



Fredrick Hendricks

MAY 22, 1926 - MAR 5, 2011



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 4



Fredrick Hendricks

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Decatur-Frederick H. Hendricks, 84 of Decatur passed away 7:56 am Saturday March 5, 2011 at St. Mary's Hospital.

Services to celebrate Fred's life will be 2:00 pm Thursday, March 10, 2011 at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home with Pastor Darren Morrow officiating. Visitation will be from 1 ' 2:00 pm Thursday at the funeral home. Services will conclude with Military Rites by the Macon County Honor Guard followed with the 'Flight Home' ceremony. Interment will be private in Camp Butler National Cemetery near Springfield, IL. Memorial donations may be made to the Rock Springs Conservation District. Online memories and condolences may be shared with Fred's family at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.

Fred was born on May 22, 1926 in Homewood, IL the son of Harold and Ruth (Morgan) Hendricks. Fred proudly served his country in the U.S. Army from 1944 ' 1946. He was a graduate of Millikin University and taught history at the Jr. High School in Niantic for several years. After his retirement Fred busied himself as a volunteer at the Rock Springs Conservation District. He was also an avid Chicago Cub fan. He married Mary Dial in Decatur and they later divorced. Fred married Lavonne Voss in November 1973 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Decatur.

Left to cherish Fred's memories are his wife Lavonne Hendricks of Decatur; his sons Rick Hendricks of Lodi, WI; and David (Kathy) Hendricks of Lodi, WI; his step-son Hans Tertocha of St. Louis, MO; his step-daughter Anna (David) Brackenbush of Panama, IL; his five grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

Fred was preceded by his parents and his daughter Ann McMarthy.

Fred's family would like to express heartfelt thanks to Laurie Brown, Jeannie Congenie, Crystal Mendenall and Sarah Smith who all gave excellent care to Fred while he was a resident at Fair Havens Christian Home.



Tribute Wall

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JS

Jim Sturgill posted:

I had the privilege of knowing Fred while a historic intern at the Conservation District back in 2003. Fred was a fantastic raconteur who shared my passion for history. He even shared some personal mementos of his time in the second World War with me, and I will cherish these always. My prayers and condolences go out to his family.

March 18 at 10:52 AM

MD

Marilyn Downs posted:

Mr. Hendricks was my jr. high history teacher at Niantic. Because of him, I gained an interest in history of all kinds. He was a great teacher.

March 10 at 3:56 PM

DV

Debbie Nail Vogel posted:

Mr. Hendricks was the best teacher I had, it was so much fun learning from him. I will never forget him, I wrote so many sentences for talking in his class he said he would have to hire a semi to get them to my parents, He really cared about all his students and we will never forget him,

March 10 at 10:44 AM

CP

Connie Allen Pease posted:

Mr. Hendricks was one of the few great teachers at Niantic-Harristown, and he had a way to make history interesting, and I remember him saying that "History is our future, so remember it well." Only now, I understand what he was sharing with us. Also, I enjoyed wearing chalk on my nose for days due to my obsessive talking. He always allowed me to choose the color, so it coordinated with my outfit... I will miss this man of tall stature, his amazing teaching skills, and most of all his charm. I am so sorry for your loss and he will be greatly missed. Miss Allen

March 10 at 10:34 AM



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SD

Staci Dick posted:

I m so sorry to hear about Mr. Hendricks passing. The last time I saw him at the nursing home was when I was visiting my dad and after not seeing me for over 25 years he still remembered me. I thought that was remarkable. I will never forget his wonderful way of teaching and his special ruler. May god be with you and your entire family during this grieving time.

March 10 at 8:22 AM

KM

Keith J Mcelyea posted:

Fred was my Junior High teacher in 76' and 77'. Can say he was one of my most favorite teachers. I credit him with my interest and career path in Stocks and Finances. He planted the interest seed and it bloomed from there. He will be missed.

March 9 at 12:59 PM

JH

Jeff Halford posted:

Incredible teacher, one of my all-time favorites. He could be serious and funny at the same time. I'm lucky to have been in class.

March 9 at 12:28 PM

TS

Tim Sunderland posted:

One of the most memorable teachers I ever had. Everyone loved his class. His class is still the topic of conversation years later and his name is always spoken with a fondness. I am thankful to have met Mr. Hendricks.

March 9 at 12:09 PM

MM

Mandy Mathias posted:

Mr. Hendricks was my favorite teacher in all of my school years!!! I got to visit him while he was at the nursing home and after all the years that past he still remembered me!!! He will be greatly missed, those who never got the pleasure of having him as a teacher really did miss out on the GREATEST TEACHER EVER!!!

March 9 at 11:31 AM



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DH

Danielle Jones Hunt posted:

Mr. Hendricks was such an amazing teacher. While his wit was second to none, I can remember his deep, resounding voice like it was yesterday. I actually remember very little about jr. high, but quirky things Mr. Hendricks said, often bringing at least a giggle, even when it wasn't how it was intended. And, although he wouldn't let you get away with much, he kept you so engaged, in whatever he was teaching at the time, with humor or crazy facts. There just are very few educators these days that are like Mr. Hendricks was. I hope my children have at least one teacher, in their school careers, that was just like he was. Blessings and prayers.

March 9 at 8:14 AM

JS

Jamy Mullins Smith posted:

I am truly sorry for your loss. I had the privilege of being one of his many students and have many fond memories of him. I was so excited to learn that he was going to be my tutor when I was not able to go to school due to a car accident I had my senior year. He made me laugh and helped me get through that difficult time. With coffee and cookie in hand he always knew what to say to make everything seem better some how. He always went above and beyond to make a difference. May God bless you and your family during this time and "Thank-You" for sharing him with us. We are who we are today because of special teachers like him.

March 8 at 5:54 PM

TG

Traci Harding Griffin posted:

My thoughts and prayers to your family regarding the passing of Mr. Hendricks. He was my jr. high history teacher some time ago. I have very fond memories of sitting in his classroom listening to him teach. And of course, as many will probably mention, the 100 dumb questions that were due at the end of each school year. Most of us probably don't think that they are that dumb anymore! I recently saw Mr. Hendricks a year ago or so at the nursing home where my father was in for some recuperation. I went to say hello and he greeted me with his normal greeting..."Aaaahhh Ms. Harding". Just like it was 8th grade all over again! RIP Mr. Hendricks!

March 8 at 3:34 PM

LC

Lori Coven posted:

Mr. Hendricks was truly the best teacher I have ever had....some of my best school memories are being in his class....you will be missed Mr. Hendricks R.I.P

March 8 at 3:28 PM



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MH

Michelle Hutchins posted:

Mr.Hendricks was my favorite teacher in J.R. High school, I was always happy when it was time for his class. Everything I do remember about History he taught to me and he made it interesting. I am sorry that i didn't stay in touch with him, I truly enjoyed having him as a teacher. I also use to live on the Sangamon River and in the summer I would watch for him on one of his many canoe trips to Springfield, H e was a GREAT man.....

March 8 at 3:10 PM

RR

Rebecca Reiss posted:

Mr. Hendricks was a great teacher. I will never forget the first day of History when he looked at me during attendance and said Ms. Franklin, unfortunately. The whole class laughed and then he explained the reason..This poor man had endured classes with my brother several years before me.Mr. H touched many lives and will be greatly missed. Thank you Mr. Hendricks for making a difference

March 8 at 2:07 PM

BG

Buffi Overlin Gentry posted:

Dear Hendricks family, Your father and husband holds a special place in many students hearts. We all have fond memories and thankfully, we're all able to laugh at our own foibles years later that Mr. Hendricks was quick to catch us doing. This quote comes to mind when I think of Mr. Hendricks, "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove...but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child." Thank you for making a difference, Mr. Hendricks. Thank you for sharing such a beloved teacher with us, Hendricks family.

March 8 at 1:34 PM

DB

Dawn Blankenship posted:

My husband & I were both students of Mr. Hendricks. We still talk about him nearly 30 yrs later. The 100 dumb questions and his stock market simulation. He one time made me write 500 sentences "when I talk I sound like a rocky mountain canary"...still to this day I am not sure what that sounds like. God Bless your entire family. The very best legacy a person can leave is cherished memories.

March 8 at 12:48 PM



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AL

Andrea , St. Louis, Mo posted:

To the family of Mr. Hendricks:Mr. Hendricks was a teacher of mine in junior high. I remember he had an amazingly dry sense of humor that I enjoyed very much. We used to tease him in history that the reason he taught it so well was because he had lived so much of it. To me, he was always on the edge, breaking the rules, teaching his way. Several times I walked into the room and caught him smoking by the window. It wasn't hard to do – he didn't try to hide it! As an adult my sisters and I were out at Rock Springs once and ran into him there. We were so surprised! But he remembered us and we remembered him. We are so sorry for your loss and pray that God will bring you a comfort and a peace that passes all understanding.

March 8 at 12:28 PM

SB

Shelli Halford Billingsley posted:

Mr. Hendricks was a wonderful man- what a dry, sarcastic sense of humor! He knew how to make us laugh and how to make us learn. He was a dedicated educator that will be missed by many. To his family- he left his mark on many students' lives. He lived a life to be proud of. My condolences.

March 8 at 12:10 PM

RJ

Ron And Sherry Jump posted:

To Family of Fred Hendricks:We are sorry to hear of Fred's passing.Fred was one of all 4 of our childrens teachers as well as a fellow teacher with my husband, Ron and we knew him for many years. My husband joined the staff at N-H Schools in 1962 and was there when Fred retired, at that time my husband was Principal of the Jr. High. He was highly respected and liked member of the staff and the students always loved his classes. he will be fondly remembered. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

March 8 at 11:08 AM

RY

Rosella Young posted:

I knew Fred from our days of teaching at Niantic-Harristown Schools.I would also see him when we volunteered at Rock Springs Center. He always had a smile and kind word. My sympathy to you. Rosella Young

March 8 at 9:26 AM



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MT

Mary Ross Terry posted:

I remember Mr.Hendricks as one of the most liked teachers in school,I had a History class he taught in 8th grade.He made class so much fun and he enjoyed his job very much . My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

March 8 at 8:38 AM

SD

Shelly King Back Then I Was Wanda Danner posted:

Mr. Hendricks was an awesome teacher! I loved his class! He was one of those teachers that you just didn't forget. My deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends!

March 7 at 7:21 PM

TE

Tracey Turner Ellmers posted:

Mr. Henricks was a wonderful teacher, a respected veteran, and a great nature advocate. He was one of my favorite teachers, and I know he will be greatly missed. I was saddened, too, to hear of the passing of his dsughter Ann. Heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the family.

March 7 at 6:18 PM

JW

Jody Welch posted:

I totally loved Mr. Hendricks as a teacher and kept in touch off and on after school. He always called me Miss Cline. Tracie and I went to Rock Springs and visited him there too. He was a great teacher and so funny too.

March 7 at 6:11 PM

JB

Josh Baker posted:

I am a former student of Mr Hendricks and I just wanted to take a minute and say thank you Mr Hendricks. Thank you for making such an impact on my scholastic career. You are a great man and will be missed.

March 7 at 2:30 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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