



Herb Hilgeman

MAY 15, 1950 - JAN 8, 2024



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MEMORIAL PARK
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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 5
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 9



Herb Hilgeman

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Herbert Alan Hilgeman, of Cordova, TN went to be with The Lord on January 8, 2024 after a long battle with cancer and scleroderma. He was 73 years old. Herb was born May 15, 1950 to Herbert Jacob and Evelyn Himes Hilgeman in Southgate, KY. He graduated from Highlands High School in Ft. Thomas, KY and Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He received a Master's in Education from Memphis State University. Herb coached for 41 years, which included 34 years as the Head Men's Basketball Coach at Rhodes College. He is the leader in career basketball victories in Rhodes history and the SCAC Conference. He was named conference Coach of the Year numerous times, region coach of the year numerous times, and was inducted into his High School's Athletics Hall of Fame, Northern Kentucky Sports Hall of Fame, and Rhodes College Hall of Fame. In September 2023, the basketball court at Rhodes College was formally named the Herb Hilgeman Court. He also received the NABC 2016 Division 3 Outstanding Service Award for contributing significantly "Inside and Outside the Lines" of coaching as a distinguished member of the community. Herb was a long time member of Lindenwood Christian Church. He was a Life Elder and Stephen Minister, and served on numerous committees. He was also active in the Emmaus Community.

The most important thing in his life was his family. Herb was married to the love of his life and best friend, Beth, for over 44 years. His greatest joys came from spending quality time with his children and grandchildren cooking out, playing cards, and spending summer vacations together. He was so proud of his family and loved them deeply. Herb is survived by his wife Beth, his children: Michelle (Shane) Pitts, Mary (David) Neal, David (Schuyler Dalton) Hilgeman, Charlie (Thalia) Hilgeman; grandchildren Desmond & Neva Pitts, Hannah Neal, Christian Hilgeman; his sister Verna Mason; and countless extended family and dear friends. Family and friends will remember his optimism, kindness, selflessness, sportsmanship, sense of humor, and connection with friends from each stage of his life. The family would like to thank West Cancer Center and



Obituary

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the Physical Therapy department in particular for the care they provided to Herb over the past 7 years.

Memorial donations can be sent to the National Scleroderma Foundation or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Visitation will be Saturday, January 13, 2024 from 1 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., with service at 3:00 p.m. at Lindenwood Christian Church. Live stream will be available on lindenwoodcc.org.



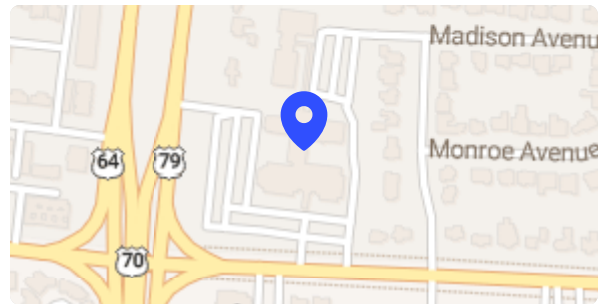
Events

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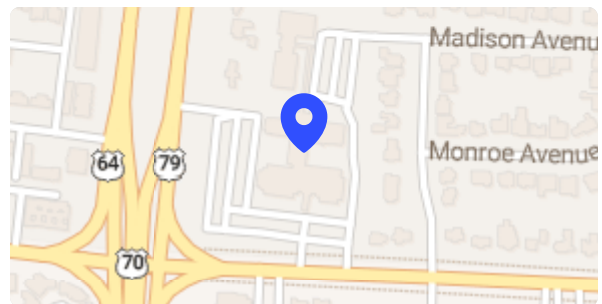
Visitation

- Saturday**, January 13, 2024
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM CT
- Lindenwood Christian Church**
2400 Union Avenue, Memphis TN 38112



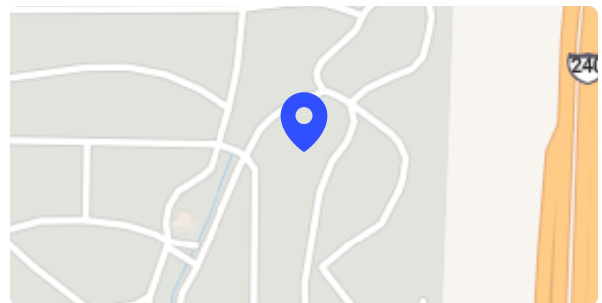
Memorial Service

- Saturday**, January 13, 2024
- 3:00 PM CT
- Lindenwood Christian Church**
2400 Union Avenue, Memphis TN 38112



Cemetery Details

- Memorial Park Cemetery**
5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis TN 38119
- (901) 445-8475**





Tribute Wall

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CE

Carol Eicher posted:

My husband, Jack and I were friends with Herbie, as we called him then, in high school. Loved him then. We followed his amazing career and later through Facebook connected with him again. What an amazing example lived out of how Jesus instructed us to live. Even when Herb was ill and he would hear of someone having a serious illness, he would order one of my books, Miracles of the Heart, and send it to them as a way of encouragement. It warmed my heart to know he was so encouraging to others when he was ill himself. I am sure he is spreading kindness and love in Heaven as I type. You will be missed, our friend. Carol Zimmerman Eicher

January 16 at 3:53 AM

DM

Dick Maile posted:

I am a member of the Northern Kentucky Sports Hall of Fame. Herb was recently inducted into the NKSHOF. I extend my sympathy and prayers to all of Herb's family and friends. Herb is well known in Northern Kentucky and respected as a Christian who lived his faith by his actions, a great coach and role model for many, and a man committed to his family. He will be missed by many but certainly has left his example in life for many to follow. May God grant you the faith and peace to know that Herb is in the loving arms of our awesome God. Dick Maile

January 14 at 3:11 PM

RP

Rebecca Aust Phipps posted:

I attended Highlands High School with Herb. When I picture those days, I see him including everyone in his circle. I never witnessed, nor heard of, him being unkind. He was always a gentleman. When I began chemotherapy in 2018 following a prior cancer that metastasized to 7 other locations, he began a series of monthly cards with lengthy encouraging notes. I did the same for him. There must have been times when it was a great and painful effort for him. It was a part of his character to be steadfast. Thank you to his family for sharing him. I picture this humble giant of a man meeting his Maker face to face at last. Well done dear friend. Becky Aust Phipps

January 12 at 11:17 AM

MA

Matt posted:

Some of the best memories of my childhood were in the Rhodes gym, where Herb and his staff coached many of us young guns during the summers. When I grew up and became friends with David, I saw that the good nature, fair, moral, and fun-loving characteristics I associated with Herb were a family trait. Sending my best to the family in a tough time.

January 11 at 8:25 PM



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BF

Barbara Finney posted:

Herb and his wife, Beth were some of the best neighbors we ever had in Cordova, TN. Herb was so kind and helpful and he always had a smile for everyone. He and Beth were always there for us as neighbors. He will be greatly missed! We look forward to seeing him again one day in heaven!!!

January 11 at 1:21 PM

LH

Larry Hurd posted:

Man, I grew up and went to the same middle school as David. I ended up at Rhodes as a freshman in 2005. When I saw the name Hilgeman, I automatically went up to him and said "I know your son!" Coach Herb instantly lit up and was one of the most helpful and supportive people on Campus. Although I played football and Track and Field, as a work study assignment, I would have to film basketball games. Coach Herb would always look up in the bleachers before the game started and say, "Hey Larry, make sure you get my good side" lol you'll be missed coach. 🙏

January 11 at 5:47 AM

TH

Tim Hartline posted:

I didn't know Herb, but I did have the pleasure of hanging with David for a few years. I can only imagine the man Herb is by looking at his son and knowing what of great person he raised. I can only hope I can do the same with my son.

January 11 at 4:03 AM

BH

Brenda J Hale shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I watched Herb and Beth move alongside Beth's parents at Lindenwood, living a life of quiet service and dedication to His children, in so many ways! Herb was smiling most days I saw him, just an easygoing fellow who loved The Lord! 'Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant!'



January 10 at 12:41 PM



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PK

Paul Kish posted:

I had the opportunity to meet Herb while coaching his son David in the 10 year old State n National AAU Olympics. Herb was a great resource n friend always willing to help and provide his coaching expertise and a man I truly respected . My deepest thoughts and prayers go out to Herb's wife, his son David, as well as the entire family and friends. Herb will be deeply missed but I know he has entered into the ultimate heavenly resting place.

January 10 at 12:35 PM

DT

David Trowbridge posted:

Herb was a carrot 🥕 and I was a tomato 🍅 that was 1st or second grade 😁 . Later we reconnected at HHS , served as Co Captain with Herb We had a lot of memories through High school especially on the court It was a honor to call you my friend 🙏🙏🙏

January 10 at 8:45 AM

MP

Melanie (Misch)Plagge lit a candle in honor of Herb.

Herb and I spent the 5th grade thru 8th at Southgate elementary then onto Highland high school where we graduated together 1968. Herb stayed true to his Southgate friends by having lunch when in town while visiting his Mother until he fell ill starting a long journey in his fight to heal. We all loved Herb and stayed in contact with him till this bitter sweet end. We know that this amazing man with his huge heart of gold is in heaven. God bless and comfort his family. Thank you Beth and Mary for always keeping us up dated thru the years of Herbs ups and downs for his Southgate buddies. Prayers and love.



January 10 at 7:27 AM



Brenda J Hale shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

January 10 at 12:41 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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