

Robert E. Kinsey, Jr.

August 1942 – March 2005



The Tidewater Fishing Community has recently lost one of its own on March 9th 2005. One of the All-Time fishing greats, Robert Kinsey; legendary among the areas freshwater fishing community, he will truly be missed, but never forgotten. He was not Robert to most anglers, he was better known as "Mr. Kinsey," as he will be honored with that same respect here.

Born on August 18th 1942, in Suffolk, VA., Robert Edward Kinsey, Jr., left us at the young age of 62. In his earlier years, he had served in the United States Marine Corp, where he was stationed in Hawaii. After his military career, he and his family moved back to Suffolk, VA to live the rest of their days. He was married to Kay Kinsey for 40 years and had two children of whom the fishing commune is very familiar with; Bobby & Mike Kinsey, both of whom had blessed him with 3 adorable and very loving grandchildren.

During Mr. Kinsey's lifetime, he would always put others before himself. If someone were in need, he would make efforts to be able to provide or help in some way. He was very family oriented, surrounded with the love of his family and friends. Most times, if you saw Mr. Kinsey, his family wasn't far from him. How the Kinsey family shows their love for one another, shows the type of man he was. Even his personal character and his demeanor spoke for itself.



Many of us are familiar with Mr. Kinsey as an angler, but he also had other passions as well. He was an avid fast-pitch softball player, which he had played up until he was about 45 yrs old. He also coached Little League Baseball for about 10 or 12 yrs of which his 2 son's played for him. When his son's were in High School, they played there as well, and Mr. Kinsey always made time to attend ALL of their High School baseball games—to include the away games. His two son's also took up golf in High School and Mr. Kinsey never missed a

match. Mr. Kinsey was also an awesome hunter, for Big & Small Game and never forgetting to allow his son's to come along.

Believe it or not, Mr. Kinsey did have a job, but this just goes to show that his priorities were lined up. Mr. Kinsey always made time for his family, which is the reason that this family is as tightly knitted as they are today.

During his time, he has impacted all of us in some way or another. You can literally set back and enjoy watching how he and his family worshiped one another. At about every tournament weigh in, you would find a Kinsey family member there; not only the son's (usually they'd be fishing the tournament), but his brothers, Daughter-In-Laws and grandchildren would be there; it was like having a Kinsey family gathering. That just showed the type of person that Mr. Kinsey was and the rest of the Kinsey family. And even if he didn't know you personally, it never stopped him from shying away from a good conversation as if he knew you all his life.

Mr. Kinsey, fished and he fished and he fished. Just when you may have thought he was done fishing, he would be fishing some more. He had a passion for fishing and he was blessed to have 2 son's that loved it as much as he did. His entire family seemed to be in love with fishing; even the grandchildren. He has fished the Suffolk Area lakes for about 40 years and has passed down a lot of Honey Hole

Secret to his two sons, Bobby & Mike. Most of his experiences had come from Lake Meade & Cohoon, where he kept a boat tied up to the shoreline because back then he didn't have a trailer for his boat, not until 1979. During that time, it was more fun fishing for pan fish, than it was for competition. He didn't delve into Tournament Fishing until his oldest son came of age (about 16 yrs old) and started fishing tournaments. That's when the Kinsey Family began there dominating trend. Before his passing, Mr. Kinsey was able to enjoy one more Kinsey WIN that his son Bobby had won during a Boot'Legg Trail Event; the Kinsey Legacy continues.

It has been a blessing to have had an opportunity to know him and he will not be forgotten. Legends last forever, Mr. Kinsey was a Legend and will go in the books as, "One of the best."

Just a few words that describe Mr. Kinsey...

Respectful, Honorable, Genuine, Gentlemanly, Thoughtful, Compassionate, Caring, Kind, True...and the list goes on.

Mr. Kinsey was buried with military honors, having the Marine Corp., Honor Guard provide him, his family and friends a military ceremony for his military service. He was given a 21 Gun Salute and his wife was presented with the US Flag. He has been laid to rest at the "Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery" in Suffolk, VA.

