

## Dan Wesley Keylon

March 2, 1949 - February 21, 2018

Danny Keylon, a gentleman to the core, beloved composer and accomplished bass player died on Wednesday, February 21, 2018. He spent his life sharing his music with the world. Dan was preceded in death by his parents Ardith and Zenith Keylon and by his brother Gary. Left to cherish his memory and keep his music alive, are the love of his life, Christie Rogers, his godson Corey Robbins, his “brother by another mother” Charlie Hyde, band mates, fellow musicians, extended family and a world full of friends.

Danny had music in his DNA. His parents were aspiring songwriters and his brother was an accomplished pianist. Dan’s pursuit of music began in the church youth choir. He started piano lessons at 12, clarinet at 13, bassoon at 14 and bass guitar just before his 15th birthday. By the time he was 16 he was playing the bass regularly in clubs and recording in studios in North and South Carolina with a group called The Dirte Four. His passion and enthusiasm for music radiated to all who encountered him. He experienced great success with his musicianship. He was signed onto RSO records with The Rockets, opening for Bob Segar, ZZ Top, Blue Oyster Cult and Cheap Trick. He then played with Mac Arnold’s Plate Full of Blues, touring Europe twice with them. Most recently he has been spanking the bass with Johnny Don’t Care. He was currently focusing on his songwriting with hits in the making. Danny is still rockin’, reacquainting with and eagerly making new friends, dressed in his funkier shoes, keeping everyone rockin’ along with him.

Funeral Services will be held on March 2, 2018 at 2:00pm at Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue. A Celebration of Life - a rockin' party for all, immediately following the memorial service at Mack Kell's on Tunnel Road.

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

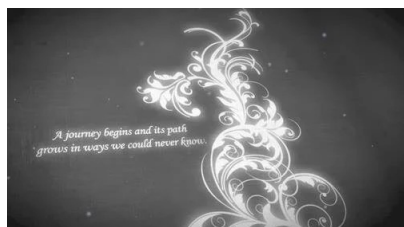
MAR 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

Morris Funeral & Cremation Care  
304 Merrimon Ave.  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(828) 252-1821  
info@morrisfamilycare.com  
<http://www.morrisfamilycare.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Morris Funeral & Cremation Care created a Tribute Video in memory of Dan Wesley Keylon*



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**Morris Funeral Home** - March 01, 2018 at 07:19 PM



“ *Dan Wesley Keylon*

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October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *So sorry to hear that Danny is gone. I was he and his family's next door neighbor from adolescence until teen age years. They were all good folks. Of all the people I've ever known Danny is the one person whose life should be made into a movie. I think everyone who knew him and worked with him would agree. For those who never met him or heard him play, you missed a very memorable person. He was special. So glad I knew him. Wish he had taken the time to write a memoir, it would have many chapters. Rest in peace Danny you did a good job here. Just being yourself was more than good enough.*

*Russell Hall*

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**russell hall** - March 04, 2018 at 11:51 PM

CO

“ *Keylon was my godfather. We laughed, philosophized, and then laughed about our philosophizing! We shared a deep unspoken bond. He knew I loved him, and I know he loved me.*

*Keylon and my dad (Dennis), use to go back and forth exchanging stories about the glory days. They would argue and laugh and aggravate each other to no end. It was quite entertaining. During these times I could see that they had shared a special period of life and that they too shared the same deep bond.*

*I thought of Keylon often.*

*I will miss our talks.*

*I will miss his insight.*

*I will miss his spirit.*

*I miss him now.*

*But I will continue to think of him, and I am so grateful for the time we had together.*

*I'll catch up with you on down the line godfather...*

*Corey Robbins*

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**Corey** - March 03, 2018 at 09:19 PM

JD

“ *What a loss. Danny was so very talented and friendly. Every time I saw him he through the years He would shake my had and call me by my name. I thought that was amazing given he knew hundreds of people.*

*Whenever he was playing in the area in the earlier years I would try to be there. The music was right on.*

*God Bless You Danny, You are missed by many of your friends and band mates.*

*You are no doubt in heaven above with that famous smile on your face.*

*Rest in Peace.*

*Joey Davis*

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**Joey Davis** - March 02, 2018 at 08:42 AM



“ *40 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Morris Funeral Home** - March 01, 2018 at 06:11 PM

DP

“ I truly have lost one of the last best friends and musical heros. Danny was someone I looked up to from day one when meeting him for the first time in the early 70's and after the years came and went I was fortunate enough to have played music with him and spend time sharing our experiences and stories of the road. I will miss that warm and assuring smile he had for me and having someone to talk to about anything. Rest In Peace my brother til we meet again ❤️🎵

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**david pressley** - March 01, 2018 at 02:46 PM

JP

“ Jackie Rush Payne sent a virtual gift in memory of Dan Wesley Keylon



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**Jackie Rush Payne** - March 01, 2018 at 01:12 PM

JJ

*The world is a lesser place without your quiet bravery and pure soul. Rest well my lifelong friend.*

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**jackie jinks** - March 01, 2018 at 01:16 PM

AH

“ I met Danny when I was 18 and he and the Flat Rock boys came to the club where my band, Southern Fried , was working as the house band. I heard them soon there after and became a big fan of Danny's playing. Flat Rock drummer Frankie Robbins and Danny together made up one of the best rhythm sections I ever heard. A decade later I was fortunate enough to play with Danny in Marsha Morgan's band. As a bass player he had it all; power, finesse and nobody grooved the groove like Danny. He was always a little larger than life to me and I looked up to him a lot. He was always fun to be around and was really funny! When I would see him I would always say " how's the best bass player in town?" He would just grin and say "when I see him I'll let you know." He was my musical hero and a great guy. Goodbye to the best and God bless, Andy Hunter

Andy Hunter - February 27, 2018 at 06:48 PM

DP

I truly have lost one of the last best friends and musical heros. Danny was someone I looked up to from day one when meeting him for the first time in the early 70's and after the years came and went I was fortunate enough to have played music with him and spend time sharing our experiences and stories of the road. I will miss that warm and assuring smile he had for me and having someone to talk to about anything. Rest In Peace my brother til we meet again❤️🎵

david pressley - March 01, 2018 at 02:24 PM

FR

“ I was in five bands with Dan Keylon from 1973 til 1978. Flat Rock, Cactus with Rusty Day, Pandemonium, The Georgia Power Band, and a house band over on cherry st. I can't remember the name of that last band or if it had one. there's a little gray area there. Okay there is a big gray area there . LOL. Dan always made my drumming sound better than it actually was, and for that, I lift you up Dan ! May you rest in peace my friend. FR

Frankie Robbins - February 26, 2018 at 06:04 PM

PW

“ Phillip, Lawrie, Levi And Haven Willi lit a candle in memory of Dan Wesley Keylon



Phillip, Lawrie, Levi and Haven Willi - February 24, 2018 at 05:51 PM

GB

“ First got to know " Keylon ", nobody called him Dan, at Montreat-Anderson College in 1970. Dan was always know for his awesome musical talent on the bass guitar and his super laid back, easy going style. You just could help but like " Keylon." Recent surgery won't allow me to attend your celebration of life but, I will be thinking of you on that day and every time a hear a really hot bass riff. Between " Keylon " and " Duck " Dunn, the bass section in Heaven is well covered!.....Geno

Gene Bowman - February 24, 2018 at 01:13 PM

MW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Michael Willis - February 24, 2018 at 12:44 PM

TC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Teresa Cleveland** - February 24, 2018 at 11:36 AM

TC

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Teresa Cleveland** - February 24, 2018 at 11:00 AM

TC

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Teresa Cleveland** - February 24, 2018 at 10:40 AM

TC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Teresa Cleveland** - February 24, 2018 at 10:35 AM

KI

“ *I met Keylon with Dennis Robbins in 1973. He and McTaggart were playing at the Armory in Waynesville. Dennis and I went to see them, and very soon after, we headed to West Asheville for them to start talking about playing together. That led to Flat Rock. It also led to all kinds of amazing music coming out of Keylon's heart, hands, and bass guitar.*

*Keylon and I remained friends for 45 years. Our birthday were two days apart. We always tried to catch up at birthday time. I am heartbroken that we won't have that call this year.*

*He was such a dear man and a dear friend. 45 years is a long time. I have no idea how to do this, but maybe Keylon's fellow band members near and far could help me figure out how to do an annual music festival (with an emphasis on bass players) here in Asheville. Keylon's great vibes deserve to be carried on if at all possible. Love and light to Christie, and to all Keylon's family and loved ones near and far.*

*I wish you everlasting love and peace, my dear friend. This planet will not be the same without you.*

*Kit*

*919.218.2892*

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**kit** - February 23, 2018 at 01:55 PM

SB

“ Dan was my colleague since 2007. He was employed by quest global, re-hired as a contractor in 2011 Nov. It was great pleasure to work with him and he was always co-operative and helped in times of need. I miss dan very much. Every day I come to work and see the empty space. He has really made a difference and his contributions were invaluable. Its indeed a great loss. May God rest his soul in peace.

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**Santhosh R Bhat** - February 23, 2018 at 11:52 AM

EG

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the family, who are in my thoughts n prayers ... Dan was a good friend, IT Technician and an awesome musician. He would listen ... then tell how it is, all the while bringing a smile to your face. I'll miss seeing n hearing him perform music ... conversations on stocks ... debates over politics ... scuttlebutt here at work. Dan, I miss you bud! ~ Ed Guzik



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**Edward Guzik** - February 23, 2018 at 11:39 AM

DH

“ I am heartbroken over the loss of my Cousin Danny Keylon. I will always remember him with love. I will miss him terribly. I chatted with him on Facebook on Feb 17th. If only I had know that would be the last time we communicate I would have said so many things. Gone to soon!! I love you Danny and I will always remember you fondly.

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**Deborah Willis Harbin** - February 23, 2018 at 10:17 AM

CC

“ *Dan was a valued member of our team and he will be missed.*

*Dan faithfully served the Greenville QuEST organization as an IT contractor since 2011. Over the course of seven years he brightened our days with his unique humor and his love of music. His dedication and commitment to ensuring that everything ran smoothly was an exemplary example for all of us in the Greenville office.*

*Time will never erase how Dan touched our lives. Our prayers and condolence goes out to his fiance and his family.*

*Miss you Music Man  
Cyndi Clymer*

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**Cyndi Clymer** - February 23, 2018 at 09:59 AM

TC

“ *My heart is heavy right now but I have to say I've never met anyone quite like Dan Keylon. He always had so many stories to tell, always open for debates and so much fun to be around (unless he was in his "Cranky" mood).*

*His passion for music was admirable and his skill to play the bass was top notch.*

*He was my dear friend who I referred to as my older Brother Danno. I will always cherish the fun times we had together.*

*Leave it to Brother Danno to take a ride to Heaven with Rev. Billy Graham. I can't wait to hear that story when we meet again.*

*To the family and Christie, please know that I am thinking of you and praying for comfort during this difficult time. If there is anything I can do, please reach out.*

*Teresa Cleveland  
864-444-4659*



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**Teresa Cleveland** - February 22, 2018 at 04:38 PM



*Danny was one of my favorite cousins. He was 4 years older than me . However, even when he was a teenager he was nice to the little younger cousin. He was always kind and fun to be with. I look forward to the eternities when we all reach the same place and we can get reacquainted. .*

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**Joanne Clark** - February 23, 2018 at 11:58 PM



*An inconsolable loss for all who knew him. One of the Icons of my Childhood. He shall always be remembered and treasured there.  
Wayne Paul Liles Asheville*

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**Wayne Paul Liles** - February 24, 2018 at 01:21 PM

HH

“ Flat Rock at The Hit Factory NYC c. 1974



*In or around 1974, in New York City, I was still a fairly new staff Assistant Engineer, working hard, long hours, and seeking knowledge at Jerry Ragovoy's THE HIT FACTORY RECORDING STUDIO, 353 West 48th St. on the West side of the theater district. Most fortunately for me, our owner/boss Jerry, in an attempt to make ALL his Assistants full engineers, would allow us to come in on the weekends and record for \$10 an hour and tape costs for learning purposes.*

*WOW. In a world-class studio? OH yeah. I'm there!*

*So one of my first weekends, flying as an engineer, an actual full band session was my old Asheville buddies' band, Flat Rock. Flat Rock, in this recording line up was: Bruce McTaggart, Electric guitar & Steel, Dan Keylon Bass, Frankie Robbins, Drums, & Dennis Robbins, guitar & lead vocal. All the boys contributed backing vocals.*

*The below attached mp3 was taken from a Cassette copy of "Found My Love In Tennessee," from our '74 Hit Factory Flat Rock session. I made the cassette at Crystal Sound before I left Hollywood, circa 1979.*

*Fast Forward...*

*In 2015, I took that cassette copy and re-mastered it through some later day digital technology in my home MoonStar Records studios in Myrtle Beach. I'm pretty proud of how it sounds about 44 years later down the road.*

*Not bad for a bunch of mid 20 something dudes from Western North Carolina just learning and trying to make a living in the music business in '70's New York.*

*Obviously, I'm really sending it out tonight- In Honor of Dan Keylon. A great bass player he was, even before I recorded him back in 1974, and most certainly after!*

*Check it out on your best playback system, even if it's just earbuds.  
You were not only a great, dear friend, Dan, but also a Top Shelf  
Bass Player! You be the judge!  
Rest in Peace, my Dear Brother Dan!  
David the short*

*615.371.3292 (cell)  
david@hdavidhenson.com*

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**H. David Henson** - February 22, 2018 at 12:56 PM