



## Daniel Kent Washam

February 2, 1950 - April 4, 2023

Daniel Kent Washam, 73, of Jackson, Ohio passed away peacefully, Tuesday, April 4th, 2023 at his home, surrounded by loved ones. He had been very recently diagnosed with metastatic cancer. Kent was born on Groundhog Day (Feb 2), 1950 in Columbus, Ohio to Daniel Evans Washam and Colleen (Jenkins) Washam and spent all of his early life in Jackson, much of it shared with his beloved grandparents, aunts and cousins. He was a member of the Jackson High School class of 1968, graduated from Ohio University in 1972, and then taught English for 5 years in the Chillicothe area. In 1978 he joined the faculty of Jackson High School, teaching English and serving as drama director. He earned his master's degree in the year 2000. After his retirement from JHS in 2008, he became an adjunct instructor for Shawnee State University and later worked as an on-line high school instructor. Aside from teaching, Kent worked in various other occupations over the years, such as house painter, landscape worker, orchard worker, laborer, concrete truck driver, waiter, bartender, ill-fated B&B owner, and eBay seller. He enjoyed painting, woodcarving, gardening, cartooning, plunking on his guitar, writing, and struggling to learn Spanish. Though he considered himself accomplished at none of these endeavors, he enjoyed them all immensely. He loved animals and once worked as a human servant for 7 dogs; yet his most recent best friends were his cats, Colby and Jack. Kent felt the greatest moments of his life were spending time with his grandchildren, sons, and all his family; building a cabin in the woods with the help of his dad, brother-in-law, and

others; dismantling the old B&O railroad depot on Harding Avenue with a friend; and living in and touring the Yucatán peninsula of Mexico with Chiquita Hernandez (just kidding, it was really his wife, Susie). Kent is survived by said wife, Susie (Hankey) Washam; sons, Morgan Washam and DJ Washam; stepsons, Caleb (Amanda) Fields and Corey Fields; grandchildren, Willow and Meadow Washam, Milo Staats-Washam and Andrew Fields; sister, Jan Ellen (Rick) Smith, nieces, Emily (Justin) Ochsenbein and Kelly (Wes) Smith; great-nephews, Julian Ochsenbein and Knox Smith; great-nieces, Quinn Ochsenbein and Harlow Smith; daughter-in-law, Kelly Sprague Washam; sister-in-law and brother in law, Sally Jenkins Fields and Don Jenkins; and cats, Jack and Colby, who kept close watch in his last days. Oh, and his friend, "Thompson." Friends, extended family, colleagues, and students who loved him are innumerable. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dan and Colleen, and his first wife, Patty Sue Jenkins Washam. Visitation will be held April 11, 2023 at Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home in Jackson, Ohio, from 3 pm to 7pm, with a celebration of life service to follow immediately thereafter. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Humane Society of Jackson County (Ohio) or the animal aide group of your choice

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

APR 11. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home  
135 Broadway Street  
Jackson, OH 45640  
(740) 286-4161

## Celebration of Life Service

APR 11. 7:00 PM (ET)

Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home  
135 Broadway Street  
Jackson, OH 45640  
(740) 286-4161

# Tribute Wall

RR

“ He was my English teacher in high school and to tell you the truth at first he kinda frightened me a bit. But I quickly learned it was all an act he was an amazing teacher and taught me the difference in all the words that sound the same like they're there and there. He left a great legacy that won't soon be forgotten.

Rachael Rafferty - October 05, 2024 at 11:52 AM

AN

“ He was a fantastic teacher who inspired, encouraged, and taught. I had enjoyed writing as a teen: after being in Mr. Washam's class, not only did I enjoy writing, I loved writing. He encouraged me to write more and gave me a life long love of painting pictures with words. We all learned through his stories and encouragement. May his stories live forever in the hearts and words of those who lives he touched.

Angela - April 19, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel Kent Washam.



April 10, 2023 at 10:59 AM

KW

“ Kent was one of my most terrifying, hilarious, and beloved teachers. Will always remember how he'd walk into class - furrowed brow, stomping slowly, and we had no idea what would come next - then he'd turn his face up at us and just GRIN the orneriest grin ever. So very sad to learn of his passing. Many prayers to the family!

Kelly Moore Wittry - April 09, 2023 at 10:51 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Daniel Kent Washam.



April 09, 2023 at 08:30 PM

MC

“ Always the smile and sparkle in his eye.

MaryAnn Claesgens - April 07, 2023 at 08:00 PM

PE

“ Went camping many times with Kent. We enjoyed sitting around the camp fire playing oldies but goodies and guessing who sang the songs. Fun times.

Pat Eisnaugle - April 06, 2023 at 03:04 PM

MB

“ So saddened to hear of Mr. Washam’s passing. He loved telling stories of “Thompson” to his students. Many stories were exchanged between Kent and my father (Jim Brown) in the hallways of the third floor of JHS. Just the other day I was reminded of when he gave a former classmate a “G” on his assignment...because, it didn’t even deserve an “F”.  
Sending many thoughts, and prayers to you all.

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**Molly Brown** - April 06, 2023 at 10:16 AM

LB

*So sorry for the loss have great memories of his classes he will be missed by many*

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**Lisa Barnett** - April 08, 2023 at 07:38 PM

KS

“ Decades- old memories of MYF, Sunday School, Pine Ridge, Apple Festivals, sharing anecdotes of our mothers' bridge parties, the warmth of his parents and their beautiful brick home, the life long friendship of cousin Louann and Jan, visiting with Patty and him and eventually baby Morgan.  
He was one of the good guys who influenced many young people during his teaching career. Not everyone makes a difference. Kent did.He touched so many lives in the very best way.

*My sincere condolences to his family,  
Kyle M Stiffler*

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**Kyle Stiffler** - April 05, 2023 at 10:39 PM

WS

“ My favorite memories of Kent would have to be watching him play with Willow and Meadow. Poor guy....he would literally let them do anything to him that they wanted. He spent hours dragging them around the pool on noodles all laughing. He actually played, just like a big kid and it was obvious he didn't wish to be any place else. Kent was easy to be around, we will miss him.

Wendy Sprague - April 05, 2023 at 07:33 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Daniel Kent Washam.



April 05, 2023 at 07:32 PM

TR

“ Kim and I had him as a teacher at Jackson. He was a favorite. Reading the obituary and coming across his friend "Thompson " made us laugh. We heard many stories about him and Thompson. Mr. Washam very good man and teacher, when he wasn't throwing books over our heads at the back wall or falling off his chair! We are sorry to hear this news.

Todd and Kim Riegel - April 05, 2023 at 05:20 PM

LG

I'm so sorry for the families loss. Mr. Washam was my English teacher at Jackson. He was famous for tossing a book or two and his laugh could be heard down the halls. He always made me feel better about the gap in my front teeth, saying I was uniquely beautiful and then he we would smile. I will keep everyone in my prayers. Rest in Peace Mr. Washam

Laura Gray - April 05, 2023 at 07:37 PM