



## Wendel Ross Short

February 8, 1964 - December 1, 2007

Wendel Ross Short, 43 of Houston, Texas passed away December 1, 2007 in Richmond, Texas. He was born February 8, 1964 to Norman Ross and Josephine Ann Short in Richmond, Texas. He worked as a personal trainer privately and at Memorial Hermann Sports Medicine; he attended Holy Rosary Catholic School then graduated from Lamar High School in 1982; received a BS degree in Kinesiology from University of Houston and was currently earning his teaching certification from Houston Baptist University; was in the Marine Reserves, and also an active member of First Baptist Church of Houston.

Wendel is survived by his parents, Norman and Josephine Short of Rosenberg; grandmother, Mary Werner; sister, Pamela A. Crosley and husband, Charles D. of Richmond; nieces: Katelyn and Hannah Crosley; nephew: Seth Crosley; special friends: Mandy Kao and Bob Alexander; along with numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and many close friends who will miss him dearly. He is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents: Charlie and Bernice Short; maternal grandfather: August Kubena and step-grandfather: Victor Werner.

Funeral Services will be held 2:00pm, Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at Grace Community Bible Church, 5121 FM 359, Richmond, Texas with Pastor Don Munton officiating. The family will be receiving friends Tuesday,

December 4, 2007 from 5pm-8pm at Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg, Texas. Internment will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park. Pallbearers will be Mike Moses, Graham Benevelli, August Skopik, Chris Skopik, Andre Pickens, Syl Kruppa. The family would like to extend an honorable mention to the Shed Class, Summit Singles Ministry and Outreach Greeters.

Donations may be made in Wendel's name to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes: Lamar F.C.A. Scholarship at Wells Fargo Bank in Rosenberg or First Baptist Church, Capitol Campaign, 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, Texas 77024-2199 or to a charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

DH

“Joan and I were deeply saddened to hear of Wendel's passing via a telephone call from Bob Alexander.

*As an independent personal trainer myself, I could clearly see Wendel's professionalism and more importantly, passion for life which he shared with his clients. We consider ourselves fortunate to have shared time with him.*

*We wish you solace and hope in the days and years to come.*

*May God bless Wendel and family,*

*Doug & Joan House*

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**Doug & Joan House** - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LD

“We will miss Wendel's contagious smile.

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**Lou Ann and Steve Davenport** - December 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BA

“Wendel was my personal trainer for 17 years. He was absolutely the best. The best trainer and the best person. During that entire time, I never saw him lose his temper, tell an untruth, or use anything remotely like a curse word. He was a "straight-arrow", but he did not express judgement of others. He was simply beyond reproach himself. And yet he was fun and fun-loving. I miss him, my family misses him, and everyone at the health club misses him. We are all better people for having known him.

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**Bob Alexander** - December 08, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ *Mr. and Mrs. Short*  
*I share in your loss, Wendel was such a fine young man. The most impressive piece of Wendel was his servant's heart. I am raising a son and my prayer for him is a heart as soft as Wendel's. You are successful parents, Jesus is pleased! Lean on Him.*

*I am missing Wendel's bright smiling face at the First Baptist Church campus, but am glad he crossed in my path!*

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**Nanette** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *I am so overwhelmed. I found such a loving family around my son. So many of you have given Me the strength to go on. I find myself asking" What would Wendel do?*  
*My son is my rock now. I know He is with God & smiling down upon each & everyone of Us.*  
*God Bless Everyone*  
*MOM*

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**Jo Short** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *I am a member of Houston's First Baptist Church and I want to extend my deepest sympathy for your loss. Even though Wendel is celebrating in Heaven, it's so difficult for those left on earth. Your family is in my prayers.*

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**Becky White** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Wendell, I will always remember you as a kind and loving person incredibly devoted to God and His mission for people. Your faith was authentic and inspiring. Your love for people the same. I know that you are enjoying your new home and company. Looking forward to seeing you soon. Sandy

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**Sandy Besso** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Wendel will be greatly missed; My prayers are with you at this difficult time.

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**Mary Duer** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Wendell was always a friend to the young and old. He was such a respectful man and showed the love of Jesus to so many. Don and I will miss him. May his family feel God's presence and peace.

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**Don and Helen Bryan** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dear Folks, Thank you for allowing me to share in the service. No doubt Wendel would have approved of the way you all did things. What wonderful memories I have of your son. God Bless all of you. Coach Carter

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**Don Carter** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I can proudly say I won Wendel at a silent auction. That's my Wendel story. I always knew who Wendel was from the Water's Edge class, but it was not until I won him at a silent auction as a personal trainer that I discovered what a sweet and Godly man he was. The auction may have raised funds for mission trips, but it also gave me the best prize, a good friend. I feel blessed to have known him and worked with him in Outreach leadership for the Shed. He was such a obedient servant. I will miss him, but I'm comforted knowing he is with God.

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**Kathy Mata** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Wendell was always willing to help others in any way. He was devoted to God and served Him faithfully. Truly, a friend to all. Wendell was enthusiastic about his field as well as life. So smart, too. Loved to hear him talk about his interests.  
To Wendell's family, our prayers are with you. He will be missed.  
Dana and Sheila Wright

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**Sheila** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ I worked as a personal trainer at HFBC's CLC in 2001 & 2002. Although I knew Wendel for only a short time, I quickly became aware of his dedication to the Lord. He was one of the friendliest people I've ever met. It is so comforting to have the assurance that he is in the presence of the Lord at this very moment.  
To Wendel's family; I am praying for you.

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**Debi English** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Wendel was my next door neighbor. I named him Clark Kent. He reminded me of Superman. He was the most kind, respectful and best neighbor to have. We always said Hi to each other. Everyday I would always hear him come and go. He studied often. I always felt safe having Wendel next door to me. He was strong physically and I knew more important He was strong in The Lord. His car had a bumper sticker that said. "JESUS SAVES". There is no doubt that Wendel is in Heaven and He is being Rewared with many Treasures.

*I was fortunate to meet some of his family. His Father and Sister too were so very kind. For such a great loss - I am so sorry!*

*Wendel, YOU will be missed and though you didn't know it and I never told you - I Loved YOU!*

#110

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**Sylvia Rivera** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ I am deeply sorry for your loss. Unfortuantely, I found out too late to share with you in person.

*If there were a search for someone with a heart of gold, you would have to look no further than Wendel. Kind and caring are his hallmarks. He openly showed his genuine interest in others, in service, and as a friend.*

*What a great guy!*

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**Dan Hinds** - December 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ I had the pleasure and blessing to serve with Wendel in the Water's Edge Class as part of Summit's leadership. Wendel was always so kind and did whatever it took to help out in any way. I too have fond memories of playing softball with him. We will miss you Wendel our friend. But we also rejoice that you are with HIM along with so many other faithful ones.

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**Helen Chin** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ My deepest sympathies on your tremendous loss. I know Wendel thru work from many years ago and I always knew him to be so nice and friendly. It was always a pleasure to see him and visit with him. The community has lost such a special person. May God bless you all with love and understanding.

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**Lenice Socha** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ It was with sadness that I learned of Wendel's passing. I knew Wendel when I was invovled at Houston First Baptist from one of the singles classes. I thought Wendel was one of the nicest, most humble men that I have met in my life and he will be surely missed. Wendel always would reach out to others to help wherever he could and he always played his heart out during the soft ball games. My condolences to Wendel's family and many friends.

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**John D. Edwards** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Wendel was, of course, a wonderful man of god who not only told people about the Lord but he also showed people the gospel. What a wonderful friend he is/was and fellow Shed classmate. I cannot imagine what this loss fully means to you his family, yet, as a friend, his death is both a tragic loss for me and the Shed and a wonderful release knowing he is now with the Lord. Wendel's presence, and now the loss of his physical presence, as a student at HBU I am discovering is warmly substantial--which I believe you'll see today at the funeral, that is, with his faculty attending and grieving the loss along side each of you.*

*May God continue to touch each of you with His warm presence, favor and comfort.*

*looking forward,*

*David House*

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**David House** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *The Short Family,*

*Wendel was a good friend, workout buddy and fellow classmate at Lamar*

*High School. Indeed, our graduating class of 1982 is saddened because of Wendel's passing. I will be praying for God's comfort and peace to surround*

*you during this time. Heaven has gained a true soldier. Blessings to all of you.*

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**Rodney M. Sherman** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *What a precious man of God. I volunteered with him at the Pregnancy Center years ago. He was such an inspiration and a tremendous servant of our Lord Jesus Christ. May the Lord comfort you during this time.*

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**Chris Gautreaux** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *Wendell was in my Sunday School class. He would do the little things such as setting out class info. He would pick me up for church*

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**Thomas Morrison** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *once a mustang always a mustang*

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**mark preston** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *Know that we are praying for you in this time of loss. I have heard from many that Wendel was a very special person who loved our Lord with all of his heart, mind and soul. May the peace of Christ be with you as you move through this time. As a family, our prayer is that you will claim Philippians 4:7. Wendel will be missed at HBU. Praying for you,  
Colette Cross  
University Chaplain, HBU*

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**Colette Cross** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ As Wendel's sister, I just want to give you all a heartfelt thank you for your many kind words and thoughts of Wendel. As his sister, he was very special to me. I am deeply saddened to have lost my brother on earth, but I am rejoicing that he has found his place in heaven at the feet of Jesus. He was a remarkable man to me, but oh what joy to hear so much about him than I ever knew.

*I thank all of you my dear sisters and brothers for being his extended family. The Lord gave him a servant's heart, and he used it to the full. Wendel was also blessed to be surrounded by so many loving people. I know you loved on him too, and for that I am forever grateful.*

*I thank you for your time with us today. It has comforted me and my family so very much. I feel as though I have made a whole lot of new friends in the past two days. I hope to hear more from all of you anytime you wish to talk.*

*Pam, Wendel's sister  
pcrosley1@comcast.net  
832-865-3514*

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**Pam Crosley** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ One thing I will always remember about Wendel is what a caring person he really was. My thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

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**Diane Lee** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ I went to High School with Wendel and graduated the same year, I know him as a great friend and guy. I am sure that all that knew and was around him will greatly miss him. May the Lord JESUS give your family members grace and comfort in the coming months. I will always remember you Thanks for the time that i got know you.  
Class of "82" Friend, Brad Wheat

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**Brad Wheat** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Even though I had only known Wendel for a year, he had an incredible impact in my life. He was working with me as my trainer to help me get P.E. credit at my high school. He understood my challenges and helped me work through them. He never judged me and he always believed in me. I am a better person from having Wendel in my life. I will miss him immensely!

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**Connor Malone** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CZ

“ I would like to extended by deepest condolences for your loss. Wendel was with me in high school. I remember when he played football with me & also remember Mr. Short giving me sweet bread everytime I saw he. My prayers are with you all.

*Cary Zipprian  
Laredo, Texas*

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**cary zipprian** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ *Wendel always had a keen awareness when others were in need or hurting. He made an effort to ask others about them, rather than to focus on himself. I'll never forget a phone call he made to me one evening when my mother was very sick and in the hospital. The conversation was just what I needed at that particular moment, and I believe it was a direct result of his willingness to follow God on a daily and even hourly basis. All the compliments everyone has given Wendel on his character and more are so true.*

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**Paul Robinson** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *Even if you only met Wendel once you never forgot him and he never forgot you. Several years ago my father was new to the Waters Edge class and during a lunch we had I was talking to Wendel and he leaned over and struck up a conversation with my dad. He made my dad feel like a part of the group even though dad was the "senior" at the table. When I mentioned Wendel's name the other day, even though he hasn't seen Wendel in years my dad knew exactly who I was talking about. Although my usually unemotional father was visibly saddened at the loss, he fondly remembered the loving kindness Wendel showed him. Even in brief moments he made a difference. I too will remember him as a loving, kind, gentle, Godly man.  
Wendel, you will be missed & I am a better person for knowing you.  
Praying for all family & friends.*

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**Elena Scardino** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Dear Martha,

*I am so sorry for your loss. I can't imagine the sorrow. Please take care of yourself.*

*Love,  
Karen*

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**Karen DiGalbo** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Wendal my friend and Brother and fellow Vet. I will miss you Bro. I have known you many years now ever sence you came to First Baptist Church. I will miss the Years of palying softball together. I will also miss your servent hart that you showed every day. Thanks for the good times we have had. I have been blessed to know you Bro.

*Your Brother in Christ.*

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**Stephen Statham** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ JO AND FAMILY;  
WORDS CAN NOT EXPLAIN THE LOSS YOU ARE FEELING,  
KEEP THE FAITH AND YOU WILL GET THROUGH THIS  
DIFFICULT TIME!!!  
YOUR ALL IN OUR PRAYERS;  
GOD BLESS;  
MARY ONDRUSH

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**mary ondrush** - December 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ I remembered Wendel as such a sweet and unassuming servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. He drove over an hour just to invite and accompany me to his church service when I did need some fellowship in the Lord. What a sweet and loving soul. The world will certainly be missing one of its saints. Yet the angels in Heaven have gained a fellow worshipper of our dear Lord.

*Rest in peace,  
Kelli Oglethorpe Barnes*

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**Kelli Oglethorpe Barnes** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NS

“ Wendel was a great friend. His love for the Lord was very evident. We will miss him.

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**Neal and Kim Symms** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ You will be in my thoughts through this difficult time.

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**Amy Malphrus** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Wendel and I would talk in the gym while he waited for his clients to show. I will miss being around my fellow servant in Christ. He always reminded me to keep my quiet time longer than my workout.

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**James Greer** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Wendell was truly a man of God. He showed kindness to everyone and served the Lord with all his heart. We will miss him until we all see him again in heaven.

*In our hearts always,  
Gordon and Judy Marshall*

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**Gordon and Judy Marshall** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Wendall you touched so many lives and was a sweet man to talk to, go to Astros games with or go have a bite to eat with. I know now your in a better place and God is saying well done my good and faithful servant. To the family you had a great son, brother or grandson and you should be proud of who he was and how God has welcomed in to his kingdom. Matt Weihe also send his greetings with this note and says he was a great friend and he thought so much of him.

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**Kristen Hensley** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth. It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart. Ecclesiastes 7:1-2*

*Wendel is a Godly man and a good friend. I first met him in the Water's Edge Sunday School class you know, the really big one at Houston's First Baptist, where Wendel was always ready to lend a helping hand. He has been a part of the Houston Project North Central, Broadway, Rose of Sharon, and Glendale and activities at the Mission Training Center for as long as I can remember. What he did in this life will echo through eternity.*

*Wendel, may you glorify our Lord Jesus Christ in His presence now and forever. We will see you again . . . but not yet.*

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**Steve Chan** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *I'm a fellow personal trainer and friend of Wendel's. I just loved him as a brother. He was such a special man. He lived his life well.*

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**Diane Bagby** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ One of my favorite Wendel stories happened just a few months ago. I was stung on the hand by a wasp on a Friday afternoon. By Saturday, my hand was about double its size. Someone had told me to take a Benedryl to help with the inflammation - so I did - and took it Sunday morning, before Sunday School. Well, the Benedryl was hitting me pretty hard by Church service. Wendel usually sat "down in the front" with me during church and I had told him before hand that I was really getting drowsy due to the Benedryl. Well, Wendel was so so so amazing after all, we were just steps from the preacher!! as my head would nod and I would start to drift into sleep, he would subtly move his foot to gently tap my foot to wake me up. Now that was amazing character! Thanks Wendel, I'll miss having you sit by me during church - Benedryl or not.

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**Lisa Karabatsos** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss. Wendel had been in our department here at Houston Baptist University several times and even though I was not the secretary that would have been working with him directly, I had the honor of visiting with him several different times. I know that your family is in such pain right now but just remember that Wendel will be celebrating Christmas with our Savior.

*In His Love,*

*Shannon Sims*

*Houston Baptist University*

*Education & Behavioral Sciences Dept.*

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**Shannon Sims** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Wendel was in several of my history classes at HBU. He was enrolled in my Europe after Napoleon class when he was killed. He was a wonderful student who loved history. He had talked to me recently about going to grad school. His absence was noticed Monday because he is always in class and always early. We are shocked and saddened. We are going to have a short memorial service for him in class Wednesday.

With love,

Dr. Diane Martin  
Associate Professor of History  
Chair of History and Political Science Department

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**Diane Martin** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ Wendel is truly a man of God. He love Christ and offer to help anyone in needs. He will be deeply miss by his family and friends. I will continue to pray for everyone during this difficult time.

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**Toeur Khuth** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ I knew Wendel from The Shed/HFBC - In my time of prayer & contemplation since learning of our loss, I was led to realize just how much impact we can have on others in this life, & how Wendel has impacted mine. Wendel's commitment to Christ & those around him has inspired me, exemplified by his commitment to the people who attend The Shed, his knowledge of the Word, & his kind demeanor. In remembering how Wendel lived I can grow in how I live, & hope that someday my life will have been a benefit to others as was Wendel's. My prayers go out to the family & loved ones. We will miss you Wendel.

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**Mark Wilson** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ My dear friend Wendel, I first met you on the mission field. Serving our Lord and Savior Jesus. Now you are with Him. I will miss you dearly. Your life serving others, was a living legacy. A Mighty Man of God is now home with Jesus. I will miss you dearly.

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**Sylvia B. Johnson** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ Wendel was truly one of the nicest people that I have ever met. I never once heard him say a bad word about anyone else. His life was focused on helping other people, whether it be physical training, serving, or teaching. He was a true servant, in every aspect of the word. If you ever needed anything, Wendel was the first one there always with a smile. He had a thirst for knowledge, as he was always reading books, and sharing what he learned. Above all, he loved the Lord with all his heart, and was a great example of what it means to be a believer in Jesus Christ. I know that he was greeted in Heaven by God with "Well done, good and faithful servant."

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**Chris Tull** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Wendel and I met while playing softball for the Shed and I'll never forget seeing him hit for the first time. Watching him warm up, I honestly wasn't expecting much ... but he ended up hitting the ball "on the screws" as they say and perhaps as solidly as I've ever seen a softball hit. And to me that's a perfect visual to demonstrate how Wendel lived out his life and faith ... **SOLIDLY!!**

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**Dan LeNeveu** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

WL

“ My prayers go out to the family and closest friends. Wendel was a faithful servant for Jesus Christ, in the time I knew him in the Water's Edge and Shed Sunday School classes at First Baptist. His presence every week in the Shed will be deeply missed.

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**Wanda Llorens** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Wendel was a well-liked fellow on the HBU campus. He was a student in several of my classes and his absence will be felt. We all admired him for his diligence in class, his love of history, and his desire to be a teacher. He will be missed.

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**Dr. Chris Hammons** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ One word comes to mind - Faithfulness. What a great example Wendel was to so many!

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**Jody Rogers** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ Wendel was my personal trainer for 15 years. We shared a lot of laughs and he got me through some difficult times. He led an exemplary Christian life; always giving and caring. I will miss not only his training abilities but also his warm friendship. He loved his family and spoke affectionately of his parents, sister, brother-in-law, nieces and nephew; also his cousin, Graham. God Bless You All

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**Audrey Odom** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Wendel was an active member of our Bible Study Class The Shed and clearly had a servants heart. While I didn't know him as well as others, I did have the privilege of knowing him and am grateful for that. He clearly had a kind and friendly disposition that will be missed. He was a good and faithful servant and is at his permanent home with Christ.

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**Bill Schrauff** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ The loss of Wendel is something that cannot be expressed in words it's a sad day for everyone at Houston's First Baptist Church. He touched so many people in so many ways. I will be praying for your family at this sad time. Jackie Ogg

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**Jackie Ogg** - December 04, 2007 at 12:00 AM