



Orion C. Miller

JAN 25, 1948 - MAR 30, 2016



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Orion Columbus Miller, Jr. died on March 30, 2016, at the age of 68. He was born in Cumberland County, TN, to Orion Columbus Miller and Sally Lucille Dodson Miller, the fifth of six children. He married his wife, Nancy Helen Miller, 45 years ago, and the two of them shared a contented life, full of traveling, collecting, and learning. “Mr. Miller” graduated from Cumberland County High School and Tennessee Technological University. He was, above all, a teacher whose students loved him and learned so much more than math from him. He spent his entire teaching career in Memphis, teaching at Porter Junior High, Longview Junior High (where he was also Assistant Principal), White Station High School in Memphis for 23 years, and St. Mary’s Episcopal School for 16 ½ years. Orion and Nancy planted a garden and many trees at White Station High School, and there is a garden named for him there. Earlier this year they both won the Apple Award at St. Mary’s, given to teachers who show exceptional kindness and compassion for their students. Orion’s many collections include maps, Southern decorative arts, old jugs, and museum-quality mathematical instruments and telescopes, many of which will be donated. In addition to his beloved Nancy, Orion is survived by his sisters, Josephine Dulaney of Crossville, TN, and Barbara Ann Ferris of St. Louis, MO, many, many loving friends, and generations of students to whom he means the world. Visitation will be held at Wesleyan Hills United Methodist Church, 390 South Yates, Memphis 38120 on Friday, April 1, from 2:00-4:00 pm, with the funeral at 4:00. In lieu of flowers, the Millers request that memorials be sent to: St. Mary’s Episcopal School, St. Jude Hospital, WKNO, the Brooks Decorative Arts Trust, or a charity of choice. Services have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis TN 38119. (901) 767-8930. “Celebrating Life....Behind the Stone Wall.”



Tribute Wall

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AN

J posted:

Never has anyone taught me to appreciate math more than Mr. Miller. I struggled with it for my entire life, and until he taught me the "grammar" of math, I never properly grasped it. I wish everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him well.

May 5 at 4:52 PM

JM

Joyce Mensch posted:

Was so very sorry to learn of Orion's passing while working on our 50th Class Reunion plans. My heart reaches out to you Nancy. Joyce Whitson Mensch

April 12 at 4:46 PM

CS

Carol Sanders posted:

Nancy, such a long time but I would know those faces and smiles anywhere! I am so very sorry for your loss. Seeing all the pictures allows us to share in some of the wonderful memories you and Orion made together and that was so nice. Again, let me say how very sorry I am for the pain you must be going through. Sincerely, Carol Burnett Sanders

April 12 at 5:02 AM

BF

Barbara Ferris posted:

I am thinking of you a lot, now and these past few weeks. Remembering "little brother" Pete and then Orion the fine man. I am also proudly appreciating anew his life and positive contributions in this world. With love Barbara Ann

April 9 at 6:04 AM

GB

Gene Barnard posted:

Penny and I send our love and prayers for God's peace be with you and your family at this time. I was blessed to have had both you and Orion as friends as well as students. This sad news came by way of Mark Featherston who came to visit us recently. God's comforting mercies. Gene Barnard

March 31 at 6:38 PM



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MA

Mark posted:

Condolences to Nancy in the loss of her loving husband Orion. We grew up together in Crossville & shared wonderful times. O.C. was a gentleman, scholar & devoted friend. The world was a better place because of him & Nancy.

March 31 at 5:51 PM

JM

Jeannie Mcguire posted:

Aunt Virginia and Jeannie send heartfelt sympathy to Nancy. We love you and have you in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

March 31 at 2:38 PM

RD

Robert & Linda Davis posted:

Robert & Linda Davis purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Orion C. Miller.

March 30 at 4:50 PM

MP

Memorial Park posted:

Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Orion C. Miller.

March 30 at 4:29 PM

MB

Michelle Burrell Bertani posted:

I have fond memories of Mr. Miller as my Algebra teacher at White Station High School. I graduated in 89. I'm sad to hear of his death. I send prayers for peace for Mr. Miller's family and loved ones.
Sincerely, Michelle Burrell Bertani

March 30 at 2:58 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Orion by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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