



Roy D. Windhorst Jr.

August 26, 1944 - May 16, 2019

Roy D. Windhorst Jr., 74, of Clinton, WI, died on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at Beloit Memorial Hospital.

He was born on August 26, 1944 in Deshler, NE, the son of Roy and Jennie (Oeltjen) Windhorst Sr. Roy married Margaret (Peggy) Poskie on June 20, 1970. Roy showed great athletic ability from a young age and played on the varsity football, basketball and track teams from eighth grade until graduation. He set the discus record in the state of Nebraska, a record which stood for decades. Roy earned a scholarship to play football and run track at Peru State, NE from which he graduated with a bachelor of science degree in education. Roy even received a letter of interest from the Dallas Cowboys but he declined, deciding to begin his career.

After a year at Glenwood High School, Iowa, he started teaching at Clinton High School in 1968 and remained there for 33 years before retiring. During his tenure he taught drafting, woods, small engines, and driver's education; his successful construction classes built 6 houses in Clinton. His students in this class were affectionately called "Roy's Boys" and left a long lasting legacy of housing in their wake. Roy was also the varsity football coach for a short while, but didn't find his coaching niche until 1976 when he became the boy's golf coach; he remained head golf coach for the rest of his tenure. Along with teaching, Roy was half of Jones Windhorst Construction, a company he co-created with Don Jones, another teacher at Clinton High School. Together they built many homes and additions on many others.

Upon retiring, Roy continued to indulge in love of golf and took a job at Glen Erin Golf Course working as a starter and ranger. The golf course, any golf course, was his favorite place to be. Roy had a standing date with his golf buddies for breakfast every Wednesday and when the weather cooperated, a round of golf after eating. He had several yearly fishing and golfing trips that he looked forward to all winter long. He was a proud member of the Canadian Fishing Follies. Roy and his wife, Peggy, traveled extensively over their 49 year marriage visiting Egypt and much of Europe and the Caribbean. In later years,

Roy especially enjoyed warm destinations at all-inclusive resorts so he could just relax, enjoy a cigar and a nice drink by the ocean. He and Peggy enjoyed riding their motorcycles and Roy continued to ride when the weather was fine. During the long golfless winters, Roy spent hours tinkering in his basement. Over the years he would use his amazing talents to make many beautiful clocks and wood carvings. He was skilled at woodworking and could build anything from a house to something as delicate as a wood duck decoy. Roy took great joy in his grandchildren and was known to brag about their achievements.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Windhorst of Clinton, WI; children Eric Windhorst of Portland, OR and Nina (Craig) Harmes of DeForest, WI; grandchildren, Jacob, Elise, Keenan, and Taya; sisters, Jeanette (Robert) Harms of Hebron, NE and Georgia (Ken) Molacek of Freemont, NE; many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents.

A memorial visitation for Roy will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 29, 2019 in the Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium, 2355 Cranston Rd., Beloit, WI.

Events

MAY **Memorial Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium
2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, US, 53511

Comments



“ So sorry to receive the news of my cousins passing - just visited with him in Deshler, Ne at his dad's memorial service. Peggy, I only met you a couple of times and I know this is a most difficult process for you and the family, so hopeful for all of you to find peace in the passing of Roy Jr. He was one of the "cousins" that all got together when we were living near each other in Nebraska. I lived with his family for awhile during WWII and they always treated me so well - just great memories. Roy Jr's life made a difference to so many people and especially me. May you find comfort in the notes that you have received and know that one day we will be together again. Blessings, James (Jim) Anderson, San Diego, California.

Anderson James L. - June 15, 2019 at 06:42 PM



“ I am certainly sorry for the loss of Mr Windhorst. I was a student of his down in Glenwood, when he was a student teacher, and a full time teacher. I learned a lot from Mr Windhorst I think about it almost every time I have to attack a piece of wood! I also had him for drivers ed. I remember one time after driver's ed that we took his new chevelle into the auto shop section and pulled/gapped the plugs. I enjoyed the classes I had with Mr Windhorst and he certainly would be in the top 5 ranking of teachers I learned from and respected.

Rod Teegarden - June 14, 2019 at 08:38 PM



“ Susan Gunnink lit a candle in memory of Roy D. Windhorst Jr.



Susan Gunnink - May 31, 2019 at 06:17 PM



“ Peg - my heart aches for you and your family with this profoud loss. Sending much love.

Elisa Shoemaker - May 31, 2019 at 03:35 PM



“ Peg - My deepest sympathies to you and your family. I thought you all might like to know that this is still above Roy's old classroom.



Nancy Schultz - May 31, 2019 at 12:03 PM



“ Roy was a great friend and just super guy. We went on snow skiing trips with our wife's, hunted together many years we will all miss Roy. Thanks Roy

Ken Wendtland - May 27, 2019 at 03:53 PM



“ was a big shock to us all, he will be missed
Jane Poskie sister in law

jane Poskie - May 27, 2019 at 12:45 PM



“ First...my deepest condolences to Mr. Windhorst's family as a truly special man has left us and only time will allow all of us to heal.
Secondly...I attended Clinton High School from the fall of 1972 til graduation in 1975. During those 4 years I took every class I could with Mr. Windhorst. His consistency with all kids, his ability to look you in the eye and speak to you man to man and his willingness to grant you a second chance made him my favorite CHS instructor. I had many chances, especially in my senior year, to spend most of my day in Mr. Windhorst's classroom...mostly as a student in a particular class, but also as a teacher's aide helping him with projects or clean up...whatever he needed. I was blessed to have had those many hours with him. Lastly... I retired 5 years ago as a high school principal / head football coach after 34 years in education. I knew when I left Clinton that Mr. Windhorst was the example I wanted to most emulate in my career...and I not only strived to accomplish that, I also hired professional staff in my building that also displayed the same skill set as Mr. Windhorst. Now after hearing of his passing, I wish I would have shared my deep respect for him while he was still with us. It was an honor to have him as my teacher.

Mike McMartin - CHS Class of 1975
Osceola, WI

Mike McMartin - May 25, 2019 at 06:56 PM



“ I can't thank you enough for your kind words about my father. - Nina (Windhorst) Harmes

Nina - May 30, 2019 at 12:37 PM



“ I am saddened for the loss of your loved one. In my first year teaching at Clinton, Roy impressed me immediately. As the students were entering an assembly in the gym, a couple of boys were apparently disrespecting a student with a learning disability. Roy immediately, and quite intensely, confronted the boys and clearly conveyed that kind of behavior is not acceptable. For the rest of my time as a teacher, I admired Roy to be a committed teacher and a man of principle. He was always willing to share his knowledge and skill when I needed help with a project. May the grace of God encourage you through your grief and all your memories bring you recollections of the joy you shared. Mark Dilley

Mark J Dilley - May 24, 2019 at 10:57 AM



“ It was a pleasure to teach at Clinton,HS with Roy. Always pleasant, low-key, great sense of humor, and very well liked and respected by his students and peers. My condolences to his wife Peggy, and their families. RIP friend.



Marilyn Frey - May 23, 2019 at 11:45 AM