

# Kevin Patrick Dolan

October 3, 1962 - June 16, 2023



About himself, Kevin Dolan wrote “I love life and optimistic people”. He was on his way home in a great mood. He and girlfriend, Suzzann DePalo, had spent the evening making plans for things they were going to do in the coming days. He was excited and looking forward to the future, but he never made it there. Kevin died tragically and senselessly because of a teenager’s consumption of alcohol and high speed determination to escape police pursuit.

A breech baby, Kevin fought coming into this world. But once here he brought sunshine into many lives. He was smart with a wide range of interests and many friends. After graduating from Haslett High School (near Lansing, Michigan) and with a BA from the University of Michigan, Kevin went out into the school of hard knocks with gusto. He worked at NCR in Dayton doing analysis of

computer products. Then, graduating with an MBA from Michigan, he was on the team for Searle’s most successful pharmaceutical launch in U.S. history. Venturing out on his own, Kevin moved to California and developed a private consultancy, specializing in forecasting and analysis projects for pharmaceutical medical companies.

Meetup Groups played one of the most important roles in his life. They not only made his transition from Chicago to San Diego easy - but they became a central part of his universe. RaD North County was like a second home in many respects. Rockin’ and Dancing was a wonderful source of fun, active people who love the music, dancing and socializing Kevin enjoyed. Giving back, he became a major organizer in the group and a go-to person for anyone wanting to host. Kevin made sure everyone felt welcomed and special. In addition, the Happy Hour Chasers, Hypnosis Club, Active Lifestyle NERDS, Finest Podcasters and at least a dozen more kept him busy. Of course he enjoyed these, the trivia, dancing and other activities - but it was always the connections with people that made it such a joy for him.

He was an excellent organizer too. But, few things showed his capabilities as well as Team Trivia. As a friend wrote:

There once was a captain named Kevin  
Whose pub trivia team was quite given  
To knowledge so rare  
They won without a care  
And raised their glasses with a grin then!

He was athletic, excelling in football and basketball growing up and then becoming a solid tennis player as an adult. For many years he organized a weeklong tennis camp trip to Hilton Head with friends - and his dad. A huge Detroit Lions fan, Kevin could often be found Sundays during the season in a Lions sports bar wearing his Alex Karras jersey. He kept abreast of pro football like few others and was legendary for his fantasy league teams.

A great writing talent often reflected cleverness, fun and humor. Lyrics he wrote for a song called "I've Gone Fishin'" as a tribute to his step grandfather Albert is one example. In the song, Al, who loved to fish, reeled in a big king salmon after an all out battle. Then Kevin wrote "It took three of us to get him in the boat. He was too big for the net. We took a picture as soon as we could. Just so we wouldn't forget. It's a good thing we had that photo too. Without it our story was thinner. 'Cause soon the King was nowhere in sight - after we had him for dinner."

And then there was Kevin's classic story to honor his grandmother's birthday about her prowess at age 100 on her Assisted Living Home's Volleyball Team titled "How Chair Volleyball became an Olympic sport".

Love of theater was ingrained early as Kevin and sister Kim sang one song after another while dad played selections from musicals on the piano. As an adult, an annual treat, enjoyed with his Chicago friends and his mother, was a weekend of theater in Stratford organized by Kevin.

Living in Chicago, a Mecca of improv, Kevin's quick wit and creativity lent themselves well to getting involved. Then San Diego's improv scene offered him a special chance to make new friends and enjoy his new home in California.

A special talent for cards and board games led him to become a high stakes poker champion. Bridge also became a passion. Within a few months Kevin would have satisfied requirements of the American Contract Bridge League to become a Life Master.

Surviving Kevin are his parents Christine and Patrick Dolan of Lakewood Ranch, Florida; sister Kimberly Williams and her husband Robert Williams of Sarasota, Florida; niece Laura Williams Marvel and her husband James Marvel of Washington D.C.

A remembrance gathering is planned for Sunday, June 25th in Del Mar with details to be announced. Donations to Mothers Against Drunk Driving in Kevin's name are encouraged.