



## Mark Overton Elsworth

October 8, 1954 - June 17, 2016

Mark Overton "Sugar Bear" Elsworth was born on October 8, 1954 to Charlotte Y. McCart and Harold Overton Elsworth in St. Louis, Missouri. Mark left this world and picked up his golden guitar in heaven on Friday, June 17, 2016. He was surrounded by his loved ones. Preceding him in death were his parents and his brother, Michael Elsworth. Mark is survived by his children - Kassi and Wes Inman, Kort Elsworth, Klayton Elsworth and Tina, and Kameron Elsworth; his grandsons - Lane Inman, Lukas Elsworth, and Jaxson and Tucker Elsworth; his sister, Kim Benz; and his best friend, Debbie Jo Elsworth.

Mark's passion for his music was evident to everyone who knew him...as a musician, as an entertainer, or as a friend. He also loved Cardinal baseball and being a grandpa. Mark believed that the meaning of life could be found in 2 Peter 1, and he strived to show brotherly love to those he knew.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN **23**. 12:30 PM (CT)

Horseshoe Ranch  
Lesterville, MO

# Tribute Wall



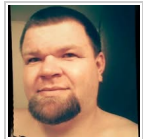
“ *I loved grandpa also much I miss him I wish he could see me play guitar or drums now*

**Lukas** - February 05, 2025 at 01:33 PM



“ *Mark Overton Elsworth*

August 31, 2022 at 12:46 PM



“ *When I first meet sugar bear I was told he was my song writer uncle and he was my dad's closest friend*

**Joseph Brown** - August 08, 2019 at 08:35 PM



“ *Bear I will never forget when I wrecked my bike at Snow Hollow Lake and you carried me home and bandaged me up. It is so hard to believe that you are gone. Rest in peace playing beautiful music in heaven.*

**Erica Anderson** - June 30, 2016 at 07:27 PM



“ *Terri Gatschet lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth*

**Terri Gatschet** - June 24, 2016 at 06:57 PM



CL

“ We will miss you Bear, but we have no doubt where you are today. I'm so glad we got to visit with you and have prayer the last weeks you were with us. You were always ready for prayer as soon as dad walked in the door . Like dad said you are playing a golden guitar but now you are playing in praise to the king of kings. We will see you soon. Kassi Debbie Kort Klayton & Kim we love you and are praying for God to carry you through .



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**Connie Lawson** - June 23, 2016 at 10:52 AM

CL

“ We will miss you Bear but we have no doubt where you are today. So glad we got to spend the last weeks visiting with you having prayer and reading scriptures together. You were always ready for prayer as soon as dad walked through the door . Like dad said you are playing a golden guitar in heaven only now you are playing in praise to the king of kings . We will see you soon . Love you so much Kassi, Debbie Kort Klayton & Kim



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**Connie Lawson** - June 23, 2016 at 10:27 AM

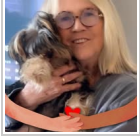
KR

“ Karen Rapp lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



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**Karen Rapp** - June 23, 2016 at 06:26 AM



“ *What kind of words and memories...Mark and I went thru school and graduated the same year. Everbody loved him. Heart of gold he had. Willing to help anyone. I loved him just like the other people. I' going to miss you but we will see one another one day  
Prayers for Kim and her family <3 <3*

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**Sherry Bennett** - June 22, 2016 at 10:41 PM

MH

“ *Bear, you was a good person. I remember when we first met, watching you play music was always a delight. I will never hear the star spangled banner again without thinking of you. I was blessed to be able to call you my friend. R. I. P. You will always be missed but never forgotten. To the family I send you my prayers and thoughts. I am so sorry.  
Malinda Heller*

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**malinda Heller** - June 22, 2016 at 09:06 AM

LT

“ There are are moments in your life that help shape you. There are people in your life that become key ingredients in your “recipe”. The places where these moments & these people come together are special.

36 years have passed since I first saw Sugar Bear. Every time I drive past that building, I look back and put myself in that moment. “where it all started”, I tell myself and smile.

We were all younger then and unaware that the moment would become our history. I wanted to play a guitar, but after I saw him, I was desperate to play a guitar.

Bear’s influence on me is unmeasurable, as I know it is with many of you.

A sweet and gentle soul with a capacity to see the humor in almost anything. It was hard not to love him. I will hold him dearly in my heart for the rest of my life.

-Lyla Turner

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**Lyla Turner** - June 22, 2016 at 08:25 AM

LT

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36 years have passed since I first saw Sugar Bear. Every time I drive past that building, I look back and put myself in that moment. “where it all started”, I tell myself and smile.

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-Lyla Turner

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**Lyla Turner** - June 22, 2016 at 08:04 AM

LP

“ Lisa Pedroli lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



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**Lisa Pedroli** - June 21, 2016 at 09:02 PM

 Eric Harbison

“ Eric Harbison lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



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**Eric Harbison** - June 21, 2016 at 07:14 PM

April  
McCart

“ *Mark always made me feel welcomed and loved, and was genuinely happy every time I was around him. The world will not be the same without him. My prayers to his sister, children and grandchildren. RIP cousin.*

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**April McCart** - June 21, 2016 at 06:43 PM

CN

“ *Cathy Norris lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth*



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**Cathy Norris** - June 21, 2016 at 05:35 PM

RB

“ *I can't say I really knew Sugar Bear, but every single time I ran into him he always walked up to me like we were old friends. He always had a story that left everyone around laughing and in a good mood. I don't think he ever met a stranger*

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**Rich Brummett** - June 21, 2016 at 05:23 PM

PJ

“ *Patti Meesey Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth*



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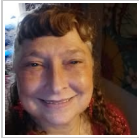
**Patti Meesey Johnson** - June 21, 2016 at 04:45 PM

AP

“ Arthur & Annette Penny lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



Arthur & Annette Penny - June 21, 2016 at 04:29 PM



“ We met Sugar Bear and Robson way back when they were the Beaver Brothers playing at Bearcats. Lots of good memories. Sure will miss them both. Prayers for the family for peace and comfort. We will all be together again. Mike and Cheryl

Cheryl McGee - June 21, 2016 at 03:20 PM

KB

“ Kim Benz lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



Kim Benz - June 21, 2016 at 02:59 PM

GM

“ Farewell cousin, brother, best friend. I will never forget you and all of the quality time that we spent together, playing, playing music, for the last 60 plus years. We had a blast! We will meet again! Thank God....PEACE "BEAR". You will be missed.

garry mac - June 21, 2016 at 02:27 PM



“ Dear cousin, your journey is over, your day is done. You will live on in the hearts and memories of everyone. Like the times when we were just little children playing outside for hours and hours at Granny's house - sweet, innocent, childhood fun. I will see you in heaven. Much love, Debbie

Debbie Calvert - June 21, 2016 at 02:07 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name

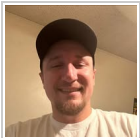


Lyla Turner - June 21, 2016 at 02:07 PM



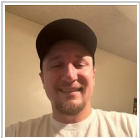
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

Klayton Elsworth - June 21, 2016 at 01:18 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall

Klayton Elsworth - June 21, 2016 at 01:18 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall

Klayton Elsworth - June 21, 2016 at 01:18 PM

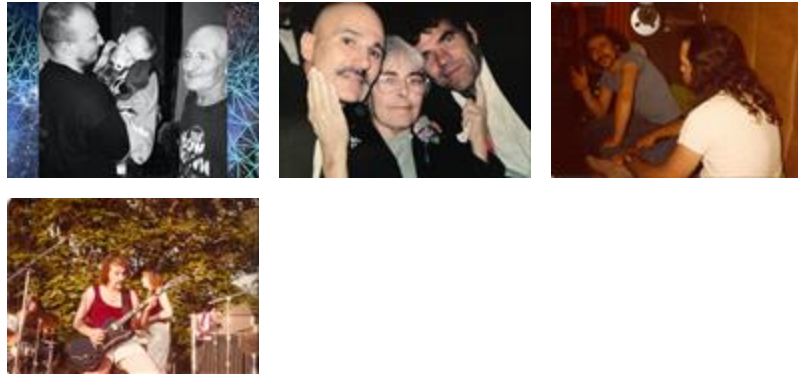


Heaven just got an amazingly guitar player!

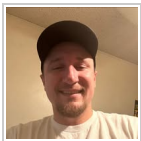
Drew Kuykendall - June 21, 2016 at 03:09 PM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Klayton Elsworth - June 21, 2016 at 01:15 PM



“ Klayton Elsworth lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



Klayton Elsworth - June 21, 2016 at 01:11 PM



“ Kassi lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth



Kassi - June 21, 2016 at 01:00 PM

KA

“ *Kassi lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth*



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**Kassi** - June 21, 2016 at 12:58 PM

“ Six String Dreams (for My Guitar Hero, Sugar Bear)

*Every boy needs a hero, I guess everybody does  
But lots of times they just don't materialize  
So now I can see just what a lucky kid I was  
That a magic music man appeared before my very eyes*

*I had lived with music all my life, made with wood and steel  
From the cradle I'd heard its high and lonesome sound  
But I never knew a fraction of its power to make me feel  
Till you plugged in your Les Paul and blew away our little town*

*It hit me like a ton of bricks when you played Zeppelin's Rock and  
Roll  
And then rocked a song called Feels Like the First Time  
That memory remains flashbulb clear, and never, ever gets old  
You played your heart out for us that night, and you set fire to mine*

*You were the god of Thunder when I was 14 years old  
When I needed firing up, you're the one who stirred the coals  
You're the man from Gibraltar, the rock where I learned to stand  
And, every six string dream I've ever had, started with your hands*

*So much music you turned me on to, and not just the almighty rock  
You spoke jazz, funk, and country, but your native tongue was  
always the blues  
You showed me how to make a guitar scream or sometimes just  
make it talk  
And all this music that still flows through my veins is the gift I got  
from you*

*The only lessons I've ever had was watching your every move  
I wanted to play just like you, only better, and maybe faster  
So I practiced till my fingers bled like I had something to prove  
But what I learned is that I'll always just be chasing after the master*

*You were the god of Thunder when I was 14 years old  
When I needed firing up, you're the one who was stirring the coals  
You're the man from Gibraltar, the rock where I learned to stand  
And, every six string dream I've ever had, started with your hands  
Yeah, every six string dream I'll ever have, somehow started in your  
hands...*

*Rest in peace, my brother, my first and forever guitar hero, Sugar  
Bear.*

*Much love,*

*Paul Thomlinson*

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**Paul Thomlinson** - June 21, 2016 at 01:46 AM

LT

*Thank you so much for sharing this, Paul. I'm so glad to share such  
wonderful memories with you of Bear*

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**Lyla Turner** - June 22, 2016 at 08:23 AM

CL

“ *I am so sad to hear about Mark. Again , I'm  
thinking of all of you and praying for you.  
Love, Connie Eudy LaPlant*



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**Connie LaPlant** - June 20, 2016 at 10:13 PM

MN

“ *Marsha (Arnold) Nicholson lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth*



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**Marsha (Arnold) Nicholson** - June 20, 2016 at 08:47 AM

TH

“ *Tammy Nees Hankins lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth*



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**Tammy Nees Hankins** - June 20, 2016 at 04:07 AM

AH

“ *Our love and prayers go out to the family!*



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**Amanda Huff** - June 19, 2016 at 07:46 PM

CL

“ *Connie Eudy LaPlant*

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**Connie Eudy LaPlant** - June 19, 2016 at 01:44 AM

AH

“ *All our love and prayers go out to the family.* ”



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**Amanda Huff** - June 18, 2016 at 08:16 PM

AH

“ *Amanda Huff lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth* ”



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**Amanda Huff** - June 18, 2016 at 08:13 PM

SH

“ *Steve & Sheree Huitt lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth* ”



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**Steve & Sheree Huitt** - June 18, 2016 at 01:14 PM

  
Melissa  
Wren

“ *Melissa Wren lit a candle in memory of Mark Overton Elsworth* ”



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**Melissa Wren** - June 18, 2016 at 12:02 PM