



Ronnie Darryl McGaha

October 30, 1946 - March 20, 2019

Former Longtime NGS and Cosby Educator Passes Away

Ronnie Darryl McGaha

DOD: March 20, 2019

Mr. Ronnie D. McGaha, age 72, passed away from this earthly life on Wednesday, March 20, 2019. Ronnie was born October 30, 1946 in Morristown, TN. He attended Newport Grammar School and Cocke County High School and received his Bachelor of Science degree from Tennessee Technological University, where he was elected President of the Arts & Sciences Council as well as President of the Biology Club, earning a scholarship for his academic achievements. He then began his first year of teaching in South Carolina, where he obtained his Master's Degree in Educational Administration.

A long-time educator, he then returned to NGS - first as a teacher and then as an instructional/attendance supervisor for 19 years. Mr. McGaha then served as Cosby School principal from 1992-1994.

Later, Ronnie also worked as a Rural Mail Carrier out of the Newport Post Office, where he was called "Coach" by some of his fellow employees due to his many years of coaching youth league baseball in Newport.

An avid fly-fisherman and hiker, Ronnie was a member of the "900-Miler Club," which is achieved by hiking all the trails in the Smokies National Park. He hiked all the Appalachian Trail in TN, NC and many other states providing information to other hikers. He was also a noted leader of off-trail hikes,

chosen by the Smoky Mountains Hiking (Knox) and Greeneville Hiking Clubs to lead these adventures.

Mr. McGaha was preceded in death by his parents, Glade H. McGaha and Sarah Vinson McGaha, as well as infant brother Larry. Ronnie is survived by three children, Grant McGaha of Sevierville, Marlo McGaha of Florida, and Katie McGaha Wilber (Sean) of Cleveland, OH. Ronnie is also survived by one sister, Teresa McGaha Hall (Chris) of Birmingham, AL plus grandchildren Addison McGaha of Newport and Kaya McGaha of Blairsville, GA; nephews Lucas (Brooke) Hall and son Hudson of Lebanon, TN; Caleb Hall of Atlanta, GA; niece Megan Hall Garner (Jake) of Birmingham; and dear friend Michael C. Moore and his family.

Mr. McGaha was of the Baptist faith.

The family will receive friends for visitation on Wednesday, March 27 from 5pm to 7pm at Manes Funeral Home with services immediately following. Graveside services will be held Thursday morning, March 28 at 10am at Union Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Library Fund, Newport Grammar School, 301 College Street, Newport, TN 37821 or Cosby School, Athletic Department, 3320 Cosby Highway, Cosby, TN 37722.

Funeral arrangements by Manes Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ronnie Daryl McGaha*

November 17, 2022 at 06:00 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss at this time, a wonderful man.*

Kathy Gordon - September 16, 2020 at 11:53 AM



“ *My brother and I met Mr. McGaha in 2017 when he shuttled us for our last section hike down south on the AT. He was so kind. We had a great 2 hour drive each way with him both to and from the airport in and out of TN. He looked so proud of the two of*

Kaitlin Reehill - April 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Prayers!*

Louise and Jimmy Hux - March 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry for the family's loss, prayers for comfort and peace. I will always remember him as Mr. Magaha assistant principal at NGS, friend, and customer.*

Craig Chrisman - March 30, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with your family at this time. Ryan, Mandy, Zoey and Jazlyn Grooms*

Mandy Grooms - March 28, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our deepest sympathy Grant ,Marlo & Katie. You guys are in our prayers for days ahead. Doug & Joyce Shoemaker

Doug & Joyce Shoemaker - March 28, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ So sorry for your loss, my prayers are with the family

Larry Cody - March 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Sorry for your loss

Billy & Wilma Webb - March 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ So sorry for your loss.Mr McGaha was my teacher at NGS years ago .What a great teacher. Prayers for the family.

Sherry Prince Stazzone - March 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Prayers for the Family in this time of loss.

Serena Abrahamson - March 27, 2019 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ So very sorry for the family in the loss of their dad and brother. I have many memories of Ronnie. I was lucky in getting to teach Marlo and Katie at NGS.

Pamela Lewis - March 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Prayers, so sorry for your lossá

Don and Ella Mae Large - March 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Sending heartfelt sympathy to Ronnie's family and loved ones.
Matthew 5:4 Sincerely, Dawson Family

Linda & Bud Dawson - March 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Ronnie was a member of the SMHC for years and led many outings for the Club. A good number of our members knew him well. The Club extends our sincerest condolences to the McGaha family and to all of Ronnie's many friends. He will be missed!

Smoky Mountains Hiking Club - March 25, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Prayers for your family

Jim and Bobbie (Garver) Linderman - March 25, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Sending thoughts and prayers to the family.

Jane Sluder Crosby - March 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ So sorry for your loss.á

Dale and Nancy Raines - March 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Prayers & thoughts are with all the familyá

Connie & Marsha Ball - March 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

FJ

“ Will keep you all in our prayers.

Freddie and Patricia Jones - March 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. May God give you strength in this sorrowful time. God Bless Your family.

Larry & Linda Walcheck - March 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ So sorry for your loss. I worked at cosby school when he was principal he was very nice to me!! And I went to school with his sister at CCHS.

Debbie Hurst - March 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ I am saddened by Ron's passing. áI knew him thru SMHC and enjoyed his expertise and knowledge of the mountains. áA fine man!

Barbara Allen - March 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ So sorry of Ronnie's passing. I attended NGS and CCHS Class of 64. Prayers for his family.

Elizabeth Clevenger - March 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Prayers for all

Marty Coakley - March 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers for all the family.

Mae Sauceman Testerman - March 23, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ So sorry to hear of Ronnie's passing. Thoughts and prayers for all of you. á á June Black Class of '64

June Holt Russell - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Have not hiked with Ronnie for several years but he was a fine hiking companion and very in tune with the mountains. Like Clyde said, he could sure read a map. So sad.

Terri Cox - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ So sorry for the loss of your loved one. My deepest condolences, á á John F. Frazierá

Cindy wise - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Please accept our condolences with much sympathy. Respectfully,
Victor and Betty Dunn Janey Clevenger Kinser

Janey C. Kinser - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ Ronnie you were my dear friend.I have tried my best. for years to help you I will miss you dearly your friend

Gail Gunter - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ Ronnie and I spent a lot of time slogging through rhodo and briars together. Including temporarily getting lost! Enjoyed many great outings together. He was fun and very knowledgeable. Could read a map like most people read the newspaper. We will miss

Clyde B Austin - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Sorry to learn of the passing of Ronnie. He will be missed by all that he touched.

Chuck Strange - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Very sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

Jay & Mary Ann Chrisman - March 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM