



Truman Garland Phillips

January 1, 1935 - September 25, 2019

Truman Garland "T.G." Phillips, Age 84, passed away on September 25, 2019 from complications after a relatively short medical issue. Truman (T.G.) was born in 1935 in Hayesville, NC to Margaret Sellers Phillips and Ulysses Truman Phillips. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by brother, Don Phillips. He moved with his family to the Mount Mourne community shortly after, worked on the family farm growing up, and then at Burlington Mills as a teenager. He graduated from Mooresville Senior High School in 1953, and then played football and studied at Gardner Webb. He went on to Appalachian State Teachers College and later to Brown University for graduate work. He then taught chemistry, physics and biology at Mooresville Senior High School for 35 years. In addition to his teaching duties, he coached football and started the Outing Club, where he introduced his students to his love of the mountains and native plants. His leadership, guidance and lifelong love of the outdoors affected many Mooresville students that have gone on to make a difference for all of us. After retiring, he continued to travel, camp, fish and hike as much as he was able. T.G. is survived by his wife of 55 years, Carol Coley Phillips; son Martin of Walhalla, SC; sister Carolyn of Mooresville; brother Harold of Edmond, OK; brother Richard of Lakeland, FL; grandchildren Ryan, Riley and Bryce. Visitation for family and friends will be on Sunday, September 29, from 12:30 – 2:00 PM at Cavin-Cook Funeral Home. Services will be at 2:00 PM in the chapel of the funeral home with Rev. Richard Phillips officiating. Memorials may be made to

Nature Conservancy, 227 W. Trade St., Charlotte, NC 28202 or nature.org.
Cavin-Cook Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Phillips family.
Condolences may be sent to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Cemetery Details

Cavin-Cook FH & Crematory

494 E. Plaza Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Previous Events

Public Viewing

SEP **29**. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home
494 E. Plaza Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Memorial Service

SEP **29**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Cavin-Cook Chapel
494 E. Plaza Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Tribute Wall



“ *Truman Garland Phillips*

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ *Truman Garland Phillips*

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ *Truman Garland Phillips*

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ *Karen Rogers Patterson lit a candle in memory of Truman Garland Phillips*



Karen Rogers Patterson - October 03, 2019 at 03:55 PM



“ *Mr. Phillips was the best teacher I ever had! He was such a positive influence in my life, and definitely played a role in my higher education and career path. I hope his family and friends take comfort in the fact that his positive influence on his former students is being passed on to future generations.*

William Brewer - October 03, 2019 at 11:38 AM

TC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Trish Denson Church - September 29, 2019 at 09:04 PM

TC

Mr. Phillips shared not only lessons of biology, physics and chemistry, but lessons of wisdom and character. I was fortunate to be one of his students. -Trish Denson Church

Trish Denson Church - September 29, 2019 at 09:12 PM

AC

“ *Mr. Phillips was my favorite teacher and the reason I became a chemist. He was a wonderful man and the influence he had on so many lives is truly a testament to his character.*

Andrew Coates - September 29, 2019 at 08:39 PM

SW

“ *Mr Phillips was an outstanding biology, chemistry and physics teacher--I was able to get through initial courses in college because unknowingly, I had learned. Behind the tough love was a teacher who wanted (and expected) students to excel in class and as young adults. Mr Phillips set a good example and generated life-long interests.*

Scott West - September 29, 2019 at 12:49 PM

DM

“ *Donna McDaniels lit a candle in memory of Truman Garland Phillips*



Donna McDaniels - September 28, 2019 at 09:19 PM

BC

“ *Mr. Phillips was my biology teacher in high school.*

Bill Coley - September 28, 2019 at 12:44 PM



“ *Mr. Phillips was my favorite teacher in high school. He always expected your best effort. Rest in peace. Prayers for your family!!!*

Melissa Beaver - September 27, 2019 at 11:38 PM

AP

“ *Mr Phillips was my high school chemistry teacher in the late 80's and is a primary reason why I am currently a high school science teacher! I thank him for his inspiration.*

Anne Cox Payne - September 27, 2019 at 11:08 PM

TN

“ *Praying for the family and freinds during this time of loss. Suffering and pain are know more for T.G. - may my God take care of each of you.*

Tom Nixon - September 27, 2019 at 04:35 PM

FO

“ *Mr. Phillips was my chemistry teacher at MSHS back in the early 60's. Science was not my strong suit, but he made chemistry so interesting that I took it again in college at Appalachian. Thanks to him, I did quite well at it. In his memory, I am going to make a donation to the Nature Conservancy. May he rest in peace!*

Fr. David Brown, O.S.B. - September 27, 2019 at 04:30 PM

JM

“ *Jim Morrow purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Truman Garland Phillips.*



Jim Morrow - September 27, 2019 at 12:39 PM

JM

“ *Dear Carol and Martin. I love the photograph you selected for TG's obituary. I have many photos of TG taken on our countless hiking and camping trips, but this is the one I will remember. Jim Morrow*

Jim Morrow - September 27, 2019 at 12:27 PM

LC

“ *I took my teenage son to Mt. Mitchell on a visit three years ago and recounted stories of the Outing Club. I still have my slide rule and pull it out to astound small children. So many good memories.*

Fall in Mooresville meant tenth grade Biology I students would be collecting leaves. I'll toss a few in the air while sending prayers heavenward for an outstanding teacher and a very fine man. RIP.

Laurie B Courtney - September 27, 2019 at 11:51 AM

KV

“ One of the great teachers at MHS who inspired my love of science so much that I majored in Biology. Loved his classes. His voice commanded attention and he made science fun. He challenged and pushed his students. Thank you to his family for sharing your husband and father with so many young people in the Mooresville community. Go rest high on that mountain, sir!

Kimberly Brown Vesarapu - September 27, 2019 at 09:36 AM

SH

“ What a dear man and wonderful teacher. I have such fond memories of his homeroom and Biology class!

May God comfort and strengthen the family.

Sherrie Rimmer High - September 27, 2019 at 09:05 AM

 Johnny
Carpenter

“ Mr. Phillips was a great teacher. Had lots of fun in his class.

Johnny Carpenter - September 27, 2019 at 04:46 AM

CH

“ I had the great pleasure of having TG for my physics and chemistry teacher. Learned how to use a slide rule! The Outing Club exposed me to the mountains and the outdoors and the camaraderie of hiking. His classes were hard but I learned a work ethic and got a background that helps me even today. God bless this man!

Cliff Homesley - September 26, 2019 at 09:57 PM

BD

“ To the family of Mr Phillips our prayers and deepest sympathy are with you during these tough times. I will always remember Mr. Phillips and that static machine. We held hands, he cranked it up and once a student was walking by the lab when they should have been in class he would shake hands and send a little shock to get out the hall. A great inspiration to me during my 2 years attending MHS.

Ben Davis - September 26, 2019 at 09:25 PM

BC

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Carol, Martin, his sister Carolyn Bowles, and brothers Dugan, and Richard.

Bobbie Childers

Bobbie Childers - September 26, 2019 at 07:35 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Truman Garland Phillips.



September 26, 2019 at 02:26 PM