



Dr. Carl Steven Rapp

November 1, 1947 - October 14, 2022

Dr. Carl Steven Rapp, age 74, of Abingdon, Virginia, peacefully entered the presence of His Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 14, 2022. He was born on November 1, 1947 in Raysal, WV.

He was a member of the Abingdon Bible Church in Abingdon, Virginia. One of Steve's favorite Bible verse was Isaiah 40:31: "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Steve's unwavering faith in His Heavenly Father was the foundation which he built His life. Steve loved studying God's Word, attending Bible study, Sunday School and church.

In addition to being a faithful and dedicated husband and father, Steve loved the outdoors. He loved to hike to waterfalls, camping, fishing, photography, traveling and enjoyed spending time with those he loved.

Steve had a passion for teaching in high school and college level for 52 years. The most precious reward Steve found in teaching was leaving good memories and one of the most precious moments in his life happened when former students greeted him with a smile or stopped to share a conversation or when one of them approached him with respect and proudly introduced him: "He was my teacher!." His students learned from all the research that was brought into the classroom. Teaching is one profession that creates all

other professions.

Steve began his career as a junior high teacher in laeger, WV in 1969. In 1973, he began teaching Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. In 1989, Steve moved to Abingdon, Virginia to begin teaching at East Tennessee State University. In 1998, he began teaching Physics, Astronomy, Robotics and Engineering at the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School. He was adjunct professor for Central Virginia Community College and Wytheville Community College until his full retirement in December 2021.

Steve loved to learn and enjoyed research work. His students were able to do observations with the Spitzer Space Telescope. He would take yearly trips with his students to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, WV where they learned to use the telescopes. He also did research work for NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Kitt Peak National Observatory, National Optical Astronomy Observatory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Some of his favorite times was doing research work through NASA at the Baylor University in Waco, Texas for seven years and too many more to mention.

Steve was honored with many awards and honors too many to mention but a few are the National Teacher's Hall of Fame, Northeast Tennessee Chemistry Teacher of the year, NASA Honors Award for Exceptional Science Teaching, Virginia's Technology Educator of the Year, Subaru National Science Teaching Award, Gustav Ohaus Award, Virginia Association of Science Teachers Award for Excellence in teaching Physics, Computer Technology Award, Tandy Technology Prize for Excellence in Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science.

Steve was greeted in Heaven by his son, Christopher Joseph Rapp; mother, Nola Mullins Rapp; father, Millard "Buss" Rapp; brother, Jeffrey Rapp;

maternal grandparents, Lum and Virginia Mullens; paternal grandparents, Carl and Mae Rapp; brother-in-law, Charles Reed; nephew, Joseph Reed.

Left to cherish his memory are:

His faithful wife of 51 years: Mary Mitros Rapp

Son: Steven Rapp of Abingdon, Virginia

Mother and Father-in-Law: George and Yolanda Mitros of Welch, WV

Brothers-In-Law: Larry Cook of Princeton, WV and Pete Mitros of Winston Salem, NC

Sisters-In-Law: Christine Cook of Princeton, WV, Jeanne Reed of Welch, WV, Donna Mitros of Winston Salem, NC

Niece: Sarah Reed

Nephew: Larry Cook and wife, Emily and son, Rowan

Two Very Special Friends he has known for his entire life: Rachel and Jerry Smithers.

Steve is also survived by numerous loved cousins, friends, and his Abingdon Bible Church Family.

The family would especially like to thank his faithful hospice nurses Ashley, Kristi, and Mary for their compassion, loving care, kindness, and patience.

Funeral services for Dr. Carl Steven Rapp will be conducted on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Chapel in Richlands, Virginia with Dr. Paul Bufford officiating. Interment will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens at Claypool Hill, Virginia on Friday, October 21, 2022 at 2 pm. Those wishing to attend are asked to be at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home by 1:30 pm. Pallbearers will be: Lenny Ballard, Billy Dunkley, Ram Tankersley, Billy Wimmer, Randall Eads, Pete Mitros, Jerry Smithers, and Monty Vernon. The family will receive friends on Thursday, October 20, 2022 from 5 pm until

7 pm at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Steve's name to the Abingdon Bible Church, 16210 Elementary Drive, Abingdon, VA 24210 and be designated for the Missions Fund.

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia is in charge of arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **20**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

OCT **20**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home
1401 2nd Street
Richlands, VA 24641
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

Committal Service

OCT **21**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Greenhills Memory Gardens
11800 Gov G.C. Peery Hwy
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Carl Steven Rapp*

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Dr. Carl Steven Rapp*

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Carl Steven Rapp.*



October 19, 2022 at 07:32 PM



“ *Mr Rapp was my chemistry teacher at laeger High School in my Senior year of 1983. I truly loved and respected this man enormously. He was very kind and soft spoken, but could be stern when needed. He always took the time to patiently explain things you didn't understand. The education system has truly lost a wonderful educator in him. And society will be less a wonderful, caring person. We love you Mr. Rapp!*

Regina Atwell-Freeman - October 19, 2022 at 09:14 AM



“ *One of my favorite teachers ever! He will truly be missed.*

susan Sneed White - October 19, 2022 at 07:08 AM

LK

“*Mary, so sorry for your loss. Have known Steve all our life's. Our families were very close when we were growing up so we were around each other a lot. My thoughts and prayers are with you and all the family. Take care & God bless you now & in the days to come.*

Linda Eller Keen - October 18, 2022 at 09:45 PM

CP

“*My heartfelt prayers go out to the entire Rapp family during this difficult time! Mr Rapp will forever be an icon to many of us, and was a very special man! He was one of my teachers at laeger High School, and was a very kind and grateful person! God took another good one home! Blessings to all the family!*

Clifford Payne - October 18, 2022 at 09:02 PM

JW

“*I remember roaming the woods with him, Randy Osborne and other boys growing up in Clyburn bottom back in the 50s. A great guy and apparently the smartest person I've ever known. Rest in peace my friend.*

James Wimmer

James Wimmer - October 18, 2022 at 08:33 PM

LB

“ My heart and prayers of peace and comfort goes out to the family of Mr Rapp. He was my high school teacher. And an amazing one. He was a great and caring teacher. I don't think I ever heard a harsh word come from him towards any of the students. Or anyone, for that matter. He was one of my most favorite teachers. May God bless his family with the peace and comfort that only God can provide.



Linda Blankenship - October 18, 2022 at 06:15 PM



“ Loved One Vertical Blanket was purchased for the family of Dr. Carl Steven Rapp.



October 18, 2022 at 02:53 PM



“ TonyanEdgar Wicks lit a candle in memory of Carl Rapp



TonyanEdgar Wicks - October 18, 2022 at 09:58 AM

JJ

“ Steve was such a kind loving person,who never met a stranger,He was highly intelligent but that never changed him,he was always willing to share his wealth of knowledge to any one that wanted to make there life better by use of knowledge. Shareing his wealth of knowledge was one of the greatest gifts that he possessed or when some said hey that was my teacher he would have that sweet smile he always had on his face.Steve never let things in life change him,he was the same Steve no matter where he was or who he was with. He was my parents neighbor here in Abingdon they could never ask for a kinder caring neighbor as Steve and Mary Rapp. Any thing my parents needed they were always there and during the death of both my parents,the love,caring,kindness food and prayers is something I have never forgotten and still fill me with being friends and neighbors of such wonderful people. God Bless James,Nancy Jarvis

James Jarvis - October 17, 2022 at 06:46 PM