



Frederick W. "Fred" Murray

March 11, 1940 - September 16, 2021

Frederick W. "Fred" Murray 81, of Bluffton passed away Thursday evening September 16, 2021 at his home surrounded by his family. Fred was born March 11, 1940 in Bluffton to the late Wayne and Ruth L. (Jarrett) Murray.

Fred was a 1958 graduate of Bluffton High School. He graduated in 1966 from Ball State University with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Education. He was a Social Studies teacher for the 7th and 8th grade at the Bluffton Middle School for 35 years. Fred was instrumental in starting the 7th and 8th grade Boys Basketball program at Bluffton. He coached high school basketball and baseball. His most memorable coaching moments were being able to coach his son Jason. He was the head coach of Bluffton Baseball when they won their first Sectional Championships in 1970 and 1972.

Fred was a longtime member of the Bluffton Elks Lodge, ISTA and NEA. He was instrumental in starting the Elks #796 Golf Scholarship. He had attended First Reformed Church.

On October 18, 1969 in Bluffton, Fred married Trudy L. Starr. They have shared 51 years of marriage.

Survivors include his wife Trudy L. Murray of Bluffton, IN, Jenny Merica of Russiaville, IN, Jason (Mindy) Murray of Mount Pleasant, SC, and three granddaughters Hannah and Hilary Merica and Mya Murray. He is also survived by his brother Jerry K. (Lois) Murray. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be from 3pm – 8pm Sunday, September 19, 2021 at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. All are welcome to attend the Elks Memorial Service for Fred at the conclusion of the visitation on Sunday.

Funeral Services will take place at 10:30am Monday September 20, 2021 at the funeral home with Tony Garton officiating. There will be calling one hour prior to the service. Burial will follow at Elm Grove Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Elks #796 Golf Scholarship.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Murray family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 19. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Visitation

SEP 20. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Funeral Service

SEP 20. 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Frederick W. "Fred" Murray*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - September 19, 2021 at 01:58 PM



“ *Frederick W. "Fred" Murray*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Trudy, Jason and family. We are so very sorry for your loss. Sending ours thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Fred will be greatly missed! -Fresenius Kidney Care Team*



Whitney Moog - September 20, 2021 at 04:46 PM



“ *Going to miss this guy. One of the good ones. Prayers to the family.*

sharolyn stoppenhagen - September 20, 2021 at 09:42 AM



“ *Trudy, Jenny and Jason. I am so sorry for your loss. He was my basketball coach and social studies teacher, and later, I had the opportunity to teach and coach with Mr. Murray. He treated me and my family so well, and I am forever grateful. God bless you all.*

Brett Garrett - September 19, 2021 at 10:22 PM

SS

“ *Shari Stokes lit a candle in memory of Frederick W. "Fred" Murray*



Shari Stokes - September 19, 2021 at 07:14 PM

DS

“ *Debi Smith lit a candle in memory of Frederick W. "Fred" Murray*



Debi Smith - September 18, 2021 at 11:07 PM

D(

“ *So sorry for your loss. My favorite memories of Fred is when I he was my drivers Ed teacher. He will be missed my many.*

Denice Seibert (Bulger) - September 18, 2021 at 06:42 PM

JG

Jim Geeslin
I just heard Fred passed. I was with Joe Luce. Fred was quite a man
Many memories. Please share my sympathies with the family.

James Geeslin - October 02, 2021 at 07:14 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Frederick W. "Fred" Murray.*



September 18, 2021 at 01:46 PM



“ 114 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - September 18, 2021 at 01:41 PM

MH

Rest In Peace Fred. Prayers to all the family!

Mike Howell - September 18, 2021 at 06:53 PM

JM

“ *Jerry - I'm sorry for the loss of your brother. I didn't really know him, but I remember him well. I always associated him with playing baseball. May he rest in peace.*

*Jim McDowell
Poplar Grove '58*

Jim McDowell - September 18, 2021 at 12:04 PM

RM

Dear friend to the Portland Rockets Fred and family were part of the Rocket train for many years, Jason Murray was an outstanding shortstop out of Ball State We had such a great sharing for years even beyond Jason's tenure. Our Team ride in Evansville w Scott Hall driving, Fred and I were having the greatest of times in the back of the van filled w Rockets!

*Love ya in Portland
A tree will be dedicated to Fred Murray at Runkle-Miller Field*

Randy Miller - September 19, 2021 at 10:29 AM

BE

“ *I remember when Mr. Murray gave us our 7th grade basketball playbooks and "emphasized" the importance of not sharing or losing them. It must have worked because I kept mine under lock and key. Mr. Murray made learning and basketball fun. He will be missed.*

Bill Edris - September 18, 2021 at 11:54 AM

CK

“ Mr. Murray provides good memories for me. 7th grade basketball and oddly in Social Studies. I enjoyed his class every day. We were good in ball too! I remember during practice he could stand half court at Poplar Grove and drill jump shots over and over. Condolences to the family and RIP Mr. Murray.

Chris King - September 18, 2021 at 09:13 AM

B2

“ Bluffton Moose Lodge 242 purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Boquet for the family of Frederick W. "Fred" Murray.



Bluffton Moose Lodge 242 - September 18, 2021 at 08:23 AM

RM

“ Fred 'Mr. Murray' is a very positive memory thru my childhood education journey.....

Rex Mahnensmith - September 18, 2021 at 08:07 AM

SK

“ Trudy, Jason and Family. Sorry for your loss. You are in our prayers.

Steve Kunkel - September 18, 2021 at 03:50 AM

DG

“ Sorry to learn of Fred's passing. He was a good role model for a lot of young men in Bluffton who were under his coaching leadership. Fred will be missed by many. The Murray family will be in our prayers. Dan and Darlene Gerdom



Dan Gerdom - September 17, 2021 at 10:33 PM

EF

“ One Of My Favorite Teachers Of All My School Years...! He Was A Teachers.. Teacher Of How You Should Always Treat Your Students...”Will Never Forget Mr MurrayOne Of The Best !



Eddie Ferguson - September 17, 2021 at 10:18 PM

SC

“ Trudy and family my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. I like many had the pleasure of having Mr Murray as a teacher and Driver Trainer Instructor. He was one of the best. Sending my deepest condolences.

Sue (Swartz) Cabbage - September 17, 2021 at 07:59 PM

SC

“ Trudy and family my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. I like many had the pleasure of being in Mr Murray's class and my driver trainer! He was the very best. My sincere condolences.

Sue (Swartz) Cabbage - September 17, 2021 at 07:24 PM

MP

“ Mr. Murray or Coach Murray - I will never refer to this man as anything else. As a 7th grade student - my parents had just divorced and I was the new kid at school. It was a difficult time. I had come from a place where I was on the all star little league team and captain of the patrol boys. At my new school, I was the last guy picked for a team in gym class. I had Mr. Murray for Social Studies class. Mr. Murray validated me. He encouraged me - not as a friend, rather as a caring adult. His class was the reason I came to school. Social studies was a safe place. Then, Coach Murray was our basketball coach, another validation. Then, of course, Coach Murray loved baseball - like I do and several of my classmates. We appreciated Coach for letting us love the game. As I reflect on life, Mr. Murray was one of the angels I needed in my life at that time. Mr. Murray was a Good, Good man. God Bless!

Mike Pettibone - September 17, 2021 at 05:49 PM

BC

“ Trudy Jason and Jenny so very Sorry for your loss of your Husband and Dad Fred! Our Prayers are with u and the Murray Family as u Grieve for his loss 🙏 Fred was a very Good Man, Teacher, and Coach for many years! May God Bless u all at this time! Love, Barry and JoEllen! ❤️



Barry Crosbie - September 17, 2021 at 01:09 PM



“ *Trudy and family,*

Sandi and I send our condolences for your loss. Fred was a very fine man, I remember him well as my eighth grade basketball coach, teacher, golfer, neighbor and just his friendly nature. We send our prayers.

Rick Harnish

Rick Harnish - September 17, 2021 at 11:13 AM