



Daniel Klein

August 3, 1942 - August 16, 2008

Daniel James Klein, 66, Bismarck, died suddenly August 16, 2008, doing what he loved best-playing golf. Mass of Christian burial will be held at 2:00 PM Wednesday at Church of the Ascension, 1825 S. 3rd St., with Rev. Marvin Klemmer officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Bismarck. Visitation will be held from 12:00 noon until 9:00 pm Tuesday at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, with vigil services beginning at 7:00 pm. A long-time teacher in the Bismarck Public Schools system, Dan will be missed intensely by his parents, wife, son, three brothers, many relatives and friends, and the thousands of students whose lives he touched. Dan was born August 3, 1942, to Daniel and Katie Gabriel Klein of Zeeland, ND, and grew up on a farm north of Zeeland in south central North Dakota. He was an incredibly hard worker and learned many skills on the farm, including an uncanny knack for fixing machinery and repairing buildings. He graduated in 1960 from Zeeland High School, where he was a salutatorian and excelled in football and baseball. He attended the University of North Dakota, where he earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He later earned a master's degree in chemistry from North Dakota State University. In 1965, Dan married Pat Wolf of Hague, ND, and together they raised two sons, Steve and Greg. Early in his career, Dan held teaching jobs in Strasburg, ND, and Oakes, ND. In 1971, he took a job at Bismarck High School, where he spent the next 30 years teaching primarily chemistry and summer biology. Late in his career, he taught chemistry for several years at Century High School. With his booming voice

and boundless energy, Dan was a dynamic and dedicated instructor. He meticulously planned his lectures each evening and delivered them with great gusto the next day. He inspired many students to pursue careers in chemistry, engineering, medicine and math, and many of those students stayed in touch with Dan long after they graduated. Dan also was a loving husband and father. He worked night jobs unloading freight in the 1970s, enabling him to take his family on wonderful vacations to the Rocky Mountains, Rhode Island and Los Angeles. Dan loved going to movies with his wife, eating dinner with his parents, skiing with his many friends, and rooting for his beloved New York Yankees and Green Bay Packers. He was particularly passionate about golf, which he played almost every day when the weather was nice. Dan was a devoted member of the Elks Club in Bismarck, where he spent many relaxing afternoons and evenings and was involved in many charity events, including operating a burger grill at the annual McQuade Softball Tournament. He spent considerable time at the Klein family farm working on a multitude of renovation projects. Dan's faith also was very important to him. He attended Mass almost every day and found comfort and support through prayer. Dan is survived by his wife, Pat Klein of Bismarck, ND; his son, Steve Lisa Klein of Eatontown, NJ; his parents, Dan and Katie Klein of Bismarck, ND; his three brothers, Bob Cheryl Klein of Fargo, ND, Jerry Bev Klein of Fessenden, ND and Al Cathy Klein of Elwood, IN; his sister-in-law, Joan Om Srivastava of Whitehouse Station, NJ, and his brother-in-law, Denis Sandy Wolf of Houston, TX. He was preceded in death by his son, Greg Klein; his sister, Brenda Klein; his nephew, Rob Klein; his father-in-law, Fritz Wolf, and his mother-in-law, Chris Wolf. In Dan's honor, memorials may be given to the Ruth Meiers Hospitality House.

Tribute Wall

S7

“ In everyone's life, there are a very few people that truly make a difference. Dan Klein is one of those few -- for me and for thousands of other students at BHS. Dan was an inspiration to everyone around him, as a teacher and a human being. He blended his love of life with his love of teaching, and as a result all of us were better prepared not only for our future careers but also for whatever life had to offer. I always made a point to stop by BHS in the years after I graduated, and Dan's classroom was always my first stop. Like every student that passed through that door, I was always welcome. I will miss Dan but am proud and fortunate to have known him.

Steve Conyne Class of 78 - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

SH

“ Mr. Klein has always been one of my favorite teachers - When I talk with others who went to BHS, we always end up telling Mr. Klein stories. He made chemistry fun and exciting and you wanted to do well in his class. My favorite memory of him is with his big clown glasses on, cape on his back dancing around the chemistry lab to "The devil went down to Georgia" ~ he was never afraid to connect with his students and make us feel important. I am so sorry for your loss - your family is in my thoughts and prayers for the loss of a very special man.~Sara

Sara Hamilton Herman - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

GN

“ Dan was a great educator! I remember the German class he taught. His heart was in his work and in helping students. I never saw Herr Klein after high school. I wish I could have thanked him for what he had done for so many of us. This is a lesson for all of us. Thank someone today as we may not be able to tomorrow.

Gary Nieuwsma - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

RM

“ Dan, Katie, Pat and family, Dan was a great guy. We will miss his smile and visits to Zeeland. Our prayers are with you. May the love of God be your strength at this difficult time

Richard, Janell and Richie Mitzel - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

CV

“ PAT AND FAMILY DAN WAS ALWAYS SMILING. I ENJOYED SHARING STORIES WITH HIM AT THE ELKS. HE WILL BE MISSED BY SO MANY. MAYBE GREG NEEDED HIM. MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

CAROL VOEGELE - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

JZ

“ Dan was wonderful to work with and held his own in each and every conversation. Since I was a teacher of special students on one end of the intellectual spectrum and he worked with students on the other end, we had many insightful and spirited conversations as to the challenges we as educators face each day. He will be truly missed.

Judy Zimmer - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

OJ

“ Dear Family members of Dan, It was a sad time to hear of the sudden death of your husband, father, son, grandfather, brother and friend to many. Please know that our thoughts have been for all of you, and especially for Pat and Dan's parents, who we both knew so well. May God wrap His arms around all of you. I was so-o-o proud to read of the high praises sung for Dan as a teacher. I am a teacher and it is an everlasting gift that Dan has given to all who knew him. In deepest sympathies to all. Peace, Ollie and Loretta

Olle and Loretta Welk Jung - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

AO

“ Mr. Klein was an absolutely fantastic chemistry teacher, he's the reason I got a chemical engineering degree. But my friends and I don't remember him for the teaching, we remember him for how much fun we had in his class. To this day we repeat jokes that started in Mr. Klein's class, just like you'd quote lines from one of your favorite movies. His influence on our lives has extended well beyond academics. God bless.

Auggie Olson - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

YA

“ I am so sorry to hear that Dan is no longer with us. I have many happy memories of Dan and his family on the farm near Zeeland. This is such a sad shock. My husband and I were hoping to visit with Dan Jr. and his parents when we are in Bismarck next week. Dan and Katie, we will call when we get into town. My heart breaks for all of the family. Yvonne Bonnie Roehrich

Yvonne Bonnie Adams - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

TL

“ From high school chemistry, to the burger grill at the Elks, to the encounters on the golf course, Mr. Klein made things fun and special. When I saw him, he made me feel like there was no one else he'd want to be talking to at that time. His way of reaching out to people, whether as students or friends, was quite unique. The world needs more people like him, and apparently heaven did too.

Tim Leer - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

KC

“ Mr Klein was truly a wonderful teacher who cared for his students. I was truly lucky to have him and know him. He will be greatly missed. May your family find peace knowing he has joined his son Greg in heaven.

Kelly Schmidt Clay - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

LF

“ Steve, Rememeber that those who we love will never die as long as we remember them. We keep you, your dad and your family in our prayers.

Luis Flores - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

TS

“ I had Mr. Klein my Junior year. I was at the end of my pregnancy and close to the end of the school year. I was having a hard time getting in and out of my desk. Mr. Klein was worried about me going up and down the stairs besides the desk issue. Mr. Klein arrange for me to stay at home with a tutor till my son was born. Mr. Klein always looked out for his students, was a compassionate and caring man, besides being an awsome teacher.

Tammy Schlinger Siems - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

LC

“ I came to Bismarck High in 1992 after teaching at Hughes for 20 years. I was a veteran teacher, but not a veteran Chemistry or Physics teacher. I had known Dan and his reputation as a teacher before, but did not know the passion that he had for teaching and life. He was such an inspiration for me to see the way he lived and worked. He was so helpful those first few years with materials and just watching the way he went about doing his job and living. He was so driven to do things well. He and I had a standard line when we met. It was "We have to get going. We have things to do." Whether it was work or fun, we had to get going. He set such a high standard for himself and his students. He made everyone around him better. Most of the emails I got from him after he left Bismarck High had some sort of inspirational message. He continues to be an inspiration to me. My thoughts and prayers continue to be with you. Larry Cook

Larry Cook - March 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM

CO

“ Mr. Klein was a gifted teacher - one you remember clearly after nearly 30 years. He had such an ability to connect with his students. He was always upbeat and always so much fun. He really cared about all of us and we knew it. We looked forward to chemistry and to see Mr. Klein's antics. Mr. Klein was just a great guy. It is hard to believe that he is no longer with us. My deepest condolences to his family.

Carol Leifur Oberle - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ I was fortunate to be one of Mr. Klein's students and will always remember him as a fun, but tough teacher. Who can forget him donning a crown each time he talked about the noble gases or wearing those crazy glasses and pointing at the periodic table with a hockey stick? I have fond memories of listening to Journey's Greatest Hits while working on our lab experiments my senior year. On those spring afternoons, Mr. Klein was always there to offer an explanation, encourage us, or just to tell us a corny science joke. But, the thing I'll remember most was the respect he gave us as individuals. We were his students, but he treated us as his friends. Pat and the rest of Dan's family - may the memories so many are sharing help bring a smile to your face during the tough days ahead. You are all in my prayers. Lamentations 3: 22-23 says: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; Great is His Faithfulness!

Terri Dietz Marquardt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dan, thank you. You helped me continue a path toward better understanding and appreciating the importance of thinking scientifically. You showed me how well-timed humor can create a learning environment people can't help but engage. You treated each of us as an individual. You were full of passion. I look back on my experiences in your class as daily insights into how to live a passionate life. You allowed us to get to know you so that we might learn from you. I am so thankful to have had the opportunity be your student. You will be missed.-DC

Dave Cook - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Mr. Klein was a wonderful teacher. I truly loved being in his classes at BHS. I was never a science genius but he made chemistry great! He was a great "all-around guy!!" I loved keeping in touch with him over the years at the softball tournament while enjoying a good Elk burger. It never ceased to amaze me that he remembered EVERY ONE of his countless students over the years and kept in touch with how we were all doing. I will miss him.

Shannon McQuade-Ely - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Mr. Klein was by far the best teacher I ever had the pleasure of learning from! He inspired me so much that I dropped him a thank you card in 1995 when I was teaching in Bogota Colombia - to let him know what a fantastic job he did and how I was drawing from his lessons when teaching my students in S. America! He was never lacking enthusiasm and excitement - and I'll never forget making apple cider and popcorn out of our lab beakers and watching *The Holy Grail* at Christmas time in his class! Great memories from a GREAT man!

Shyla Schock Frusciante - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KP

“Dear Klein family, I was shocked and saddened to hear about your loss. Mr. Klein even at age 31, my deep respect for your husband/father will not permit me to use his first name was one of my all-time favorite teachers. Considering I'm a history/English teacher who is virtually incompetent in chemistry, that's saying something. But despite my scientific deficiencies, Mr. Klein made my chemistry experience a relevant and memorable one. From his dynamic personality to his deep passion for the subject and his students, it was impossible not to fall in love with his class. I still remember sitting through an outdated and mind-numbing filmstrip on electrons even he admitted it, during which Mr. Klein donned a visor with flashing, rainbow lights to reinvigorate our fading class. He didn't smile; he didn't laugh; he simply walked to the front of the room, grabbed a few papers to grade, and very seriously went about his business. When we all started giggling, he simply looked up, lights flashing wildly, and said, "What?" All hilarity aside, I can still diagram the electron make-up of the elements on the periodical table. I'm sure you've been inundated with similar messages from former students, but I thought you should know that Mr. Klein even won over those of us who chose a non-chemistry route. That's simply the kind of extraordinary teacher that he was. So if it's any consolation in this trying time, please know that I am so thankful you were willing to share your husband/father with so many students like myself. I will always carry a piece of Mr. Klein's warm, loving, and gigantic personality wherever I go, and you can be certain that I will pass it to my own students as best I can. Sincerely, Katie Pole

Katie Pole - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“Klein Family, We are so sorry for your loss. It is such a shock for you and everyone. Our prayers are with you. We all know that Dan is playing golf, but I know that no one was ready to say Good-bye. He should be here helping with our everyday problems. Our prayers are with you to help with this healing. God bless you.

Tony and Vivian Schaffner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“I now teach ,for the 10th year, Head Start Outreach with Bismarck Public Schools. It is my 32nd year of teaching in the elementary schools of ND. While attending our recent pre-service, colleagues informed us of the passing of Danny Klein. I would just like to share this with Mr. Klein's family: While I attended high school in Strasburg, ND, Dan was our science teacher. He made learning easy and the class interesting & applicable to life. I remember working meticulously hard on the drawing and labeling for Life Science. He always said, "If you want to go on to college someday, you need to do things this way." He was an true teacher that wanted to help others to learn & did his job so well! Later, I found out that Mr. Klein was teaching some sciences at the Univ. of Mary. I wanted to go back and retake my classes just so he would be my teacher again. His teaching was like frosting on the cake. He made you work hard but you felt so good for the accomplishments. He always reinforced and keep you challenged. Such a professional to look up to! He was one of my role models as I go through life with my teaching career. I hope that his recent students think as highly of him as I did and carry on the standards that he so highly displayed. God Bless and care for your family, Mr. Klein. Diane

Diane Jahner Ketterling - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SA

“Pat, My family and I are very sorry for your loss. Mr. Klein was one of the best teachers I ever had and I always enjoyed playing golf with him and my father. My friends and I were actually just exchanging funny stories about his chemistry class. We all know what "a hen weighs" 2 and a half pounds, and my friend Bob developed a dance called the mole ratio that still gets busted out after a few too many beers. One of my dumber friends, Mike, wasn't paying attention in one of the labs as usual and massed the detergent used to clean the beakers rather than the actual chemical. Mr. Klein ripped him a good one and we still make fun of Mike to this day. There were a lot of great memories, but I really enjoyed hanging out with him after rounds of golf at the Elk's when I got older. The comaraderie he had with my dad and his fellow teachers and is how I strive to be with my friends. If you were a friend of Dan Klein he was always there for you, no matter what. The man touched a lot of people. He will be missed.

Seth Angell - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“I was greatly saddened to hear of Dan Klein's death, and I hope his family can find some comfort in hearing these stories of how he touched so many lives. For my part, if it weren't for Dan Klein, I would never have had the courage to major in chemistry in college, and therefore would never have become a chemistry professor. I owe him a great deal. His chemistry courses were transformative for me, and I hope I bring some of that enthusiasm for chemistry to my own students. What was so amazing was his simple expectation that every student would not only learn chemistry, but also would enjoy the process. His example remains a touchstone for me as a teacher.

Jennifer Lewis - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ I was very sorry to hear about the loss of Mr. Klein today because he has been such an influence on my life. I have made my career as a chemist, following in Mr. Klein's footsteps and attending NDSU to pursue my undergraduate degree in chemistry. I fondly remember how proud Mr. Klein was when I told him I was continuing my studies towards a Ph.D. in chemistry at Harvard University. In honor of Mr. Klein, I scheduled my thesis defense at Harvard on 'Mol Day' in 2006. I hope he understood why I didn't do it at 6:02am. As a professional chemist now, it still brings a smile to my face when I sit down with my lab notebook and start filling out my experimentals thinking, "English is totally overdid." Dan Klein was a remarkable teacher and I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to study under him. My thoughts go out to his family and friends as I know he will truly be missed.

Scott Peterson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ My heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you, Pat, and your family. Dan was such an inspirational person. When I met him years ago, I couldn't help but think of him as a great teacher, which was reiterated many times to me from his students. If I had 'sciency' questions, I knew I could count on him for help. God bless you. Rita

Rita Charlebois - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JP

“Pat, Steve, and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Dan was one of the most vital, life-loving of men. It's impossible to think of him ever letting go of the firm grip he had on life. I loved working with Dan. Since I was an English teacher, he had to always tell me, "Lady Jane, English is totally over-did," and then laugh his hearty laugh. We were proud at BHS to state we had Dan Klein on faculty--he was a master teacher who reached the kids as only the best teachers can. He taught my daughter, Katie. We would look forward each night to the latest crazy thing Mr. Klein did to bring humor into the classroom--the blinking visor, the clown nose, the magic show safety lecture. We will all miss him.

Jane Pole - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AW

“My story about my love for Mr. Klein is probably like many others. I was not a fan of science but having Mr. Klein as a teacher, made my Chemistry experience at Bismarck High a fun one. In fact, my brother Nick and sister London had him too. Our family is sad to hear about the loss of Mr. Klein. My recent memories with Mr. Klein are when I'd come back to Bismarck for a visit and I'd head to the Elks upper bar with my parents, and if Mr. Klein was there, he'd always have a hug and smile for us. My dad would usually give him a cigar and tell him a joke. Klein family, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Andrea Snortland Wolski - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Pat and family, Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family at this time. We enjoyed visiting with Dan at the Elks. He would always stop after a round of golf, have his beer and sometimes a cigar. You always knew when Dan was there. You always saw that smile of his. He always stopped and talked German with Jim. The Elks will not be the same without him. You expect to see him come running up the stairs like he always did. He is leaving a mass amount of friends behind. I don't know of anyone that didn't like Dan. He will be greatly missed.

Jim and Maxine Bosch - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Dan, may you rest in peace, your'e friendship and laughter will be missed at the golf course. It has been our pleasure to have met you. You will be forever missed @ Tom O' Leary.

Mike Page - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Dan Klein was my High School Chemistry teacher and was one of my favorites. He always made us laugh and told us funny stories about how ugly his wife was ...just before she came into school and we saw what a pretty lady she was. I saw him at the golf course frequently and even played with him a time or two. I had just talked with him on the practice green on Saturday and he joked with me that I should buy him a drink because I had a hole in one a few weeks ago. He was a very nice man and I will miss seeing him at the course.

Jennifer DeForest - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Dan was a mentor to me in many ways. As a teacher he taught me to explore and expand as a man. As an acquaintance he showed me many great qualities, mentoring, teaching, helping others. I knew him to be a very caring father, his son was a good friend of mine also...

Linden Pfeiffer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Dan was a friend throughout the 20 yrs. I taught at BHS, and I was saddened to learn of his passing. Whether as a colleague or parent, I knew him to be a fine man and a truly outstanding teacher. I am grateful for having known and worked with him. Bobbie and I send our condolences to Pat, Steve, and the rest of Dan's family.

Gary Froelich - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ Dan was one of a kind - excellent teacher - one that the students loved. Great colleague.

Dennis and Lorna Olson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ Dan will be greatly missed by all. I have always considered Dan the primary reason I entered chemical engineering. During his class, he encouraged me to study it. I know many others in both chemistry and chemical engineering that consider Dan the catalyst put intended for their direction. His enthusiasm and teaching "techniques" left impressions that I still feel and occasionally employ to this day. The world is a better place for having teachers like Dan Klein in it. My prayers go out for the family...Sincerely,Fred Moesler and Family

Fred Moesler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of your sudden loss. please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. May you feel and Know God's loving arms around you alwaysCindy Johnson

March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of Mr. Klein's passing. He was an amazing teacher. Two years after I graduated from BHS, I needed a letter of recommendation for Physical Therapy school. I asked him, and he was so very happy to do this for me. He was so proud of the accomplishments of former students, and he played such a large part in that success. I currently work for a school district working w/ disabled children. During our back to school sessions, we are always reminded to think back to those teachers that really made an impact on our lives. Dan Klein always comes to my mind. He was able to use his amazing sense of humor to get students to work to their highest potential--and you wanted to live up to his expectations. What a great teacher. I feel fortunate to have known him.Kim Kennedy Soderholm

Kim Kennedy Soderholm - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Klein Family and Friends,I would like to express my deepest sympathy to all and to also express my heartfelt thanks for letting all of us students take a big part of his time. He shared not just the joy of learning a subject that could be challenging,but also of himself and his family. He made high school a pleasure to go to for at least one period in the day. God bless you Mr. Klein.Margie

Margie C. Underwood - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ To the entire Klein Family, my deepest sympathy for the loss of this great man. Dan Klein was solely responsible for my view that science could be interesting and fun. His enthusiasm for science was boundless. This enthusiasm for science instilled by Dan served me well—4 college degrees to include a doctorate in medical physics. Dan Klein raised the teaching bar beyond reach of any of my college instructors, and to use a chemistry term, Mr. Klein was the “litmus test” for teaching all my life. I was a personal friend of his son Steve at BHS bought way too much of his German Club candy!, and I saw Dan in Steve all the time—the motivation, the work ethic, the enthusiasm. To Steve, my deepest condolences. We have all lost a superb teacher, mentor, and human being!

Marvin J Glass Jr - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Pat and family - I am very sorry to hear of your loss. Much like many other students - Mr. Klein had such a profound impact on my life. I remember back as a 3rd grade student in Mrs. Klein's class the days when he would come in and show us these miraculous science experiments. He just brought shock and awe to us all. Early on, he peaked my interest in science and chemistry. I too remember the Burger King crown and the cape and sunglasses. He was the best teacher there was - and had such Bismarck High Spirit! The day that you both attended my wedding was so special to me, that you took that time to share with Eric and I. Mr. Klein will be missed but the many memories will live on in so many hearts. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Colleen Peterson Matejcek - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ To the Klein family, my thoughts and prayers are with you all. I am so sorry to hear of your sudden loss of Dan. I will never forget Dan. He was the most fun and interesting instructor I have ever had. We always had fun in his chemistry class. He was also such a thoughtful and caring man. Greg and I both went to UND at the same time and our dorms were right next to each other. When Dan finished moving Greg into his dorm, he helped my family and I unload my remaining belongings. Dan will be greatly missed.

Kelli Schroeder - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Dan Klein was an amazing instructor. His enthusiasm for education was evident every day in the classroom. He made chemistry exciting! He helped inspire me to go into the teaching field. Even though he wanted me to be a pharmacist! I will always hold fond memories of Dan in my heart. My prayers are with his family.

Kim Messmer Fetting - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ The Demons of the 80's Group on facebook have started recollections of our favorite Demon teacher and all have very fond and fun memories of our beloved mentor. He and I had a few things in common one of which was being a Cheesehead the other that I am proud of is our sense of humor but something that my wife doesn't appreciate quite so much. He always filled our class with humor and always had a story about his home life and family that we knew we had to take with a grain of salt. There aren't many teachers that stick with students for so many years I'm class of '89 and leave such a mark on them as much as Mr. Klein did. He will be missed and always remembered.

Mat Paulson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Pat and family, I am so sorry to hear of the tragic loss, of Dan this week. He was such a wonderful man and always had a smile whenever I saw him. You are all on my thoughts and prayers as you go through these difficult times. God Bless, Kate and family

Kate Skibicki - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HH

“ Mr. Klein was one of my favorite teachers! Although chemistry was not my strong suite, I remember him teasing me and saying, "If you could only channel all that energy and enthusiam from performing he had just seen me in a play, you'd be a chemistry AllStar!" He encouraged and challenged me to be and do my best. He will be missed. My sincere condolences to the family.

Heidi Graff Hollowell - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Pat, Steve, Dan and Katie: My deepest condolences to you - and my thanks for sharing your husband/father/son through all those years of teaching. A teacher's job never ends at the school bell. Mr. Klein was my most inspirational teacher - but I never had the good fortune to be "officially" in his class. The year I took chemistry, he had gone back to college for his master's degree. Luckily he taught an Advanced Chemistry class the next summer. Dan was so giving of his time that he allowed me to participate even though I had already graduated. I often came back to school to visit and he always welcomed me back. He inspired me to become a chemistry teacher, and later to go back to school for a chemical engineering degree. And now, I am back teaching high school chemistry again. Dan's enthusiasm, encouragement and dedication will be missed by so many.

Sue Peterson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Mr Klein. I ,Diane, had him as a teacher in Strasburg and have many memories of the fun times we had in his class. With Sympathy Diane & Ron

Diane Van Boven - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ We just wanted to express to Steve and his family our terrible sadness at their loss. Daniel sounds like a wonderful man who'll be missed by many. Our family's thoughts go out to you all and we hope you are all cherishing your great memories of him. And that is one terrific obituary. What a superb tribute. Our condolences, Anne Boles and Brett Levy

Anne Levy - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ Mr. Klein has made an amazing impact on my life. He was one of the few teachers that I had that I have continued to praise through the years. He truly cared for each and every student he ever had. My thoughts are with the family. Your loss has been great over the last while. He will be truly missed. Cheri

Cheri Olson Toomey - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ To the family of "Mr. Klein" I will never forget the many lessons I learned from Mr. Klein. He inspired me to a level he will never know. I enjoyed visiting with him often at the Elks. We became friends after I graduated and my dad was always appreciative of all the help Dan provided at the Elks. God bless your family and comfort you with memories on the loss of Mr. Klein.

Angela Scholl-Plante - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Thank you Dan Klein!!!!May your perfectly, "balanced equation" for life continue to be personified in us all. All my best!!! :

Michael J. Kubisiak - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Mr. Klein was one-of-a-kind. I don't think you can overstate the positive impact he had on the thousands of students that went through his classroom. Most kids like me had little interest in chemistry but his passion for the subject was so contagious and the class so compelling--exciting even--that we were totally engaged and before long seriously considering chemistry-related careers! He liked to joke but he was serious in his vocation and embraced it whole-heartedly. In this way, he was more than a chemistry teacher--he was a wonderful role model for all us and he will be deeply missed.

Conrad Leifur - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Klein Family:Our deepest sympathy during your loss of Dan. If he was anything like his brother Bob, he was an awesome guy, and always making someone laugh. Take care and God Bless you and your families.

Jim & Susan Renschler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ He was a fantastic teacher. He brought so much enthusiasm to each and every class. I remember him telling our class that the reason he spoke so fast in class was so that all of the students would have to pay attention. I always thought it was more likely due to his enthusiasm for chemistry that he could hardly contain himself as he wanted everyone to know all of the stuff he knew. At one point in mid-term he was handing back tests and as he handed me my test he said that he was disappointed in some of the grades as he knew some of his students could do better and that he expected them to bring up their grades by the end of the semester. As I was taking the test from him, he held onto it for a brief second, looked me straight in the eyes and smiled. I ended up getting an A in the class by the end of the semester. I learned so much from him and he was such a great guy. I am so glad that I had him for chemistry. My thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

Steve Gilbert - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Dear Klein Family: We are so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you during this time of sorrow. Your family is in our hearts and prayers. Love, Colleen, Troy, Tanner and Larissa Stoddart
Colleen Kocher-Harold and Donna Kocher's daughter

Colleen Kocher Stoddart - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ I was saddened to hear about the passing of Mr. Klein. Dan had a great repore with students, inside and outside of the class. His humor was greatly appreciated in making chemistry, a fairly dry subject, come to life. Mr. Klein made you want to learn and made it fun. He was one of those "star" teachers that that trully prepared one for college. I know by being in his class, that he helped me earn my doctor of optometry degree a few years later. I only crossed paths with him once since 1980, many years after graduation. He remembered me by name and was very interested in what I had "become". THANK YOU MR. KLEIN. My deepest sympathy to the family.

Mark D. Olmsted, O.D. - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Pat, Steve, & family, We are so sorry to hear about Dan, so terrible for you, you had another loss 6 months ago. What hardships you have had in your family. Take care & we want to let you know that you are in our thoughts & prayers. Love, Marie & Sam

Marie Vogel & Sam Mitzel - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Pat, Steve, and family, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of "Mr. Klein". As so many have already stated, he made Chemistry class fun and exciting. I also remember the yearly Band Trips we would take at the end of the school year and how much more pleasurable they were because of Pat and Dan. Thank you, Dan, for so many pleasant memories and for being such a positive role model to the thousands of lives you touched. My deepest condolences go out to the entire Klein family. Ryan Hays

Ryan Hays - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Mr Klein was a wonderful teacher and an even better person. I never would have imagined Chemistry being fun but he made it happen. I enjoyed every conversation I had with him! My deepest sympathy to his family and friends!

Travis Welle - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ I send my sympathy on the loss of your loved one. He will always be remembered for his wonderful lectures in chemistry class. He was a great mentor. He will be deeply missed.

Geri Rader - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Mr. Klein was a truly inspiring educator. It has been three decades since I was in his classroom, and yet I clearly recall some of the experiments we did in chemistry lab as though we had just done them yesterday. As you can see from this guestbook, he is one of those rare individuals who has touched many, many lives. Wishing you peace and comfort as you celebrate his life.

Kathleen Nordstrom, M.D. - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Pat and family, My deepest sympathies for your loss. Dan was the most charming person I had the pleasure of working with. It was always fun to stop in his classroom to help with his computer issues and see how much fun the students were having and how much they enjoyed learning. I also remember the Box Car Willie tapes and what a hit they were - Not! It was also entertaining to visit with him at the Elks because he had some a broad range of interests. He will be truly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sincerely, Tom & Lisa Feldner

Lisa Feldner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Even though chemistry was an elective, Mr. Klein did not "water down" the course. This showed that he had respect for teaching and the students. He pushed us to do are best and knew when to back off to give us a short rest, like a good coach. His sense of humor was an indication that we were working hard so he joked with us at times. Mr. Klein set the standard for teaching and the students followed. We need more Mr. Klein's in the classroom. He will be missed.

Steve Kubisiak - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ I am so very to hear of your loss - Mr. Klein was a wonderful teacher and inpired my life - he made chemistry so very fun and interesting that upon college entry I decided to become a chemical engineer. I did tell him and thanked him about 15 years ago.... but, being the humble man he was, he may not have shared that with his family. He was an amazing teacher and great leader.

Barbara Walz - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Viewing the Ashley Tribune web site yesterday, I was shocked to learn of Daniel's passing. It has been many years since knowing Dan, but I considered him a special friend at Zeeland High School. I did have a opportunity to visit with him in '02 at the all school reunion. My sympathy to the family, and pray God's blessing upon you at this time of mourning Dan's passing.Blessings,Paul MoosClass of '60

Paul Moos - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Dan, you were one of the best. The memories you have given me have been shared many times over since leaving your classroom. You will be missed! God Bless!

Robert Wagner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ To the Klein family-We are so sorry about the sudden loss of Dan. Dan used to be my chemistry teacher at BHS. I never enjoyed the Sciences, but Dan had a way to make me interested. He was a good teacher. I will never forget him. He was not only a former teacher, but a father of a great family friend too-Greg. They will both be missed. Our family will cherish the great memories of both Dan and Greg. Our thoughts, prayers, and hearts go out to you!!The Peterson family, Demeryce, Darrick, Dane, and Diane

Demeryce Tanaka Peterson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

IB

“ My heart goes out to the entire Klein family for their loss. What a tragic thing to happen to this wonderful family x's two. May your faith see you through this sad time.

Ina Baron - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ Thank you Dan for all the wonderful memories - you are one the great ones!

Erik and Krissa Oatfield - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM