



Kent Norman Torbeck

June 8, 1955 - February 26, 2026

Kent Norman Torbeck, age 70, of Stockton, Missouri, passed away unexpectedly on February 26, 2026, leaving a tremendous void in the hearts of those who knew and loved him — and no doubt roared into Heaven in true Doc fashion.

Kent was born on June 8, 1955, in Vandalia, Illinois, to Charles and Marilyn Torbeck.

He graduated from Northwest Classen High School with the Class of 1973, beginning a lifelong journey marked by dedication, compassion, and hard work.

Following high school, Kent pursued his passion for animal care at Oklahoma State University, earning his Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine in 1981. Shortly after graduation, he began his career at the Lamar Animal Clinic in Lamar, Missouri, in May of 1981. For three decades, he faithfully served the Lamar community before relocating his practice to Stockton, Missouri in 2011, where he continued caring for animals and supporting their families until the time of his passing.

To Kent, veterinary medicine was more than a profession — it was a true calling. He treated every animal that came through his doors as if it were his own, offering not only skilled medical care but genuine compassion. His

steady presence and kind heart left a lasting mark on countless families and their beloved pets.

Outside of his work, Kent found great joy and freedom riding motorcycles. The open road brought him peace and adventure, and it was one of the many ways he embraced life fully. Whether it was a short ride or a long trip, he cherished the thrill, the quiet moments of reflection, and the memories made along the way.

Kent was well known for his quick wit and unforgettable sense of humor. No matter the situation, he always seemed to have something funny to say. His ability to lighten the mood, even on the hardest days, brought comfort, laughter, and ease to those around him. His humor was simply part of who he was — a gift he shared freely with family, friends, coworkers, and clients alike.

On January 1, 2002, Kent married Wanda Torbeck in New Orleans, Louisiana. Together they built a life filled with partnership and laughter.

He is survived by his loving wife, Wanda Torbeck; his father, Charles Torbeck; his brother, Charlie (Phyllis) Torbeck; his son, Arty (Dawn) Torbeck; his daughter, Karrie Torbeck; his cherished grandchildren, Tucker (Laney) Torbeck, Taryn Torbeck, Trent Torbeck, and Kennedy Brown; and his wonderful staff at his veterinary clinic, who were like family to him. He also leaves behind many extended family members, friends, colleagues, and clients who will deeply miss him.

Kent was preceded in death by his mother, Marilyn Torbeck.

His legacy lives on in the lives he touched — both two-legged and four-legged alike.

Tribute Wall

GD

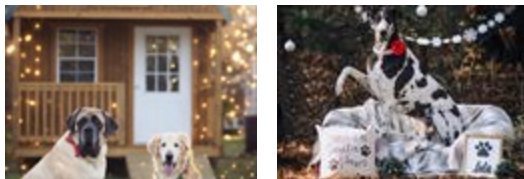
“ He has been our vet for a long long time. He loved our animals and we loved him. It was always a joy to see him. I am so sad to have heard the news. Our sympathy to his family. He was an absolutely wonderful man.

gloria daley - April 09 at 11:50 AM

JC

“ Dr. Kent Torbeck cared for our family's dogs for over 14 years — our Golden Retriever Jake, our Mastiff Zeus, and our Great Dane Lola. Through every stage of their lives, he treated them — and us — like family.

One memory we will always cherish is when he helped us say goodbye to our Mastiff Zeus in our home. Our daughter Mya later drew a crayon picture of that moment, and Kent kept it taped to his refrigerator at the clinic. That simple act meant the world to us and perfectly captured the kind of man he was — compassionate, genuine, and deeply devoted to the animals and families he served. Stockton has lost a remarkable veterinarian and an even better human being. We will forever be grateful for the love and care he gave our pets and our family. Rest easy, Doc. We love you, we miss you. 🐾🐾



Jessica and Rodger Campbell - March 12 at 10:53 PM

SB


“ He saved my Pearlie two times, first shortly after Lynne Cox rescued her and her siblings, she was attacked by all the dogs at the pound (Cause for Paws), it was so bad the volunteer had to lay across her to stop the attack, she nearly bled to death, Dr. Torbeck saved her, then I fostered her (failed foster, had her nearly 15 years). Second time she climbed my chain length fence and was hit by a car, it was after 5pm in Stockton. I was hysterical trying to find a vet, Lynne got in touch with Kent, he called me as I was driving to Doc Cramer's home, and said he would meet me at his office. He spent two hours stitching her leg, Wanda drove him there. Later I found out he had just had a massive heart attack days before and he was not supposed to be working or doing anything, and yet he insisted on saving Pearl, and he did. He will be sorely missed.

Sherri Bliss - March 06 at 11:54 AM

AN

“ Doc Torbek was the kindest soul we have ever met. He was so kind to us and went above and beyond to care for our fur babies. He is heaven-bound and will be surrounded by the animals he cared for and loved. Rest easy, Doc.

Andrea Nikodim - March 05 at 10:45 AM


Teresita
Cruz

“ *Condolences to the family of Doc. Doc took care of several of my dogs over the yrs. He cried with me when I lost a dog. He was a one-of-a-kind Vet and a unique human. He was always smiling and being funny. I don't trust too many folks, but I trusted Doc. Had a Rottie yrs back, her name was Bella she didn't like men, before I could say anything Doc comes sliding across the floor into the room and went face to face with her. I held my breath, she did nothing. I was in disbelief. He then told her Bella that cyst on your gums needs to come out now if that's okay with Mom. I said yes, he said come on Bella and off she went to have surgery. That said it all, about who Doc was. A dog who never trusted men, would bite them, didn't even flinch with Doc. Doc was just getting to know my new Staffy pup Egnog, she loved him as all my dogs did. Lilo, Pika, Bo, Egnog and I are sure gonna miss ya Doc. Guess you be ridin on them streets of gold now my friend.*



Teresita Cruz - March 04 at 09:48 PM

AH

“ *Even with his arm in a cast with wires in it, he was always so happy. He was an amazing vet; even with one hand he managed to take care of surgery on one of our pets and did amazing. I hope he gets to reunite with the animals he cared for, for years. I bet all the pets will be thrilled to see there amazing vet that cared for them*

Alexia Holcomb - March 04 at 05:04 PM

TR

“ *I'm sure he is still at the rainbow bridge saying hello to all the babies that went before him. I bet he even remembers all their names. He was the best vet I ever had. Condolences to his wife and family.*

Tamara Ringler - March 04 at 01:22 PM

RH

“ *They broke the mold when they made Kent. His kindness, compassion and empathy will be very hard to replace. he will truly be missed. Rest In Peace, Kind Sir. With all our love, Charlotta Ann, Olee Ander, Martha Jones, Amelia Pond and Max Amillion~~ Rhonda Harvey.*

Rhonda Harvey - March 04 at 07:30 AM

TE

“ Over the years as a breeder, I had the privilege of getting to know Doc very well. It wasn't uncommon for me to be at the clinic multiple times a week, sometimes even more than once in a day, and he was always willing to help in any way he could. He went above and beyond for our dogs and puppies, and he treated them as if they were his own.

But what stood out most about Doc was not just his love for animals...it was his heart for people. He was incredibly giving, always ready to help, and truly cared about the families and breeders he worked with. My husband always said Doc did everything "full blast," and that was exactly who he was. He brought energy, kindness, and a sense of fun that could brighten your whole day.

He made a lasting impact on so many of us. I will miss him terribly and will always be grateful for the care he gave to our animals and the kindness he showed to our family.

*~ Tabitha Erickson
Sac River GoldenDoodles & BerneDoodles LLC*

Tabitha Erickson - March 03 at 08:40 PM

DD

“ Condolences to the family of (Doc) as we always called him. He will be greatly missed. He treated our dogs with great care. He always greeted us with a smile and welcome and remembered our names as well as our dogs names. Best vet and guy. May he rest in peace.

Donna Sue Dewey - March 02 at 04:24 PM

CR

“ Doc Torbeck was an excellent vet. & very caring person. He loved all animals. He was always telling me stories about his dogs. The first time I took Oscar to him I warned him about Oscar's bad attitude. He started talking to him & even commented how they both had the same color of hair. I was in shock in his attitude change. Doc had the special touch. All animals lived him. Thank you for the loving care you gave Oscar. You will be missed. Thoughts & prayers to his family

Candy Raymond - March 02 at 01:08 PM

SW

“ Sending love and prayers to Dr Torbek's family. He was an incredible person and will truly be missed. So very sorry
Sharon West

Sharon West - March 01 at 10:17 AM

DS

“ Our sincere prayers to his family. He will be missed. My favorite memory of him was when our black lab stabbed her throat with a stick. He wanted to keep her overnight for observation. Found out the next day that he had taken him home with him instead of leaving her in an empty building. She had been an outside dog until then but that sure changed!!!

Deborah Saffold - February 28 at 03:07 PM

DH

“ Dr Kent was the most compassionate veterinarian I've ever met. He never met a stranger and he treated his patients like family. Recently he asked me to join a "motorcycle club " he was a member of, a group of guys that love to ride. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Darryl Hoke - February 28 at 10:17 AM

LS

“ 🚗 *This isn't the jeep you wanted and the one I promised you but under the circumstances it's the only one I can get to you we will miss Doc Torbeck thank you for taking good care of 🐾 SADIE & OSKIE 🐾 R. I. P. 🚗🏍️!!!*

Linda Shirk - February 27 at 07:37 PM

ND

“ *Kent was the most compassionate veterinarian in the world. He was such a comfort to us when we had to say goodbye to our 2 previous dogs.. Cooper and Maggie, Kent cried with us and with dignity we said goodbye to our beloved dogs almost 1 year apart. Then we acquired our little Penny from the pound and again Kent loved and cared for our little pup. Then last year we rescued a friend for Penny.. a feisty little dog we named Rocky Again Kent took incredible care of them both. Rocky is 2 years old and Penny is 6. Kent loved them both along with his amazing staff. I pray for Wanda and his children to find peace in the fact that he is with our lord.*

Noreen Dayton - February 27 at 05:04 PM

JS

Doc was a great man and vet

Jim Shirk - March 03 at 07:00 PM

MM

Somehow, in some ways, things just seem a whole lot emptier.

Marlaine Meeker - March 06 at 11:43 AM