



Tone North Grant

January 26, 1944 - January 18, 2015

Grant, Tone North- on January 18, 2015, at the age of 70. Beloved father of Susan Watkins, Mark Whittelsey (Margaret Lynch), and Robert Whittelsey (Stephanie). Loving brother of Wendie Riordan. Devoted grandfather of Chelsea Watkins, Carrington Watkins, Abigail Watkins, Ryan Whittelsey, Katie Whittelsey, Maureen Whittelsey, Grant Whittelsey, Mark Whittelsey, Jr., Clare Whittelsey, and Daniel Whittelsey. Cherished uncle to Jennifer Miller (Ian), Michael Riordan (Elizabeth), and David Riordan. Donations may be made in Grant's name to Better Boys Foundation www.betterboys.org or Outdoor Odyssey at Roaring Run, Inc. for use by Semper Fi Odyssey, www.outdoorodyssey.org

Cemetery Details

Memorial Cemetery of St. Johns Church

1704 Route 25 A
Laurel Hollow, NY 11791
[http:// http://www.stjohnscoldspringharbor.org/](http://www.stjohnscoldspringharbor.org/)

Previous Events

Friday Visitation

JAN 23. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

A.L. Jacobsen Funeral Home, Inc.
1380 New York Avenue
Huntington Station, NY 11746
(631) 423-2185
jacobsenfuneral@gmail.com

Service

JAN 23. 1:00 PM (ET)

Memorial Cemetery of St. Johns Church
1704 Route 25 A
Laurel Hollow, NY 11791
[http:// http://www.stjohnscoldspringharbor.org/](http://www.stjohnscoldspringharbor.org/)

Burial

JAN 23 (ET)

Memorial Cemetery of St. Johns Church
1704 Route 25 A
Laurel Hollow, NY 11791
<http://www.stjohnscoldspringharbor.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Tone North Grant*

November 27, 2022 at 05:33 PM

“ *Funeral Service Eulogy:*

Unique is an overused word but I have heard it several times this week as friends have tried to describe Tone Grant and what he has meant to us. Tone always marched to his own drummer and his view of the world was in fact unique and special to him.

Tone and I first met in Spring 1963 as freshman baseball teammates, but he had impressed me the previous spring while I was on a recruiting trip. Tone pitched a one hitter for his Andover Academy team and struck out sixteen Yale freshman. I knew then that I was watching a very gifted athlete but did not yet know that Tone was simply one of the best, yet most complex people whom I would ever know.

Several years later I was having lunch in Pittsburgh with Richard Brodhead, then the Dean of Yale College and now the President of Duke University. Dick told me that, as a younger Andover student, Tone was his life hero because he epitomized all that an Andover student aspired to be: excellent student, outstanding athlete but humble, modest and kind to all regardless of status or station. Tone later contacted Dick and they too became good friends.

That was the Tone Grant whom most of us have been privileged to know. He was bright, positive, optimistic and a loyal friend. He loved all his family deeply as I came to appreciate when his sister Wendie and I married in 1969 with Tone as our best man. He revered his parents North and Winnie reflecting the profound love which they had bestowed on him and Wendie. Tone was absolutely devoted to his children Susan, Mark and Bob and to his grandchildren, doting on their activities and accomplishments.

Tone was a man of an abiding Christian faith which sustained him and which I witnessed when he worshiped with his family. He was also intensely proud of his family's record of military service for our country and of his own duty as a Marine Corps officer in Vietnam.

But it was Tone's good spirits and sense of humor that color so many memories of him. He knew how to laugh and have a good time and we friends all enjoyed his company. As sophisticated as he was in so many aspects of his later life, he could make the most naive comments as a college student and then, after a reality check, we would all just laugh with him at Tone being Tone.

His positive nature and boundless optimism led him to treasure mentoring young people and he took great satisfaction in enabling many mostly minority students earn college scholarships through their athletic endeavors. As a scholarship student himself, Tone embraced the principle of giving back with both his time and resources.

We all wish that Tone had been perfect but, like the rest of us, he was not. He was intense and hard-working which made him successful but not always accessible. He was articulate and self-confident but at times his pronouncements bordered on arrogance and hubris. Tone always believed the best about others and that was ultimately a defining flaw. Not all of his associates deserved his loyalty and support. It was hard during prison visits to listen to his rants about the judicial system which imprisoned him as he professed his innocence to the end of his life.

But we are here to celebrate Tone Grant and his life, imperfect as it was. In balance, he was a good man and good soul. We remember and cherish his many wonderful qualities and the positive legacy he has left for his family and friends from which we can now draw strength. We all have great memories and stories to savor and share.

Tone called me late last Saturday evening and our conversation was typically selfless on his part. He insisted that he was fine and his focus was on Kathi and their children. My responses seemed to comfort him and he was at peace when we said our farewells. He was concerned about and thinking of others to the end.

Tone, may God bless you and may you at last rest in peace.

Bob Riordan

Bob Riordan - February 18, 2015 at 09:57 AM

“ From Seven to Seventy

Landon School : Third Grade with Mrs. Davis ("Ma'am" to all those in her classroom) - can anyone remember that ? The main reason I can is because that's when Tone Grant first entered my life, a young kid starting in a new school just like all the rest of us. It didn't take long, however, to find out that Tony was just a little different - a little smarter, a little more driven than pretty much anyone else in our eight year old group. Oh yes ... he was fast, he could jump, he could throw better... but that wasn't the biggest difference. He was only seven ! and immediately the legend started to grow.

Legends are tricky things to cultivate when you are a kid because it's always so hard to live up to them; but for Tony, there was never any problem. Of course, his reputation continued to build as he left Landon to finish high school at Andover and then onto Yale, Law School, and the Marines. And as we all probably remember, he wasn't too shabby in the athletic department either. I always loved the fact that he had never picked up a lacrosse stick before arriving in New England and then just started to "throw it around" before making the varsity team.

All of us have our favorite Tony stories, I'm sure, and each one will always top the last. Mine, however, is not really a story, it's more of a character assessment. We all know that as Tony evolved, he became bigger than life. There was no challenge he couldn't conquer with the ease and grace of a true gentleman. As an outstanding scholar, leader, and athlete, he could have felt superior and lorded himself over others, but have you ever met anyone who accused him of such a thing ? A fierce competitor, he always played by the rules and was always considered extraordinary by even his competition. His loyalty and love for family and friends have never been in doubt. And perhaps the most remarkable trait - his ability to stay so thoroughly humble.

During the last years when his situation was beyond difficult, he continued to educate his incredible mind by taking two Astro Physics classes from a series of lectures on DVD by the head of the department at UVa and devoted a great deal of time to study both

the Chinese and Hmong languages. Even more importantly, he taught a Current Events course to those who were soon to be released back into society and he tutored many others in developing responsibility for their actions.

Never bitter about his final circumstances, he always helped others with theirs ...

That's the Tony I will always remember. May he finally rest in peace

Peter Preston

peter preston - January 26, 2015 at 12:42 PM

HB

“ There are many ways we can remember Tone and many lenses through which we can view his life. I think the Landon community would be unanimous in its recollection of him as an extraordinary athlete, a gifted intellect and a good friend of many. Personally, I also remember him as a fellow Marine.

One of the fond observations I made soon after meeting him in First Form was his power of absolute concentration. He could direct his total attention onto whatever he was engaged in at the moment, whether a math problem, his next pitch or his role as Mr Briggs' favorite choirboy.

Which brings to mind a humorous moment when a few of us were driving home from Bethany Beach after dark. The car was silent when from the back seat Tone said, "Um. That's funny. A minute ago the moon was on the left side of the car and now it's on the right. How does it move so quickly?" Such was his tendency to "Tone out" from time to time that he had become so lost in thought - no doubt on some weighty intellectual matter - that it didn't even occur to him that the road had curved and the moon had not sped up. We doubled over in laughter that such a comment could possibly come from someone so brilliant...and, of course, he laughed along with us.

Tone was smart, extremely talented, had a good sense of humor and was quick with a smile. And that is how I will remember him.

Harrison Brand - January 25, 2015 at 01:49 PM

JD

“ I knew Tone Grant when I was in Chicago after I left government practice with the CFTC. I represented a commodity broker who worked for Tone's company. Tone met with me and the commodity broker to work out the problem regarding a substantial trading loss. We worked out the problem and the commodity broker wasn't fired. Tone was open and fair in dealing with the problem. I always respected Tone based on his empathy in dealing with the commodity broker and saving her career.

John E. Dolkart - January 25, 2015 at 11:09 AM

GG

“Tone, you will be sorely missed by all of us who have known you through these many years. Our condolences, Wendy, to you and all your family members. Thank you, Brooks, for your note letting us know of Tone's passing. Our friendship goes back to the lower school days at Landon. How much fun we had together and the many hours we spent next to your home at Arylawn recreation center hitting flyballs, grounders and, in the fall months, running pass patterns from your accurate throws. Even after you and your family moved to your Bradley Boulevard home, we still managed to enjoy many sleepovers and return to our favorite field. At Landon, you were the pitcher and I was the catcher. You were the quarterback and I was the running back through those early seasons in ninth grade. We played together on the Varsity Baseball team. The following year, you and our good friend Peter Preston left for Andover and I went to Lawrenceville. It was the beginning of our lives moving along separate paths. You went on to become an outstanding quarterback and we were fortunate to meet on the playing field our senior year. In the summers, you went on to play baseball in the Industrial League which, at the time, was the highest level of summer ball. Off to Yale for you, where you again excelled on the playing fields and academically. What a thrill it was for me in later years to read your name in the legendary Carm Cozza's book about Yale football. After college we were not in touch as much as in the past. You became an outstanding lawyer, and distinguished Marine. How great it was to correspond with you monthly in the last several years. I admired your determination in overcoming physical challenges while going through multiple joint replacements. Tone, you will always be remembered by all of us who knew you as an outstanding scholar and athlete with the highest moral character and principles. I miss you, my good friend.

Gary Gardiner

Gary Gardiner - January 25, 2015 at 10:12 AM

BM

“ As I remember Tone throughout the day, I must share one of Tone's favorite stories. As a background, Tone played baseball with Calvin Hill during his high school days and then played football at Yale with him. Afterwards Calvin went on to be a successful professional football player for Dallas Cowboys after Cleveland and the Washington Redskins. It was not surprising that Tone was a god parent to Calvin's son Grant Hill, who went on to be a successful basketball player for Duke then professionally. Every time Duke coach Mike Krzyzanski visited Chicago, he would contact Tone. Coach K could never understand Tone's position in the family, but knew Tone was an important part of the family. Tone always got a kick out of the fact that Coach "K" always contacted him. I can see Tone's smile and laugh while telling the story. Again, my prayers go out to Tone's entire extended family.

Brooks G. Brown, III, MD - January 24, 2015 at 02:43 PM

GB

“ Well Tone and I shared the same birthday but he was always quick to remind me that he maintained a Year Younger all of his life. His passing has hit me like a ton of bricks!

On the lighter side, I remember him at Camp Wachusette in NH. He was always a great athlete at Landon and at Camp. However, I remember one day playing baseball against him. I was the opposing pitcher (unfortunately). With two strikes Tone sent me a change up--
-I swear to this day it was coming in above my head, and yet it dropped about 3 feet and came across the middle of the plate. STRIKE 3. I looked back at the ump, non other than Mac Jacoby--- he also smiled in similar dismay and said , "I know George, I can't believe it either!"

What a fine person and friend..., even if he did go to Yale over Brown.

This really brings home our mortality.

George Barbee

George Barbee - January 24, 2015 at 02:04 PM

JY

I recall Tone as a kind fellow student who seemed to accommodate everyone, never favoring one over the other, everyone's friend. We started Landon together in the 3rd grade class of Mrs. Davis where he managed to avoid being locked in the supply closet, her favorite punishment. I remember him as the quarterback of the 75 lb football team thinking him more competent and in control than the rest of us.

But mostly I remember a humorous time later as teenagers spending several days on an isolated Assateague Island in the late 1950s accessible only by a small daytime ferry. We convinced a grateful Tone that the larger clams gathered in the bay that day were the best but after an hour of chewing, he questioned our generosity. Later on a moonless night after partying, we lost track of Tone and fearing he might drown, we panicked. Fortunately the intermittent glow of several lit cigarettes in his mouth led us to him lying in the sand with the ocean at his feet. Thank you for the memories Tone. May the Lord be with you.

J. P. Young

J. P. Young - February 05, 2015 at 04:35 PM

ES

*Tony Grant was a humble, heroic, honest and honorable man.
Ed Sears*

Ed Sears - February 08, 2015 at 05:10 PM

BM

“ Tone and I first met when I enrolled in 8th grade at Landon School for Boys. We quickly became close friends through our mutual interest in sports. We treasured the early experiences of playing football, basketball, and baseball. I remember well the games between the bigger boys on the 120 pound team of which I was an incidental end with Peter Preston and Bobo Berger in the backfield and the smaller 100 pound team for which Tone was the quarterback with Gary Gardiner and Butch Helsing as his running backs. We played on the same baseball and basketball teams. We enjoyed summer league basketball as Landon had potential for a special basketball team for several years to come. Since we lived close to each other, we drove to school often together. Soon Tone moved onto Andover while I stayed at Landon. Tone went north to Yale while I went south to Washington and Lee University. We reconnected after Tone's law school and my medical school. We would talk yearly as Tone loved to hear all the news about his Landon friends and pledged generously, much more than I was able to do. How I miss those days. Tone was always most humble and down to earth, though always at the top of the class academically and always an important part of every sports team. In Tone's last letter dated Dec, 18, he wished me a Merry Christmas and Healthy New Year and wrote with pride about his grand children's accomplishments. I hope he received my card. I always emphasized that his Landon friends supported him unconditionally and knew him to be the most honest and trustworthy person possible. He now joins Landon/Yale classmates Phil Anderson and Jay Rhodes and Landon classmate Charlie Whitbread in a better place. I will miss you greatly Tone and our yearly talks. i just learned of your passing today. My wife, the former Lise Grant (classmate Ridge Grant's sister) joins me in sending our most sincere condolences to Tone's sister Wendie, all his children and grand children and all of his family and friends.

Dr, Brooks G, Brown, III

Brooks G. Brown, III, MD - January 24, 2015 at 12:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tone North Grant.*



January 23, 2015 at 11:22 AM



“ *I knew Tone both in a professional capacity and as a personal friend. He was a great lawyer, but more importantly, he was a wonderful, caring human being. He was a victim of the judicial system which made a terrible mistake which cost him his freedom. All those who knew Tone will mourn his loss and miss him greatly.*

Paul Renne - January 22, 2015 at 10:47 PM



“ *Valerie Celkiene lit a candle in memory of Tone North Grant*



Valerie Celkiene - January 22, 2015 at 10:13 PM



“ *You will always be in our hearts...Love Valerie, Sandra, Nathan and Nerijus...*

Sandra Krumhorn - January 22, 2015 at 10:11 PM

BF

“ There are no words adequate to capture Tone's essence.

We shared moments so powerfull they can not be captured.

My life has been different because of him.

God rest his soul.

Butch Forster

Butch Forster - January 22, 2015 at 08:40 PM

TS

“ I will miss you Tone....We had many great Lunches together ... Your company was always educational and inspiring... You are for sure in a better place now...GOD bless you and watch over you.... You are missed....Tom Shuff

Thomas Shuff - January 22, 2015 at 08:11 PM

PK

“ I first met Tone, when he quarterbacked his 4th grade football team to victory over my own 3rd grade team in the Landon Shrimp Bowl.

With awe, I followed Tone's continued success over the years, inside the classroom and on the athletic fields - first at Landon then at Yale. Throughout his life, Tone consistently represented the very best to which anyone may aspire: brilliant yet humble, athletic yet always a student first, amiable yet always his own man, disciplined yet joyful.

Ever graceful under pressure, Tone shall be missed but never forgotten. Few, if any, have his integrity. We who knew him are all better for the privilege.

God bless Tone Grant and those he loved.

Paul Kiernan

Paul Kiernan - January 22, 2015 at 04:26 PM

RC

“ I am very sorry to learn of Tone's passing. I do know that as a good Marine, he has landed on "Heaven's shores" and joined his fellow leathernecks ensuring that "the streets are guarded." He will be missed.

Ron Christmas

Lieutenant General, USMC (Retired)

Ron Christmas - January 22, 2015 at 04:19 PM

PL

“ I met Tone in 1970 when we were in the Marine Corps in Viet Nam. He was a close friend ever since. He joined the law firm where I was already an associate and then moved on to being the general counsel of a bank and, eventually, into business. But he never changed. He was always thoroughly decent and honest, and he helped many others. He also led a very simple personal life and maintained a positive attitude even during the past few years. Indeed, when Terry Savage and I would visit him, he would make us feel better, rather than the other way around. I will miss him very much.

Paul Laveroni - January 22, 2015 at 02:22 PM



“ Elisabeth Ocker lit a candle in memory of Tone North Grant



Elisabeth Ocker - January 22, 2015 at 11:30 AM

RF

“ I loved him. I have great memories that are tucked away . He had a great heart and diserved better.

Richmond Flowers

Richmond Flowers - January 21, 2015 at 05:02 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Tone North Grant.*



January 21, 2015 at 01:37 PM



“ *I met Tone in Nashville when I worked for the advertising agency that handled the bank's business. What an impressive, positive, brilliant man. What I remember most was his love for his family. Although so many years have passed without seeing or talking to him, his presence will always be long-lasting. My sincere condolences go out to his family.*

Adrienne - January 21, 2015 at 09:44 AM



“ *Alan Freeman lit a candle in memory of Tone North Grant*



alan freeman - January 20, 2015 at 07:01 PM



“ *With deepest sympathy to the Grant's family and friends during your time of grief. (Psalms 46:1) God is our refuge and strength, A help that is readily found in times of distress.*

May Jehovah God (Psalm 83:18) bring you comfort during this difficult time.

Janet - January 20, 2015 at 03:18 PM