



Richard C. DeHart

January 24, 2015

Richard C. DeHart, 87, passed away in Lakeland, Florida on Thursday, January 22, 2015 peacefully in his sleep. He was the son of the late Clarence and Kathryn DeHart.

Born in Philippi, West Virginia, he graduated in 1945 from Allegany High School in Cumberland, Maryland where he was captain of the basketball and baseball teams and class president. His first job was as a car-coupler on the B&O Railroad. He served in the Navy during WWII as a Hospital Apprentice in Panama. After being honorably discharged, using the G.I. Bill, he graduated from West Virginia University majoring in Health and Physical Education. He completed graduate work at West Virginia and Temple Universities. Upon graduation he held various teaching jobs in Maryland. He married Wanda Lee Shobe in 1951 and took a teaching position in Ocean City, Maryland. His first college post was at Davis and Elkins College in West Virginia where he was Athletic Director. In 1956 the family moved to Millersville State Teachers College where he would remain until his retirement in 1985.

While at Millersville he taught Health and Physical Education, biology and other courses. He is most known for his outstanding coaching ability, particularly basketball: 321 career wins and 298 losses. Under his direction, Millersville basketball teams made it to National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Tournament six times. He is a member of the Millersville University

Athletic Hall of Fame.

He enjoyed playing bridge, reading biographies and was an avid golfer. He was a member of The First United Methodist Church, Millersville.

His wife, in 2003, and brothers, Thomas and Jon, preceded him in death. Three daughters, Jane Shipley of Harrisburg, Molly Henderson of Lancaster, and Kathryn Berger of Cape Carteret NC, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren survive him.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Dick's Funeral Service at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 30th 2015 at The Groffs Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange Street, (located at the corner of Orange and Pine Sts), Lancaster, PA with the Reverend John A. Laughlin, Sr. officiating. The family will greet friends from 12:00 Noon until the time of service. Interment will be at the Millersville Mennonite Cemetery, Millersville, PA.

In lieu of flowers gifts may be directed to Millersville University to the Richard DeHart Basketball Scholarship, Millersville University Development Office, Millersville, PA 17551.

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard C. DeHart*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *God bless you and remain with you!
Jane, Molly, Kathryn, I met your parents
in 1959 when I became the Associate Pastor
of St. Paul's Church, Lancaster. They were
the Directors of Camp Andrews summer camp at
The Buck which was operated by the church.
I became part of the staff.
Later my family moved to Millersville and we lived
close to your home on Herr Ave. I was pastor
of Zion Church on George St. So I remember
you well and am happy that your Dad had
a long life that influenced many.
Sincerely, Pastor Richard Fehnel*

Richard Fehnel - January 29, 2015 at 04:16 PM



“ *"Coach"...I played for him in the 60s and coached with him in the
70s. I've always addressed him as Coach and always will. He was a
tremendous mentor and had great influence in my life. He was not
only my mentor but a friend long after our coaching years together
were over. He served as a role model for so many both on and off
the court. Indeed...he will always be "Coach".*

Jeff and Donna Gamber - January 28, 2015 at 03:41 PM

AH

“ My sympathy and warmest thoughts are with the family now. Molly was in my class in school.

Ann Humer - January 28, 2015 at 10:46 AM

EF

“ We were saddened to read Dick's Obituary in the paper. We were colleagues at Millersville in the same Department. We shared the same office in Brooks Hall and then had offices across the hall from each other when we moved to Pucillo Gym. I remember his dry sense of humor. Our sympathies go out to his children and grandchildren on your loss.

Mary and Cy Fritz

Eugene Fritz - January 27, 2015 at 11:32 AM

WO

“ Dick DeHart was one of the finest people that I have ever known. I have been his friend since Junior High School. Dick was a good student and a devoted athlete. He was well liked by his classmates and teachers at well . Our high school teachers presented him with the " Welcome Home Award " . This honor went to the student they most appreciated to have in their classroom .He also received the award for outstanding athlete in our class.

I'm sure coach DeHart will be missed by all his athletes he taught as well as his many friends. I have no doubt he is looking down on us now with a smile on his face. We have lost a fine friend.

William S. Firey O.D. - January 26, 2015 at 04:05 PM

JW

“ Mary and I offer our condolences to the family. I was a colleague with Dick at Millersville since 1959. We often had lunch together, played poker together, and both of us played in the faculty bowling league. Dick was a real gentleman and had a wonderful sense of humor. He was Mr. Basketball at MU, and he will be missed. God bless you all.

Jay D Weaver - January 26, 2015 at 03:35 PM

BH

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Coach DeHart. He came to Millersville my senior year. I was fortunate to be a member of his first team at Millersville and he took us to the NAIA national playoffs in Kansas City. He was very helpful in my coaching career at Hempfield High School. He was a gentleman.

BARRY HENRY - January 25, 2015 at 09:07 PM

TW

“ We are both saddened to learn of your loss. We will never forget your Dad's keen wit and very dry sense of humor. He was a great educator, a great basketball coach but more importantly a superior "Life Coach". He was always very much involved in the personal lives of the young men who played for him. He made sure that their eligibility grades were up to par, he and your Mother worked as a team, with your Mother doing a great deal of tutoring in the evenings for anyone who was having academic difficulty. He insisted on exemplary sportsmanship both on and off the court, always setting a good example for his players and providing them with a good role model. We are keeping you in our thoughts and in our prayers during this difficult time. Sincerely and with our love, Tom and Lily Williams

Tom and Lily Williams - January 25, 2015 at 02:55 PM