



Morris Harwell Mitchell

February 9, 1944 - January 19, 2016

Morris Harwell Mitchell passed away on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at his home in the Friendship Community. He was born at home in Giles County on February 9, 1944 and was 71 years old.

He was a graduate of Beech Hill High School, Martin College, and received his B.S. and M.A. from MTSU. He was a classroom teacher for 27 years and a guidance counselor for 15 years, most of those at Richland High School. He also was a coach for many of those years. Morris was a member of the Church Street Church of Christ in Lewisburg, TN. He cherished his family and friends, Playing golf, and his woodworking. He made decorative wooden bowls and pepper mills. Though he never sold any, he gave many away.

Visitation will be on Thursday, January 21st from 4:00pm to 8:00pm at Bennett-May-Giles County Funeral Home.

Funeral Service will be on Friday, January 22nd at 11:00am in the chapel of the funeral home.

Burial will follow in Giles Memory Garden Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Richland High School's Science department, 10610 Columbia Highway, Lynnville, Tennessee 38472.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel and Ozelle Harwell Mitchell, and sister, Carole Ann Mitchell Williams.

He is survived by his,

Wife of 49 years, Montez Sharp Mitchell

Daughter, Michelle (Marc) Terry

Son, Christopher (Ami) Mitchell

Sisters, Marie (Joe) Ward and Lois (Thomas) Faulkner

Brothers, Clayton (Phyllis) Mitchell and William (Faye) Mitchell

5 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild also survives.

Bennett-May-Giles County Funeral Home in charge of arrangements for
Morris Harwell Mitchell.

Tribute Wall

AL

“ My heart is saddened by your loss. Mr. Mitchell was certainly one of my favorite teachers and coach . He was a dear man and always had a smile when I would see him out and about. My prayers are with you at this difficult time

Ann Graves Lewonczyk - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

MM

“ Mr. Mitchell was the first coach I had that believed in me. Eternally indebted to him for that kind gesture. I have nothing but fond memories of him at JHS and Richland. God speed.

Mike McComiskey - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

KW

“ My condolences to the family of Mr. Morris Mitchell. My heart is so saddened. Many years ago, he was my Science teacher at Richland High School. He was such a great inspiration to us all. With his creative instruction and visionary thoughts, Mr. Mitchell sparked and instilled a seed of interest in me into the Scientific world, which has stuck with me over many years. Even now, when I think of anything to do with Science, my mind takes me back to the class room with Mr. Mitchell. He definitely made an amazing impact on my education and my life in which I will be forever grateful. With his great character and awesome personality, Mr. Mitchell ranks at the top for the best teacher I ever had! I am thankful for the opportunity to have been under his instruction! Job well done!! Prayers go up for the family of this wonderful man.... Richland High School, 1987.

Kristi Rolin Woodard - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

MA

“ I will forever remember my years teaching with Morris at Jones High School. He was a great co-worker and teacher. Remembering the best. Marie Alsup

Marie Alsup - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

CH

“ Montez and family, I am so sorry. I remember Morris in school. He was a couple of years behind me and was always a joy to be around. Now this was about 56 years ago. My children had him in school and grandchildren. He will be well remembered. Howard and Carolyn Whitworth Hurd

Carolyn Hurd - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

DM

“ Mr. Mitchell was one of the nicest teachers that I ever had. He was a kind hearted man. I had the pleasure of being taught by him and then having him teach my children. He will be missed by many.

Dana McKee - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LC

“ Morris and I were in the same class at Beech Hill. I remember him as always being kind, soft spoken, and well-liked. He will truly be missed.

Linda K Crone - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

CS

“ *Mr. Mitchell was a man who actually had many "children". He took care of all of us like his own. I loved that about him! He was so easy to talk to...we would always stop by his office during classes and just sit and chat. He was a good balance for us at school. We could tell him anything and we did! I know I will miss him greatly! Rest peacefully, dear friend.*

Crystal (Ward) Southerland - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

KS

“ *What a wonderful and amazing man and teacher..he truly had a calling from God to be a teacher and I am thankful to have had him as a teacher and his wonderful family in our community. Through his guidance and mentorship he helped shape us into the people we are today. He will be deeply missed here on earth but we will meet again some sweet day in a much better place. RIP Coach and my prayers are going up for your family. SFC Kenneth D. Sheets Class of 1990*

Kenneth David Sheets - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LM

“ *Montez,*

Jimmy and I were so sorry to hear of Morris' passing. We have fond memories of Jones High School days. You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Linda Mooney

Linda Mooney - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LB

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Morris Harwell Mitchell*

Larry and Phyllis Boatright - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

TS

“ *May God bless.*

Tom Sumners - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

RB

“ *So sorry to hear about Morris. I all way thought a lot of him. We are in Florida but will keep you and your family in our prayers. God Bless.*

Ronnie and Hattie Bledsoe - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

CE

“ *I loved this man as a coach and a teacher.R.I.P.Jones High. And Jr.High Basketball Coach!! The Best around!❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️*

Carrie Edwards - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

NW

“ I am so very sorry to hear about Mr. Mitchell's death. Although he was only a few years older than me he was my biology teacher in the late 1960's at Beech Hill School. Thus, he will always be Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Mitchel was a wonderful teacher-- but tough. He pushed me to do my best and really prepared me for college. My freshman year at MTSU made me appreciate his class and him. Going away to college in the 1960's was a big step for me. Without the influence and preparation provided by teachers like Mr. Mitchell it would not have happened.

Montez, I hope that you and your family will find some comforted in the knowledge of how many lives Mr. Mitchell touched. I am but one of hundreds if not thousands of students he influenced and encouraged and whose lives he enriched.

*Nancy Fly Walker
Laurinburg, NC*

Nancy Walker - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

DK

“ He was one of those teachers who really has an impact on his students. A wonderful man who even after successfully getting generations of students through his classes still greeted former students with a kind word and smile. He will be dearly missed.

Debbie King - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

BR

“ Mr. Mitchell was a great teacher and a wonderful human being. We always had fun in his classes and somehow learned something along the way. Mr. Mitchell you will be missed.

Bill Read - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LM

“ He was absolutely one of the finest teachers ever and I have appreciated that about him since I went to college where the lab there could not compare to ours and I was so well prepared maybe over prepared for the challenges that I gave it some slack and lost my hold on the good grades my teacher and as he pointed out my school deserved me to demonstrate. I confessed to him and the disappointment was so real as he lowered his head shook it and spoke my name as if He were wounded. That is a passionate teacher. I did not like the wife jokes, and I told him so, but there was nothing else to not like about this teacher. He was and forever will be one of the finest. May God's embrace surround your family Mr. Mitchell. May we always live up to your expectations of us as your students and honor not only you but The One who made us all and all you taught us to observe. Blessings.

Lavonda Mann - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LF

“ This was not only a great teacher, but an awesome guidance to me. He pushed me to sign up for a scholar ship. I never thought I would get it but I did. My condolences go out to his family.

Lisa Woodard Freemon - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

JP

“ I only new Coach Mitchell for a brief time while I was teaching and coaching at Richland High School in the mid 1990's. But from our very first conversation he made me feel like we had been friends for a very long time. I especially enjoyed our chats about basketball which is what I coached at Richland. Coach helped me prepare for several opponents that our team would face and his wisdom sure helped me a lot. I was new to the area coming to Pulaski from Delaware and Coach Morris sure did make this Yankee feel at home. We became friends almost instantly and we had many many conversations about basketball and other topics, history, reading and travel were popular subjects for us. I also remember sitting down with Coach and Mr. Cunningham over a cup of coffee and talking about how passionate the three of us were about sports in general and basketball specifically. I will miss Coach but my memories of him will remain a part of me and a very happy part forever. I send my condolences to his family and friends and I'd like to thank his family, especially his wife for sharing him with me. God bless.

Jim Perialas - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

TB

“ *As children, we spend almost as much time with our teachers as we do with our parents. It’s no wonder, then, that so many of us have vivid memories of our teachers that stick with us years later.*

I remember Mr. Mitchell helping me adjust to my move into Richland School. He gave me great guidance with the adjustment into a new school.

Years later (2014), my family and I started to attend West 7th church in Lewisburg. Mr. Mitchell came up to me that morning and gave me a hug. Even after 15 years, he still remembered me. I was so happy to be able to see and talk to him again.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends during this time of great loss. Heaven has truly gained a very special angel.

R. I. P. Mr. Mitchell

Terra Burm - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

TL

“ *He docked me one point on my chemistry final for grammar. Haha! Couldn’t have me ace his test. Wonderful teacher who helped me to love science. Until we meet again!*

Tracy Locke

Class of '88

Tracy Locke - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

LS

“ So very sorry to hearing of Mr. Mitchell's passing. He was one of a kind and an inspiration to all that had the privilege of knowing him and being taught by him. My thoughts are with his family and friends during this time.

Lynn Stevenson
Richland High School Class of 1986

Lynn Stevenson - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

AC

“ There are not many who are as selfless and kind as Morris. He was an inspiration to me in everything he did. His sense of humor and virtue were truly extraordinary. My prayers are with your family at this sorrowful time. Much like a brother to me....he will be sorely missed.

Andy Chunn - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

MT

“ Coach Chunn, he thought the world of you and I remember him telling me how lucky I was to be taught by you. I agreed wholeheartedly. Thank you for your kind words.

Michelle Terry - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM

TS

“ Morris and I attended Boys State together, he from Beech Hill and I went from Elkton. We became friends then and remained all these years. Sincere sympathy to his family.

Tom Sumners - February 09, 2016 at 11:01 PM