



Dr. Billy Edgar Gober

October 20, 1937 - January 31, 2021

Dr. Billy E. Gober, age 83, of Elizabethton TN, passed away suddenly on Sunday, January 31, 2021 at home. He was the son of the late Birdie Edgar and Marian Duggan Gober and was born on October 20, 1937 in Greensboro, GA.

Billy was a graduate of the University of Georgia. His professional experiences have been varied beginning as a science, health and physical education teacher at the elementary school level in Atlanta, GA. Billy taught at Briarcliff High School and coached football and gymnastics in Atlanta. He later served as coordinator for health and physical education and athletics for Georgia's DeKalb County School District. In 1968, he became a faculty member at the University of Georgia as a researcher at the Research and Development Center for Educational Stimulation. From 1972-1973, Billy was a professor at Temple University in Philadelphia. Returning to Georgia in 1973, he became the first Director of Health, Physical Education, and Athletics for the Cobb County School System. In the fall of 1975, he returned to the DeKalb County School System as a District Instructional Coordinator and conducted activities in tumbling, dancing, and swimming. He was selected to be the first coach of the Georgia Special Olympics team and accompanied them to the International Special Olympics team in California. Billy was also one of the original founders of the "Just Say No to Drugs" program.

After retiring from the school system, from 1990-2007, Billy was the Director of Educational Services for Sportime International. He conducted workshops across the country and abroad emphasizing various teaching methodologies to challenge all ability levels with inclusive activities promoting successful learning experiences. He also was an adjunct professor at Georgia State University and East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee. In addition to several publications and articles, Billy was the author of movement activities entitled, FITTERSITTERS, SITTERCISE, SEATWORKS, AND CHUTE THE WORKS, as well as designing many other educational materials.

Throughout his career, Billy has been recognized for his contributions to education and the community. In 1971, the Georgia Association for Health and Physical Education presented

him with the Georgia Honor Award. In 1986, the University of Georgia Alumni Association honored him with the Distinguished Alumni Award in Physical Education. In 1987, Georgia awarded him for dedicated service to the Outdoor and Environmental Education Program. In 2002, the Southern Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance presented him as a representative of Sportime International, the Clyde Partin Service Award. Billy is also recognized in Who's Who in American Education.

Billy was a lover of life, with a great sense of humor and made the most of every day. A two-time cancer survivor, he knew the importance of exercise and a healthy lifestyle. He enjoyed snow skiing, kayaking, paddleboarding, golf, pickleball, hiking, surfing, swimming, dancing, and classic cars. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family and cherished the blessings of God's amazing grace.

Those left to cherish his many memories include his wife of 20 years, Cindy Walker Gober of the home; 6 children, Denyse Brackett (Paul) of Cleveland, TN; Greg Gober (Joni) of Dallas, GA; Jennifer Storm (Matt) of Largo, FL; Chad Fulwider (Jessica) of Shreveport, LA; Derrick Fulwider (Whitney) of Johnson City, TN; and Jace Fulwider (Beth) of Kingsport, TN; 7 grandchildren Laura Hall of Smyrna, GA; Madison Gober of Atlanta, GA; Cole Gober of Dallas, GA; Kanaan & Kassidy Fulwider of Kingsport, TN; Caroline Fulwider of Johnson City, TN; and Maisie Fulwider of Shreveport, LA; and 1 sister, Betty Boswell of Elberton, GA.

Private services will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Shepherd's Inn, 616 West G Street, Elizabethton, TN, 37643 or to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123.

Online condolences may be shared with the family on our website, www.tetrickfuneralhome.com Tetrick Funeral Home, Elizabethton is honored to serve the Gober family. Office 423-542-2232, service information line, 423-543-4917.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ *In memoriam and the celebration of life for Dr. Billy Edgar Gober, an outstanding health and physical education educator and philosopher, I sincerely thank you!*



Dr. Charles L. Singleton - June 06, 2021 at 06:52 PM

AG

“ *My condolences to Billy's family. He was a force in the world of Health and Physical Education. I remember Billy from many, many PE conferences and events. He was fun to be around and an outstanding leader in our field. His memory lives on in the thousands of lives his service touched in PE professionals and students across our country. RIP Billy.*

Andrea Evans Gehweiler - February 07, 2021 at 01:24 PM

PM

“ *Cindy,*

My heart goes out to you at this time. You and Billy were the best people to work with as a national TOY. Traveling and presenting with the support of Billy made the experience so much fun. It was a special treat whenever you came back to Colorado and we could spend a few minutes together. I hope special memories bring you comfort. I'm sorry for your loss.

Patricia Morrison

Patricia Morrison - February 06, 2021 at 07:52 PM

JH

“ Cindy, I'm so sorry for your loss of your Billy. I'm so happy that I had the chance to become one of his many friends. Billy, was an interesting man and had a fabulous personality, enjoyed people, and made others feel very special, and I loved being around him. I loved his name and it went so well with yours-Cindy and Billy sitting in a tree...You were such a team and you could feel the love you shared. He adored you and made no bones about it! His Obituary was such a tribute to the extraordinary life he lived and shared with so many others. May the memories you shared flood the love of your life with joy, happiness, and peace. Sending my love and blessing to you and your family



Jobelle Hood - February 06, 2021 at 12:53 PM

KW

“ Cindy and family, I am so sorry for your loss. I was lucky to spend some time with you and Billy traveling to different locations when I was the National TOY. Some of my favorite memories of Billy are from our trip to Pensacola! He was a funny man! Hugs to everyone!
Krista Winn

Krista Winn - February 05, 2021 at 07:42 PM

GT

“ To Cindy and family, prayers for peace and comfort. No words can ease that pain, but leaning on God, family, and friends will provide comfort. Thinking of you.
Glenda Lipford Treadway

Glenda Treadway - February 05, 2021 at 11:35 AM

NM

“ Cindy, I was saddened to read about your husband's death. Praying for God to give you peace and comfort during this time. Larry and Nancy Merritt

Nancy Merritt - February 05, 2021 at 10:24 AM

SM

“ Star Pierce Morris lit a candle in memory of Dr. Billy Edgar Gober



Star Pierce Morris - February 04, 2021 at 08:08 PM

JS

“ To Cindy and Family,

It is so sad to lose such a great teacher, husband, father and G-Daddy. He was a leader and mentor to many. You are all in our prayers and thoughts during this time. We spent many years traveling together and sharing our lessons and life stories. He was the leader of the Teachers of the Years! Thank you for sharing him with us.

John Smith

John Smith - February 04, 2021 at 07:47 PM

SE

“ *Cindy I know there are no words to ease your pain. May the love and happiness and joy you shared bring comfort and peace. Sending love and light to surround you and your family.*

Sharon Woodruff Edwards - February 04, 2021 at 02:40 PM

DP

“ *Billy Gober was my friend and a mentor....his advice and guidance helped me land a great job with the fine people at Sportime. My first non-business experience with Billy....a winter hot tub, the Sportime leadership team and cold Hefty beer, during a brief ski trip to Mount Bachelor Oregon, before AAHPERD National over 30 years ago. My first time on the slopes and Billy literally taught me to ski....memories of Billy are warm, always joyful and filled with admiration for all he shared with me and thousands of physical educators around the world who were fortunate enough to know and learn from him. To Cindy and the Gober family, your Husband and Dad will be missed. He was a good man and a good friend. God Bless....Duane*

Duane Puckett - February 03, 2021 at 06:00 PM