



## Keith Jared Blake

August 27, 1954 - June 17, 2018

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Mr. Keith "Tad" Blake died unexpectedly in St. Augustine, Florida on June 17th, 2018 at the age of 63. He is survived by his daughters, Leila Blake of Jacksonville, Florida, Kara Blake of Haverhill, Massachusetts, and sister Robin Blake Aiello of Cleveland, Tennessee. He is preceded in death by father Daniel Henry Blake and mother Marilyn (Moss) Blake. Keith was born in Manhattan, New York. He grew up in Huntington on Long Island and served in the US Army after high school. He later moved to New York City, living in the East Village and in Brooklyn in the 70's and 80's, where he forged life-long friendships and rooted himself in the Rock and Roll music scene. He was married to Laurie (Shnapier) Blake of Queens, New York in 1984 then moved to Cape Cod Massachusetts, where they raised their two daughters. In 2002, Keith moved to St Augustine, Florida to be closer to family, including his mother, sister and nieces. Always an avid dog lover, he enjoyed the company of his precious dog Skittles in the years he lived in St. Augustine. Everyone who knew Keith was mesmerized by his musical talents, and intoxicated by his love for music and the arts. At a young age, his musical talents were fostered at Grace Church in the East Village of New York City, where he sang soprano in the church choir. Later, he became a masterfully skilled guitarist and composer, also playing bass, drums, keyboards amongst other woodwinds, percussion, and string instruments. In the early days of

Rock and Roll, he played at many world-famous clubs and venues, including the historic CBGB night club in NYC. He engaged with talented musicians throughout his life, often found playing at local venues and music festivals, and teaching private guitar lessons to a number of eager musicians of all ages. He will be fondly remembered by all he encountered as a remarkable guitarist, composer and musician. Condolences can be sent to [www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com) In lieu of flowers, please consider sending donations to one of the following charities in Keith's name: VHI Save the Music <https://www.vhisavethemusic.org> NAMI Florida NAMI Florida The family would like to thank Veteran's Administration Services for the support and care provided to Keith. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

ML

“ I met Keith while hosting an Open Mic in downtown St. Augustine. His ability as a guitarist was just incredible. We sat several times and played together for the pure joy of music. I hope that, where ever You are, you will find some cool musicians to play with to your hearts desire!. Farewell Keith, safe travels

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**Marianne Lerbs** - July 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ My deepest sympathy and condolences go out to Keith,s family and friends. I only just met him 18 months ago, but saw him frequently and enjoyed the experience. Gone too soon.

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**John Leslie** - July 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM