flowers or grass growing. Your adorable pink cheeks and hair with highlights the color of a new penny... I lie here now feeling as vulnerable as we both were as those little girls. I fear my armor is not as strong as yours, made of woven grasses torn asunder.

****** Kim, you are so heavily on my heart and in my thoughts this morning. Blake and I love you so immensely. You were with me at Banner Queen Ranch when I first met Blake. He gained an amazing and very special sister when we married and he feels so blessed to have you in his life. You gained a brother. I remember you singing on the stage in our yard at our annual party. In the middle of the song, “I’m an old cowhand” you said into the microphone “I think I just swallowed a mosquito!”. You were there when Sebastian crawled out to join us. I had promised you could share my grandson and you did share him. You made it such a point to be a pivotal part of our lives. You found me in Hawaii. I’m so thankful that you did. You have been there for Amber and Ike. We all adore our beautiful Kim. You were there for Marcus and gained another nephew when he joined our family.*

Every new adventure I embarked upon, you have shared with me and encouraged me. I love you for that. I treasure the moments you were with me when we spent time with Gene and our road trips to visit mom. I love you as large as the moon. I've watched as your circle of incredible friends just continued to grow and expand as you touched so many lives. I've enjoyed you sharing your loving friends with me when I stayed at your house and our banter across the hallway. Us naming your "girl band" of all the different fun wigs. Our binge watching of 72 episodes of El Gran Hotel in Spanish. Oh! and Miss Fishers Murder Mysteries. We couldn't believe it when we ran out of episodes. Your approach to each new chapter of your life's journey has been with such incredible joy and positivity. I always knew you had strength even when you were not aware of it, but when you truly realized the depth of your strength and how truly inspiring you are, you were so genuinely amazed at the lives you have touched. Your deep faith has been such an inspiration to me. You are amazing my sweet Sorella. I thank you for all the spiritual gifts you've given me. I love you, Kim Congdon. I could not have been blessed with any sister, other than you. I shall always love you and honor your life. I just want you to know. I know you know. I feel you, Kim.

Valerie - October 21, 2020 at 02:07 PM

VA

“ Kimberly Renee Congdon

Valerie - October 21, 2020 at 01:49 PM