



# David E. Mittler

OCT 20, 1950 - DEC 16, 2020



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



## David E. Mittler

OCT 20, 1950 - DEC 16, 2020

### David Mittler Obituary

David E. Mittler, 70, of Elyria, died December 16, 2020 at his home following a courageous 3 ½ year battle with cancer. He was born October 20, 1950 in Oberlin and was a 1968 graduate of Elyria Catholic High School and a 1972 graduate of Otterbein College with a degree in English. He was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church, Elyria. David taught Language Arts at St. Christopher School and also at St. Richard's School in North Olmsted where he became assistant principal, retiring in 2013. He was an avid reader and had authored four books. David enjoyed sports, including football, basketball and tennis, and spending time outdoors. He was a fan of old time movies and TV shows, which he and his wife watched together. David is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Mona (nee Korzan); daughter, Rebecca (Ben) Pope; mother, Eleanor Mittler; siblings, Debbie Archer, Doug (Theresa) Mittler and Karen (Terry) Howell; nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Geza Mittler. A Mass of Christian Burial will be Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 1:00 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church, 320 Middle Avenue, Elyria. Reverend Father Charles T. Diedrick will be the celebrant. Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery, Elyria. COVID-19 precautions will be observed, masks are required. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friendship Animal Protective League, 8303 Murray Ridge Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035. Mass St. Mary Church Saturday, December 19, 2020 1:00 PM 320 Middle Ave. Elyria, OH 44035 Graveside St. Mary Cemetery Saturday, December 19, 2020 7284 Lake Ave. Elyria, OH 44035

To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of David E. Mittler, please visit our floral store.



# Obituary

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## Tribute Wall

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TC

**Terri Hartman Cobb** posted:

I am late hearing this news about Mr. Mittler. There are so many happy memories of our 7th grade teacher from St. Chris. He wrote and directed our plays for the drama club and we bought him a directors chair. He played softball with us and he bought me a softball because the one I donated for the game he hit over the fence, never to be seen again! We debated themes from To Kill a Mockingbird and watched classic movies like The Lemon Drop Kid. The stories go on and on, but I will always remember that he made us feel good about ourselves. He was a humble, intelligent man. Thank you Mr. Mittler!

November 19 at 8:00 PM

BM

**Brian Mccullough** posted:

I am very sorry to just learn of Mr. Mittler's passing, unfortunately I lost my wife the day after and was not paying much attention to my social media. I was recently going through some past posts on my 8th grade reunion site when I saw the post about Mr. Mittler. I was one of his students at St. Christopher school (class of '81) and remember him very fondly! From he & Mr. Lambert playing softball & basketball with us boys at recess, to me being the school movie projector operator during 8th grade and setting up the 3 Stooges, Laurel & Hardy, Abbott & Costello, and other classic movies for winter lunch recess when weather was too bad to go outside!! My fondest memory though is of 7th grade English when he had all the boys write a story to be submitted to St. Edward high school's "Flight Jr." program, where my story was chosen as a winner! It garnered me a trophy and my story was published in the "Flight Jr. '80" edition!! This is a recognized publication which technically makes me a published author. I remember how disappointed he was that he could not attend the awards ceremony because of of prior commitment, he apologized multiple times for that; that really meant as much to me as the trophy. Again, my deepest sympathies & condolences! Sincerely, Brian Mccullough (SCS 1981).

May 25 at 8:00 PM

HB

**Heather Banhidy** posted:

Mr. Mittler was my 7th grade homeroom teacher at St. Christopher's 1977-78. He fueled my love of reading and introduced me to the "Lord of the Rings" books. He was a lot of fun, and really interacted with the students! When he teamed up with fellow teacher Mr. Lambert, the were quite a force to be reckoned with on the playground playing football and basketball! He will be greatly missed by many, but remembered forever!!!

May 25 at 8:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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DA

**Debbie Mittler Archer** posted:

It was hard for me to read these, that is why it took me so long to write a message. It broke my heart to have to say goodbye to my big brother. I miss him everyday. I miss being able to pick up the phone and call him, and hear his cheerful voice on the other end. And no matter what, he was always cheerful. Dave may not have been my teacher in a classroom setting, but I learned more from him than from any human ever. He taught me how to be brave in the face of devastating adversity, how to love unconditionally, that family means everything, that God should be your guiding force, and that love is something that we have with us forever, even though we can't always remain together. My love of reading, of music, of TV, of movies, and so much more came from him. I know big brother that this is temporary. I know one day I will see you again. Until then I will carry you in my heart and you are my inspiration to live always with love and integrity. And if I smile a little brighter when I hear a song on the radio, it is probably because it's a song that reminds me of you. Dave you will always be the music in me. I love you so much big brother, always and forever.

February 1 at 8:00 PM

MD

**Mary Kate Dusek** posted:

There is always a teacher you remember- Mr. Mittler is one to never forget. He told the best stories, was so intelligent, and made English Language Arts fun! I still recall funny stories with my life-long friends that I have made at St. Richards. You will never be forgotten. Thank you. - SRS class of 1997

December 22 at 8:00 PM

ST

**Stacy Terrell** posted:

I was blessed to meet Dave in 1981 when I began work at the Elyria Home, now known as Wesleyan Village. At that time, Dave worked Saturdays during the school year and full time over the summer months. As so many have said already, Dave was a kind, humble and honest man. He was always looking out for others. He taught me some of the basics of electrical wiring. I remember him sharing stories of his early days at the Elyria Home, including meeting his wife Mona there and his good lifetime friend Doug S. I also remember his love for the Andy Griffith Show! It was his influence and others that led me to continue a career in caring for and supporting older adults as they age. I also offer my prayers for Dave's family and friends. May God grant each of you peace, hope and comfort. Thank you Dave Mittler for leaving such an influential mark on countless students, friends and family members. The world is better, more intellectually curious and kinder because of you. Well done!

December 20 at 8:00 PM



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JG

**Johnny Guerrero** posted:

My condolences to the family! David was my cousin we had a lot of good times when we were kids. I remember when aunt Eleanor and uncle Gaza came to visit. I was so happy to see david!! Had a lot of fun. Love u David!

December 19 at 8:00 PM

KL

**Ken Lyman** posted:

Deepest condolences to the family. Dave Mittler was my 7th grade teacher back in 1979. He was a fantastic teacher and a great guy. He helped inspire my love of reading. I still remember how all the kids loved when he occasionally joined us at recess to play kick ball :). He used to ask how I did in my weekend basketball games. Later on I remember him coming to see one of my High School games and how cool that was. RIP Mr. Mittler.

December 18 at 8:00 PM

MB

**Matthew Brady** posted:

God Bless you Dave, my favorite teacher ever. Thank you for being one of the biggest influences in my life since St. Chris in 1977. You are forever remembered and loved.

December 18 at 8:00 PM

TL

**Therese Lynch** posted:

I had Mr. Mitler for 2 years at SRS. He was a wonderful teacher. I still remember his classes. Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

December 18 at 8:00 PM

EW

**Eileen Warnick** posted:

Condolences and prayers to Dave's family. He was a favorite teacher to all the junior high students and an inspiring teacher to my children at St. Richard's. so very sorry for your loss.

December 18 at 8:00 PM



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**KH**

**Karen Mittler-Howell** posted:

My dear, sweet big brother, I will miss everything about you... your smile, your laugh, your kind demeanor, your advice, your stories, and most of all you. You were my role model, my idol, my inspiration, my hero. You gave me my love of music and you were the reason I became a teacher. You will be forever in my heart, forever in my mind, and the Mittler family memories will never fade away. Rest In Peace, enjoy Christmas with Jesus and say hello to our dad for me. I love you Dave with all my heart. XoXo

December 18 at 8:00 PM

**MC**

**Mr. C** posted:

My first decision as the new principal at St. Richard School was to ask if Dave would join me as assistant principal. It was not easy asking him to leave the classroom because Dave was one of the very best teachers I had encountered. Thankfully, he agreed to become an administrator. This turned out to be the best decision I made as principal. Dave was an important part of my life, and for that, I'll always be grateful. I so admired the warm, funny, and genuine person he was. Everyones life was always a bit better when he was around. Dave shaped our school community in many positive ways that will live on forever in the hearts of the teachers and students. A friend like Dave doesnt come along very often. He made so many tough times easier and the best times even better. I hold every memory we made together close to my heart.

December 17 at 8:00 PM

**JD**

**John Dee** posted:

David was a wonderful person & educator. It was always a pleasure to see and talk with him at St. Richard's in North Olmsted, where my wife Mary taught & my 2 sons Brian & Sean graduated. May David rest in peace and be welcomed at the gates of Heaven. My prayers are with all of you, his family members.

December 17 at 8:00 PM

**JK**

**Jim Kane** posted:

He was the best teacher, no question, and I remember his class well. He was a master story teller and all around good person.

December 17 at 8:00 PM



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KB

**Ken Ballway** posted:

My deepest condolences. Please know what a special person he was as a teacher. I had him at St. Chris for 7th and 8th grade and it was obvious that he really cared about each one of us personally in addition to being an effective educator. The world needs more Mr. Mittlers.

December 17 at 8:00 PM

BM

**Brendan Mcgreal** posted:

Truly my favorite teacher at St. Chris, and that is saying a lot! So dedicated, patient. One of a kind. God bless him!

December 17 at 8:00 PM

PC

**Patrick Cachat** posted:

Thoughts and prayers from the Cachat's.

December 17 at 8:00 PM

KG

**Katie Grzelak** posted:

My sincere condolences. I had Mr. Mittler in 1987 and still fondly remember him. He was an inspiration to me on my path to becoming a teacher. Im so sorry for your loss.

December 17 at 8:00 PM

RC

**Roy Chaplik** posted:

One of the best teachers I had. Still telling stories of his math class. Nickle movies for recess especially if it was raining. I think it was 8mm reals, Bridge on the River Kwai, the Turner classics, war movies, To Kill a Mockingbird...

December 17 at 8:00 PM

BS

**Bridget (Dietz) Sizer** posted:

Prayers to you and your family during this time. Mr. Mittler was an amazing teacher. It was my honor to be his student at St. Richard School. His dedication to making learning fun was instilled in me. I became a teacher because of his excellent example. -Bridget (Dietz) Sizer

December 17 at 8:00 PM



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**Kathy Jansen** posted:

Im so sorry for your loss. Mr. Mittler was my home room and English teacher back in the day at St. Richards. Im now a teacher and when asked multiple times over the course of my career who inspired me to be a teacher, it was Mr. Mittler. I still recall the engaging lessons he shared that made me think critically about the world and others perspective. From current events to watching Brians Song to mind bender activities, he opened my eyes to a world of learning I hadnt yet experienced. I was able to share that with him in adulthood after starting my career, and please know that hes thought of fondly over the years. My deepest condolences to you all.

December 17 at 8:00 PM



**Barbara Gallagher** posted:

Dave was a colleague of mine at St. Richard. We always had lots of laughs together. He was such a kind, gentle man. Sincere condolences to his wife and daughter. He will truly be missed.

December 17 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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