

Wednesday, July 02, 2008

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## Kent Snyder, RIP, You Will Be Missed



On Monday, I heard the sad news that Kent Snyder had passed away. Kent was a friend of mine, and that news came as a real shock to me. The last time I saw him in person was when he attended my graduation from law school in 04. I never expected that to be the last time. Life really is short.

Kent was a *good man*. The word that comes first to my mind when I think of him is "integrity." He was a man of great integrity, and from that came deep, deep courage, wisdom, kindness, and commitment to what he believed in.

He is one of the few people I have ever known who I would trust my life or the lives of one of my children to without question. He passed the "fox-hole" test, as in could you count on this man to watch your back and never desert you if you shared a fox-hole in war. I would have shared a fox-hole with Kent without question, because, though he was a very calm, quiet man, I knew he had the heart of a warrior, and had already made peace with life and death, and I knew that his first thought would be to doing what was right, in any situation, and that he followed through, every time.

His was a life sincerely and passionately dedicated to the cause of liberty. For all the time I knew him, his every waking moment was spent in that cause. In fact, as Ron Paul noted in his comments about his passing, Kent pushed himself so hard during the campaign that it affected his health. He literally gave his all for the cause of liberty.

I have lost a friend, to whom I often turned to over the years for sage advice and wisdom when I was feeling down, and the world has lost a warrior for liberty. Me and my family will miss him, and we send out our condolences to his family. God bless you Kent, and see you on the other side.

- Stewart

Below is what Ron Paul had to say about Kent:

### **In loving memory of Kent Snyder**

The Freedom Movement has suffered a great loss. Kent Snyder, chairman of my presidential campaign, lost his tragic battle with pneumonia last week. Kent was a true lover of liberty. He was an American patriot. He was my friend. And, he will be missed.

Kent was a gentle man who carried himself with quiet dignity. While soft spoken, great inner strength lay behind his kind blue eyes. He was filled with conviction, and principles of decency, loyalty and respect ran to his core. Those fortunate enough to work closely with Kent were touched by his integrity and old-fashioned American work ethic. Stories of his youth in Kansas and lessons taught to him by his two greatest influences, his mother and father, were often shared with friends and colleagues. During difficult times, Kent was always a calm at the center of the storm.

I first met Kent in 1987 when he, as a young man in his late 20's, served on my first presidential run. Over the next twenty years, we worked together on countless projects in the name of Freedom. It was Kent, more than anyone else, who urged me to run again for president last year. I was skeptical, but he was much more confident that the time was right. Without Kent, I don't think it would have happened. Though he was an optimist, in the end, even he didn't expect what we achieved.

Like so many in our movement, Kent sacrificed much for the cause of Liberty. He sidetracked a blossoming political career when he chose to work for a third party candidate. He walked away from a lucrative career as telecommunications executive to work for me in Washington when I returned to Congress in the late '90's. Ultimately, he sacrificed his health as he worked tirelessly around the clock on our presidential campaign, ignoring the pleas of his doctors to pull back.


Kent poured every ounce of his being into our fight for Freedom. He will always hold a place in my

heart and in the hearts of my family. We deeply mourn his loss.

I hope we can celebrate Kent's life, the wonderful man he was, the tremendous success of his contribution to the cause of liberty, and the bright path he helped blaze to a future where freedom springs alive once again. Kent should be remembered with every victory we achieve as we move forward together. Without Kent Snyder, the fight for liberty would not be where it is today. We all owe him a great debt.

In liberty,

Ron Paul

Posted by Stewart Rhodes at 10:03 PM 

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