



Dallas Benjamin Chapman

August 25, 1938 - February 27, 2019

Dallas Benjamin Chapman, 80, died after a long and courageous battle with cancer on February 27 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Dallas, the son of Byron Eldon Chapman and Dorothy May (Smith) Chapman, was born in South Bend, Indiana on August 25, 1938. He was a graduate of North Central College in Naperville, Illinois and earned a Master's Degree in Education from Northern Illinois University. Dallas spent his professional life in education, first as a teacher and then as Dean of Admission and Dean of Students at several colleges and universities. And finally, after nearly 25 years with American College Testing Program (ACT), Dallas retired in 1999 as Assistant Vice-President serving the 14 states of the Western Region.

Dallas was a consummate people person. One of his remarkable qualities was that everyone who knew him felt he or she was his best friend. He made people feel important to him because they were. Dallas had a passion for reading and loved to try new things; after he retired he had the time to do just that. He threw pots, made glassware, made beautiful wooden tables, benches and candle holders and was delighted when his kids and grandkids shared some of those passions. Very recently he took up painting. His many beautiful paintings grace his home and the homes of friends and family. Dallas loved traveling, entertaining family and friends, spending time in Colorado's mountains and enjoying the oasis he created in his own back yard.

Dallas is survived by the love of his life, Mary Lou (Hildebrandt) Chapman, four children and step-children, Andrea (Chapman) Johnson, Matthew Chapman, Paula Hildebrandt and John Hildebrandt; three grandchildren, Ryan Johnson, Alex Johnson, and Makenna Dahmer; and a sister, Miriam Chapman. He was preceded in death by his brother, David Alden Chapman, and his parents.

A wake to celebrate this amazing man will be held Sunday, March 3, 2019 from 4 – 7 p.m. at Bohlander Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive Street, Fort Collins, CO 80524. Memorial gifts may be directed to the UC Health Northern Colorado Foundation for the Cancer Center and Oncology Services or to your charity of choice.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 3. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel
121 W. Olive Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall

JB

“ I am just reading that Dallas has passed away. I am so sorry. I knew Dallas for many years through his work with ACT while I was working for several different universities. We became friends outside of work and stayed in touch through many changes in our personal lives. He was a wonderful friend and someone with whom I enjoyed sharing time. He will be long remembered and missed.
John Beacon

john Beacon - August 14, 2019 at 01:21 PM

FR

“ From his sister Miriam and Roy purchased the Rainbow Reflections Basket for the family of Dallas Benjamin Chapman.



From his sister Miriam and Roy - March 03, 2019 at 09:14 AM

AA

“ Andrea, Ken, Matt, Ryan & Alex purchased the Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket for the family of Dallas Benjamin Chapman.



Andrea, Ken, Matt, Ryan & Alex - March 03, 2019 at 08:37 AM

JL

“ *My condolences to Mary Lou and the family. Dallas was a lovely person. I met Dallas in tai chi. He was gregarious; sharing fun and interesting stories. He made everyone feel welcome and comfortable. I appreciate his kindness and good nature. Dallas will be missed.*

Jean Lehmann

Jean Lehmann - March 02, 2019 at 05:51 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dallas Benjamin Chapman.*



March 01, 2019 at 10:01 PM

GH

“ I met Dallas in 1956 when we both arrived on campus at North Central College. We endured the various events around initiation together taking part in such things as the torch lite parade through Naperville, working together to build the huge bonfire of railroad ties that I recall had an outhouse that we found somewhere stationed right on top. To that date, I believe our bonfire was the largest and tallest. I recall it was about 65' tall. Dallas impressed me from the very beginning that he was the guy we wanted on our team. He never backed away from any project that we had decided to do and there were many. I admired him for that characteristic. I have always tried to emulate him. I stayed close to Dallas and have done so ever since. He has been a true friend for over 60 years. I left NCC and returned to Canada in 1959 but we have stayed in touch ever since. I will truly miss the regular correspondence with Dallas. He had a very enviable way of describing and explaining any subject we ever discussed.

Dallas, my friend, wherever you are I know there will be many folks who will be standing in line to befriend you and who will also be wanting you on their team as well.

Regrettably but respectfully,

Gerry Haist

Gerry Haist - February 28, 2019 at 11:15 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Dallas Benjamin Chapman.



February 28, 2019 at 10:05 PM

WL

“ Dallas was a dorm counselor during my frosh year at North Central College in 1959. Jackie worked with him at American College Testing. Mary Lou and Dallas were on an Alaskan cruise with a group of joint friends. In short, he has been important in our lives and his memory will remain with us. Even, at a distance, during this devastating illness, he and ML, have continued to teach us about life, love and friendship. Dallas, thanks for always being Dallas and being part of our lives.

jackie and wes

Wesley Lamb - February 28, 2019 at 08:43 PM

FF

“ Flower Mound Friends purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dallas Benjamin Chapman.



Flower Mound Friends - February 28, 2019 at 08:06 PM

DC

“ To say that Dallas was a special friend has little meaning, perhaps, as this beautiful man had more friends than anyone we have ever known. He made new friends easily and his gift was being able to turn a greeting into a “visit”, He turned “visiting” into an art form.

We cherish the memories of having shared simple things with Dallas - the coffee gatherings, dinners, the vacation experiences, and the good wines we drank. He was open and honest, making it possible to discuss any subject, which we did.

Dallas was optimistic to the end, despite the roadblocks. He was a glass-half-full kind of a guy, making him fun to be around. He indicated that he had no “bucket list” and that he had enjoyed a good life.

Dallas was not a religious person, but was a spiritual one. Wherever he is at this point, we know he is meeting new souls, making new friends, and raising his visiting skills to a higher level. We feel privileged to have had him in our lives, and will miss him terribly.

Don and Lori Cecere

Don & Lori Cecere - February 28, 2019 at 06:01 PM

WR

“ We met when Dallas and Mary Lou moved in just across the street from us. As neighbors, I soon became friends with Dallas. I very much looked forward to the conversations we had, and always kept an eye open to walk across the street or meet him half way. Minus one, our views and values were remarkably similar and we stood as proof that love could rise above politics: Something I will always remember and value.

His passion for making and creating were always visible as he could often be found working in the yard or garage. It was there that both he and Mary Lou befriended our daughter Kristen. As a very outgoing girl she would wander over to their house where she had spent hours with them while growing up. I'm not sure how many words they were able to get in edgewise though?

When talking about the beaches of Normandy and a trip they were taking to France, I told Dallas it was hallowed ground for me and on my bucket list. When they returned from that trip, he handed me a small bag of sand which he had collected from the beach. It still sits on the cast base plate of an American flag I keep on display. I once told him that the world was a better place because he was in it, and that I was truly glad he was. I'm truly saddened today knowing that this gentle giant of a man, in so many ways, is not.

Wayne Rutt - February 28, 2019 at 03:07 PM

LF

“ Love-Donna M, Mary Lou's Sisters & Families purchased the Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket for the family of Dallas Benjamin Chapman.



Love-Donna M, Mary Lou's Sisters & Families - February 28, 2019 at 02:01 PM