




*Jerry Kimmel*  
February 9, 1935 - June 1, 2023

 [Print](#)     [Email](#)

*visitation  
service  
cemetery*

Service

Tucker Funeral Home  
113 North Third Street  
Central City, KY 42330  
270-754-1551 |  
Saturday 6/3, 1:00 pm

Visitation

Tucker Funeral Home  
113 North Third Street  
Central City, KY 42330

270-754-1551 |

Friday 6/2, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

## Cemetery

Old Jackson Cemetery

120 N. Leighs Chapel Lane

Greenville, KY 42345

Saturday 6/3

Jerry Kimmel, 88, passed away on Thursday June 1, 2023, while surrounded by his family at home in Beechmont, Kentucky. Jerry was born on February 9, 1935, in Ennis, Kentucky. He was the youngest child of Wood Kimmel and Clara Bradley Kimmel.

Jerry had a passion for sports, especially basketball and baseball. He played basketball in high school and started officiating basketball games in 1955. He called his first district tournament game in 1959 and his first state tournament game in 1963. At that time, he was 28 and possibly the youngest person to have officiated a Kentucky State Basketball Tournament. In his 16-year high school basketball officiating career (1956-1972), Jerry worked 15 district and 14 regional tournaments for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA), as well as six KHSAA Sweet 16 State Tournaments. He also umpired for three KHSAA State Baseball Tournaments.

Although an accomplished basketball and baseball official, his contributions in the areas of assigning, training, and recruiting basketball officials for 40 years until his retirement in 2012 will remain his legacy.

In response to a federally mandated court order in 1971 that took assigning of officials from local schools to regional assigning secretaries, Jerry was selected by the KHSAA to lead the way with this effort in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Region. In addition to assigning officials, Jerry provided improved instruction to the state's officials and recruited new officials. He implemented reviews for officials and courtside charting of officials calls. He was a pioneer in the use of video for evaluating and training officials.

Jerry was basketball assigning secretary for the third region from 1972 to 1988 when he was appointed one of four statewide sectional directors of officials. He held that position for four years then served another eight years (2004 to 2012) as basketball assigning secretary for the fourth region. He also served as baseball assigning secretary for the third region from 1972 to 1982. In addition, he served as lead evaluator of officials for both the boys and girls state tournaments for several years.

Jerry's six appearances as an official in the KHSAA Sweet 16 opened the doors for him at the collegiate level. He was a basketball official in five collegiate conferences over a 20-year period including the SEC, OVC, Missouri Valley, Metro and the Great Lakes Valley Conferences and the assigning secretary for the Great Lakes Valley Conference from 1987 to 2004.

Jerry's influence on officiating in Kentucky and the surrounding states is evident by the number of officials he has helped to train who are working key collegiate and high school games to this day. He took great pride in seeing young officials that he mentored progress from junior high and high school officiating to the collegiate level.

Jerry was inducted into the Dawahares/Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 1993, the National High School Hall of Fame in 2013, the Muhlenberg County Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Region Officials Association Hall of Fame in 2018.

Jerry was a 1953 graduate of Hughes Kirk High School and attended Western Kentucky State College. He spent the early part of his career working as an Insurance Agent for Commonwealth Life Insurance Company and Life Investors. Prior to his retirement, he worked for the Muhlenberg County Board of Education for 21 years in the Maintenance Department.

In addition to his parents, Jerry was preceded in death by brothers Wood Bradley Kimmel, Charles Byram Kimmel, Lois Kimmel, Morris Hayden Kimmel, Bobby Lee Kimmel and sisters Luro Elizabeth Hieken, Martha Nell Carver and Patty Sue Norris.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Maxine; daughter Jennifer Carr and son-in-law Jon Carr of Shell Knob, MO; grandson Christopher Kimmel Carr and grand-daughter-in-law Megan Carr of Davidson, NC; great-grandsons Grayson Jon and Mark Levett Carr; brother Gene Kimmel of Beechmont; and several nieces and nephews.

His funeral service will be held on Saturday June 3, 2023 at 1:00PM at Tucker Funeral Home in Central City, Kentucky with Julian Tackett officiating, assisted by Jerry Winters. Burial will be in the Old Jackson Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday from 5:00-8:00PM at the funeral home. Online condolences may be made at [www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.tuckerfuneralhomes.com). Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the Ronnie Hardin Scholarship Fund, % Brent Hardin, Sacramento Deposit Bank, 335 Main St., P.O. Box 228, Sacramento, KY 42372.



**Renita Wells** left a message on June 4, 2023:

Jennifer, my deepest sympathies go out to you and your family. May you find peace in the memories you shared.



**Paul and Cheryl Cook** left a message on June 3, 2023:

Jon and Jennifer, We want to send our sincere condolences on your Dad's passing. We are thinking of you both along with Chris and Megan. We hope your memories are comforting you at this time. Paul and Cheryl Cook



**Paul and Cheryl Cook** left a message on June 3, 2023:

Jon and Jennifer, We want to send our sincere condolences on your Dad's passing. We are thinking of you both along with Chris and Megan. We hope your memories are comforting you at this time. Paul and Cheryl Cook



**Paul and Cheryl Cook** left a message on June 3, 2023:

Jon and Jennifer, We want to send our sincere condolences on your Dad's passing. We are thinking of you both along with Chris and Megan. We hope your memories are comforting you at this time. Paul and Cheryl Cook



**David Marsh** left a message on June 2, 2023:

So very sorry for your loss. I was in first grade Jerry's senior year and Hughs Kirk on lost one game all season. I still have my 52-53 school annual and it was the first year they published one. Glad he had a great life and got to do what he loved. May God be with the ones he left behind.



**Tom Green** left a message on June 2, 2023:

So sorry for your loss. Jerry was not only a fine basketball official but more importantly, he was a wonderful person.



**Tom Green** left a message on June 2, 2023:

So sorry for your loss. Jerry was not only a fine basketball official but more importantly, he was a wonderful person.



**Marvin and Lucy Moore** left a message on June 2, 2023:

Jerry was an incredibly wonderful friend! I loved that big smile that would come over his face as soon as we (and all of his family and friends) walked through the door. We have so many special times together, and we were so honored and blessed to be able to attend and support his induction into not only the KHSAA Hall of Fame, but also the NFHS Hall of Fame. We have spent so many fun evenings and nights with Jerry and Maxine. Their door was always open. When Jerry would have JT, Billy T, and Marvin referee the Ky Wesleyan tournament each year around Thanksgiving, Maxine, Donna,

Sandy, and I would have a great day of shopping and eating. We would laugh and say that we spent more than the guys made. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Jennifer. We are on our way there right now to bring our love.



**Roger Cross** left a message on June 2, 2023:

My sincere condolences to Jerry's family. He was truly a giant in the officiating world. I am so thankful for the opportunity that Jerry provided me during my career. He touched so many lives along the way and will be missed by many. May you rest in peace.



**Michael Montgomery** left a message on June 2, 2023:

Prayers for your family.. I enjoyed my time around Jerry during my officiating career. His professionalism and dedication to training helped shape my officiating career. Glad you will have memories, as do I. He made a difference. May God provide comfort for your family.



**parsons, john and pamella** left a message on June 2, 2023:

Sorry for the family's loss.



**Billie Hadley** left a message on June 1, 2023:

My greatest condolences & prayers for comfort We loved Jerry & all of you as family So glad to have been a part of this family Prayers for peace & comfort



**Sieglinde Jones** left a message on June 1, 2023:

In memory of Jerry Kimmel, Sieglinde Jones lit a candle



**Glenn Brown** left a message on June 1, 2023:

My sincere condolences to the family of Jerry Kimmel. Glad our paths crossed during my officiating career as we became very good friends. A true friend to so many that will miss him dearly. RIP my friend!



**Gerry Pollard** left a message on June 1, 2023:

My thoughts and prayers are with Jerry's family! Forever grateful for what he did for me in the officiating business. He was so passionate about his job! May he rest in peace!



**Gerry Pollard** left a message on June 1, 2023:

My thoughts and prayers are with Jerry's family! Forever grateful for what he did for me in the officiating business. He was so passionate about his job! May he rest in peace!



**Sandra Whitworth** left a message on June 1, 2023:

In memory of Jerry Kimmel, Sandra Whitworth lit a candle



**Charlie Chappie** left a message on June 1, 2023:

He was a great man Learned a lot from him.



**Adam Rider** left a message on June 1, 2023:

Thoughts and prayers for the Kimmel family. Jerry was a force of nature in our basketball world.

**Tucker Funeral Home** left a message:

Please accept our deepest condolences for your family's loss.