



Jerrol Alan Windbigler

May 9, 1933 - January 14, 2021

Jerrol Alan Windbigler of Johnson City, TN passed away on January 14, 2021. Born May 9, 1933, in Elkhart, Indiana to Ralph and Jeannette (Tinsley) Windbigler, he grew up and attended school in Elkhart then proudly served in the US Navy. He married Harriet Windmiller in 1953 and they had 2 daughters, Kathy Lee & Deborah Ann.

Jerry became a teacher and worked hard to get his master's degree from Bowling Green State University. He was a fellow in the American Institute of Chemists and a member of the National Science Teachers Assoc.; ultimately becoming the Chair of the Science Department at Maine South High School, in Park Ridge, IL. He enjoyed teaching, running, reading, and finding good restaurants.

He was predeceased by his parents, first wife Harriet, and second wife Nancy Siedsma Windbigler, and siblings Bette, Wayne, and Glen Windbigler.

In addition to his daughters Kathy Becker of TN and Deborah Andrews (Christopher) of VT he had four much-loved grandchildren, Arthur Jacob Spangler (Rissa) in IL, Sarah Ann Karnes (Bryce) of TN, Dr. Jessa Andrews (Dr. David Pinckney) of VT and Thomas Edward Andrews (Marika Hyland) of MA. He is also survived by his much-adored great-grandchildren AJ and Mak Karnes of TN and his beloved dogs Parlez Vous and Mollie.

There are also many students and teachers whose lives he touched and appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, please support the animal rescue Big Fluffy Dog Rescue.

Due to current public health restrictions, services will be held at a later date.

Memories and condolences may be shared at www.tetrickfuneralhome.com. Tetrick Funeral Services, 3001 Peoples Street, Johnson City, TN 37604, (423) 610-7171, is honored to serve the Windbigler family during this difficult time.

Tribute Wall

CW

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I felt Mr. Windbilger was one of the best educators I had throughout all of my years of education. I graduated from Maine South in 1990 and he actually needed to teach my Junior Year Chemistry class on a daily basis due to staffing issues at that time when he was Chairman. He assumed the role with no issue alongside all of his other responsibilities which we all knew at the time was pretty admirable. He never complained. Mr. Windbigler awarded me the Science Department Award in 1990 which was one of the greatest moments of my childhood giving me a lot of confidence as a student and a person as I continued to college. We used to always talk about cars and in particular his Mazda RX7 that he loved driving. I vividly rememebr that the whole class always felt comfortable talking to him about life alongside class topics. What a great guy!

Christopher Walton
Class of 1990

Christopher Walton - October 07, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ I occasionally rode into work with Jerry. We shared driving together. I taught in the math department. We shared a love of classical music, especially George Telemann. I would walk into his office, place a cassette recording in his player, and he would attempt to guess the composer. Some wonderful memories. So sorry for your loss.

John Vergoth

john vergoth - February 03, 2021 at 01:44 PM

JS

“ I was the Math Department Chair at Maine South and shared office space with Jerry for years. He helped me start my time at Maine by taking me under his wing. He helped me avoid pitfalls and celebrated my progress. We worked hard, but had so much fun. Nancy came in for an annual Christmas Open House the math and science departments hosted. Jerry would haul things in so Nancy could decorate. They were very special people. Jerry will always have a place in my heart.

Janie Swenson

Janie Swenson - January 22, 2021 at 10:10 PM

KA

*Thank you for the kind words
Kathy Windbigler Becker- daughter*

kathy - January 23, 2021 at 12:14 PM

LS

Kathy you and D ebbing. Have our prayers Cousin Edscott

louis scott - January 27, 2021 at 08:36 AM

KR

I knew Jerry as a very professional administrator but he also never lost that strong concern for the students. He cared for education at the classroom level.

Keith Robinson, ind Ed Chair

Keith Robinson - February 03, 2021 at 09:39 AM

SM

It was a pleasure working with Jerry over the years. My deepest sympathy to the the family. Rest in Peace Jerry.

susan McGarry - February 03, 2021 at 08:18 PM