



Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery

October 21, 1948 - April 27, 2017

MONTGOMERY

Montgomery, Daniel E. (Dan), 68, passed away at his home on Thursday, April 27th, after a brave, 19-month battle with pancreatic cancer. He was surrounded by those he loved most in this world: his wife, his daughters and their families.

Dan was born in Newark, Ohio on October 21, 1948 to the late Charles W. Montgomery and Eula Mae (Ballinger) Montgomery. He was strong in his faith, lived and loved life to the fullest, and was so very proud of his family. In 1969, Dan married the love of his life and best friend, Katherine (Pucharich) Montgomery and they were blessed with 3 daughters, Michelle Montgomery of New Albany, OH; Nicole (Anthony) Paolo of Powell, OH; Danielle (Shawn) Williamson of Worthington, OH. Family was everything to Dan. Of all of his accomplishments, the one he was most proud of was being a Grandfather and his six grandchildren--Joey, John & Nick Paolo and Reed, Kate & Drew Williamson-- were the light of his life.

He graduated from Licking Valley High School in 1966 and Fairmont State University in 1970, where he was a member of the 1967 National Championship Football Team and the Theta Xi Fraternity. He remained an active member of the Alumni Group. In 1982, Dan received his Master's degree from Bowling Green State University.

Dan was passionate about teaching and coaching. His 44-year career in public education began in August of 1970 in the Marion City School District. There, he also coached football, basketball and track. In 1971, he moved to River Valley High School where he taught Social Studies and Physical Education and continued to coach football, wrestling and baseball. In 1982, Dan became Principal of East Knox High School. His career as a Principal continued a year later in the Johnstown-Monroe School District where he remained for ten years. From 1993 to 1998, Dan returned to his Alma Mater, Licking Valley High School as Principal. In 1998, he became Superintendent of the Johnstown-Monroe School District and stayed there until 2003, when he assumed the role of Assistant Superintendent of Newark City Schools. In 2009, he served the ESC program as the Assistant Superintendent of the Licking County Education Service Center and in 2011, served the Fairfield County ESC as Superintendent, where he ended his career.

Dan was a member of The Ohio Secondary School Principals' Association, a member of the Buckeye Association of School Administrators and a member of the Ohio Education Service Center Association. Dan also belonged to the Licking Valley Lions Club, and the St. Joan of Arc Chapter of the Knights of Columbus.

Dan is survived by his mother, Eula (Ballinger) Montgomery of Newark, OH; his brother, David (Barb) Montgomery of Newark, OH; his sister, Cindy (Tom) Burkett of Newark, OH; his sister, Barbara (Fernando) Lucero of Opopka, FL; his brother-in-law and dear friend Francis Pucharich of Glen Dale, WV. Dan is also survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Dan was preceded in death by his father, Charles Montgomery; his father-in-law, Marion Pucharich; his mother-in-law, Katherine Pucharich; his sister-in-law, Agnes DiChiazza; his brother-in-law, Paul DiChiazza; his sister-in-law,

Agnes Pucharich, as well as his beloved Grandparents, aunts and uncles.

Family will receive friends on Sunday, April 30, 2017 from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the RUTHERFORD FUNERAL HOME AT POWELL 450 W. Olentangy Street Powell, Ohio 43065. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 10:00 AM at ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH 10700 Liberty Road Powell, Ohio 43065 with Father Jim Black as Celebrant. Interment will follow in Resurrection Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Ohio Health Hospice 800 McConnell Drive Columbus, Ohio 43214 or to Nationwide Children's Hospital Neurosurgery Center P.O. Box 16810 Columbus, Ohio 43216. To send an online condolence please visit www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

9571 North High Street
Lewis Center, OH 43035

Previous Events

Calling Hours

APR 30. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell
450 West Olentangy Street
Powell, OH 43065
(614) 792-1471
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 1. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church
10700 Liberty Road
Powell, OH 43065
<http://www.stjoanofarcpowell.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ Dear Kathy and Family: We are so sorry over the loss of Dan. He was a wonderful man. He was so proud of his family and extended school family. We enjoyed growing up with all of you. You are a very dear and special family to us. We send our love and prayers to each one of you. God Bless you during this very difficult time. Love and Blessings to you, Mark Weiner and family

Mark Weiner - May 01, 2017 at 07:51 PM



“ I was very sad to hear about Dan's passing. Although I did not work with Dan directly, I was fortunate to teach his lovely daughters in middle school-his amazing, everlasting legacy. Kathy, Michelle, Nicole, and Danielle, my deepest sympathies to you all.

Janet Sherwood Coons (Johnstown-Monroe Middle School)

Janet Coons - May 01, 2017 at 06:11 PM



“ Nicole and Family. We are very sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Vair Family - May 01, 2017 at 08:00 AM

KD

“ Dan was a great man and I had the pleasure to work with him at the Fairfield County ESC. He loved talking about his family and grandchildren. Go with God Dan.

Ken Dille - May 01, 2017 at 07:04 AM

MB

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. I know Dan put up a great and courageous fight against that horrible disease. Now his suffering is over. May God be with you Kathy and your family. I will never forget Dan's kind words to me and his support for our wrestling teams. He was a great man!

Marvin Bright - April 30, 2017 at 08:13 PM



“ Michelle,
Tripp and I want you to know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. God Bless you and keep you.

Kathy Ius Childress - April 30, 2017 at 07:26 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 30, 2017 at 07:23 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 30, 2017 at 11:20 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 30, 2017 at 09:46 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 30, 2017 at 08:39 AM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 30, 2017 at 08:31 AM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.*



April 29, 2017 at 11:37 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.*



April 29, 2017 at 10:56 PM



“ *My condolences to the family, he was a great Principal always smiling and nice. May you rest in peace.*

Crystal Gilliland - April 29, 2017 at 06:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.*



April 29, 2017 at 06:19 PM

EM

“ Dan was a member of the Marne children. Was pleased to have him return to Licking Valley. He was a great asset to our school system. God touch his family in their loss.

Eleanor McGee - April 29, 2017 at 05:04 PM

BB

Prayers for the family. Dan was a great man and will be missed by many.

Brenda Bush - April 30, 2017 at 07:08 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 29, 2017 at 04:02 PM

AB

“ Danny was the best, I remember when I was 7 we were at Grandma Della's for Sunday dinner, I had broken my arm and my sling had got all messed up and he was the only one who knew how to fix it....I thought he was the smartest person in the world. Just the kindest person, and the kindest family....love to you all.

Amy Bevard - April 29, 2017 at 02:18 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 29, 2017 at 02:11 PM



“ I enjoyed my years at River Valley HS with Dan as a fellow teacher in the Social Studies department and as a football coach under his leadership. I remember our close staff and the Friday night coaches and wives get together after games in the home of Dan and Cathy. Our prayers are with Cathy and the girls and their families as they grieve a husband and father and grandfather. Ron & Karen Keiser

Ronald Keiser - April 29, 2017 at 01:19 PM



“ Johnstown Monroe High School Class of 1988 purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



Johnstown Monroe High School Class of 1988 - April 29, 2017 at 12:55 PM

JE

“ I am so grateful that I got to know Dan over the last few years. The visits I had with him while he was sick were an inspiration. He remained so positive through some very tough and painful times. Our love to Kathy and the entire family.

The English family.

John English - April 29, 2017 at 12:45 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 29, 2017 at 12:22 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.



April 29, 2017 at 12:22 PM

RO

“ We will miss a great friend and brother. My condolences to you, Puch, and family.
Rookie.

Rookie - April 29, 2017 at 12:09 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.*



April 29, 2017 at 11:03 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of Dan's passing. I have fond memories of the family as we grew up together in the First Presbyterian Church in Newark...please accept my sincere condolences and may all your memories of Dan remain in your hearts forever. Janis (VanAtta) Harvey*

Janis (VanAtta) Harvey - April 29, 2017 at 10:51 AM



“ *Not only will I remember Dan as an incredible educator and administrator, I will miss the compassionate person I was fortunate to know. When my son, Jake became ill, Dan supported me and allowed me to take off as much time as necessary. Dan and his daughter arranged for my son to meet the OSU football team and Coach Cooper. That will always be a special memory. I cannot find the words to express how much Dan will be missed and remembered always. He will always be one the great ones!*

Traci Lausberg - April 29, 2017 at 09:53 AM

JM

“ He could always make me laugh! I remember a time when I was seeking advice from my friend and he said, "You can't go around life, a person has to go through it to get the full effect" and he was right! Always straight forward, kind gentle giant. BEST superintendent ever and lovingly referred to as "Big Dog". He will be missed. My heart is broken for Kathy, his girls and the families. Praying for comfort and peace.



Jana West McKee

Jana West McKee - April 29, 2017 at 09:26 AM

Mary J Metzger

“ One of the very best. Very effective as a principal. Many thanks from the teachers and students you supported. Mary Metzger

Mary J Metzger - April 29, 2017 at 08:57 AM

SP

“ Mr. Montgomery was my high school principle all four of my years at Johnstown high school. Even as a bull headed high school freshman I was always able to talk straight with him and he was always willing to listen. My condolences go out to his family. He will be missed by many.

Scott Peterman (Johnstown High School 93)

Scott Peterman - April 29, 2017 at 07:30 AM



“ Prayers for all of his family. He was a kind person who cared about all of his students and he will be missed very much!

Nicole Wills - April 29, 2017 at 06:42 AM

MB

“ Love and prayers to Dan's family. He was a very kind and good man. Newark City Schools was blessed to have him.

Mable Broughton - April 29, 2017 at 06:08 AM

MH

“ I will always remember Mr. Montgomery as a kind hearted man with a smile on his face. He was a wonderful principal during my time at Licking Valley High School. My condolences to his family.
Michele (Miller) Hoeft

Michele (Miller) Hoeft - April 29, 2017 at 03:50 AM

BW

“ Mr. Montgomery was my principal at East Knox High School. It was an honor to work with Dan and I considered him a very dear friend. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. God Bless you!

Bertha Williamson - April 28, 2017 at 11:29 PM

JV

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Montgomery family.

Jana VonDach - April 28, 2017 at 10:27 PM

TH

“ Dan was my mentor, although he never wanted me to tell him that. He said it embarrassed him. His advice and counsel were invaluable to me when I began my administrative career at Utica HS in 1989-90. I was privileged to work with him in the Newark City School District at the end of my career in 2007. I always knew where to find him and that he would "tell it like it was" when I needed to hear that. If another administrator is required in heaven, Dan will be a great choice! God Bless Dan Montgomery and his family.

Tom Huss - April 28, 2017 at 10:22 PM

RO

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Bear was my teacher coach and inspiration while he taught at River Valley he was loved by us all. Robyn Smith Littell R V Class of 1981 🙏❤️

Robyn - April 28, 2017 at 09:08 PM

MD

“ Kathy, you have our sympathy. We have good memories of those years when we spent time with you and Dan.

Marsha Dutt - April 28, 2017 at 08:33 PM

TP

“ Tim & Kelly Piper lit a candle in memory of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery



Tim & Kelly Piper - April 28, 2017 at 08:00 PM

MA

“ Mandyhughes09@yahoo.com lit a candle in memory of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery



mandyhughes09@yahoo.com - April 28, 2017 at 07:58 PM

RW

“ Sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers be with the entire family. Mr. Montgomery was one of my favorite teachers at River Valley. Rest in Peace in Heaven.



Rose Osborn West

Rose Osborn West - April 28, 2017 at 07:38 PM

SS

“ Mr. Montgomery was my senior year (81-82) Powers of Government (POD) teacher at River Valley. He always had a smile for students. I wasn't a stellar high school student but I loved government class because he made it fun and interesting. I continue to be civic minded and follow politics and history today, in no small part to the seed of interest he planted in me during high school. He was also one of our class advisors and he encouraged student involvement and participation. I have thought of Him often over the years and am sad to hear of his passing. He impacted thousands of lives in a positive way working with students in the classroom and as a coach. There are a lot of civic minded people in the world thanks to Mr. Dan Montgomery.



Shellie McCray Shirk - April 28, 2017 at 07:27 PM

DH

“ I struggle to find the words that match the emotion of losing such an inspirational person. Growing up, many would agree that I preferred to do things "my way". In some ways, I still do. Never did I have to question the stance of his opinion, how he valued me as an individual, yet understood I was still a kid. The many talks he and I had, how he would always have time for a hug and a quick bit of advice anytime I would pop into the Johnstown district office; or anytime I would be sent to his office for less impressive reasons. He was quick to give me advice on "acceptable" behaviors, but would be the first to wish me good luck on the field for my upcoming games. He was a constant when I was losing my grandpa. Someone who always offered a pat on the shoulder or a smile in the hallway every morning. The evocative life he lived, the standards that he was so adamant to share, and the love of others will forever be in my heart.

My heart is heavy. Very heavy. I have very few people from my youth who I would consider a mentor. A few were my coaches. The other, was Mr. Montgomery. There are people whose opinions matter. His always did!

Danica (McKee) Hewitt - April 28, 2017 at 07:05 PM

BM

“ Dan Montgomery will be missed by all those who knew him. He was a wonderful man, educator, and a friend. There was no doubt about the love he had for family. Comforting thoughts and prayers to the Montgomery family.

Barbara Moore

Barbara Moore - April 28, 2017 at 06:44 PM

RB

“ *Mr. Montgomery still inspires such respect for his work ethic, passion for education, and integrity. We did not always see eye-to-eye on some points, but I never for one moment had to doubt his intentions and after "presenting my case", I complied with my best efforts to help implement said changes because a boss like that deserved it. He gave his finest---and considered staff (and community) input with respect and consideration. When he left LVHS to go back to the Johnnies, it was so hard to let him go with our blessings. (I still get a big smile when I think of our "Danny Boy" serenade.*

He loved you all ferociously and with such pride and joy. Take the many memories he mad with you and hug them closely as you grieve...and bit by bit, my prayer for you all is to each figure out your pieces of his legacy: the deliberate ways you choose to honor him as well as those spontaneous moments. Keep your Danny Boy's stories flowing. Blessings on each of you!

Just for context: (I am a retired Spanish teacher from LVHS --and a "Perryton Girl" by default that got to go to Perry Elementary as a pre-schooler to "help" Jesse Montgomery. Virginia and my Grandma Lena Ramsey were neighbors and great friends.)

Rosemary Barboza - April 28, 2017 at 06:16 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Daniel E. "Dan" Montgomery.*



April 28, 2017 at 05:52 PM



“ *Mr. Montgomery was not only my high school principal, but a mentor. I still appreciate the chats we would have when I would come home from Capital Univeristy and stop by the Johnstown district office. He always seemed to have time to talk. He will be deeply missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.*

Deana Bennett - April 28, 2017 at 04:38 PM



“ *Dan will be sorely missed by those who knew and loved him. He was a gentleman and always a 'straight-shooter' whom we admired and enjoyed. His life of dedication did not go unnoticed. Our prayers for comfort and strength are with Kathy and family. Sending love and hugs.*

Jerry and Susan Hatcher

Jerry and Susan Hatcher - April 28, 2017 at 03:53 PM



Dan Montgomery was a fine family man, administrator, and friend. He truly made a difference in the lives of all he touched and will be missed greatly. My deepest sympathy and love go out to his wonderful family in this difficult time.

Lori Guest - April 28, 2017 at 04:00 PM



So sorry for your loss. Dan hired me and many others at LVHS and leaves quite a legacy. I admired his "kids first" attitude and try to carry it with me to this day.

Wes Weaver - April 28, 2017 at 06:18 PM

DH

I struggle to find the words that match the emotion of losing such an inspirational person. Growing up, many would agree that I preferred to do things "my way". In some ways, I still do. Never did I have to question the stance of his opinion, how he valued me as an individual, yet understood I was still a kid. The many talks he and I had, how he would always have time for a hug and a quick bit of advice anytime I would pop into the Johnstown district office; or anytime I would be sent to his office for less impressive reasons. He was quick to give me advice on "acceptable" behaviors, but would be the first to wish me good luck on the field for my upcoming games. He was a constant when I was losing my grandpa. Someone who always offered a pat on the shoulder or a smile in the hallway every morning. The evocative life he lived, the standards that he was so adamant to share, and the love of others will forever be in my heart.

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Danica (McKee) Hewitt - April 28, 2017 at 06:36 PM

BO

“*Dan and Kathy were great friends and even though we lost touch through the years, we cherish the memories of our families together. Our sincere condolences to the family..So very sorry for you loss.*

Jim and Betty Oyster

betty oyster - April 28, 2017 at 03:27 PM

AS

“ Our family was blessed in multiple ways by knowing Dan. He was a terrific educator to all, including our daughter. He was a wonderful neighbor whom we appreciated backyard conversations with, and we were fortunate to enjoy humorous & relaxed chats with Dan away from the "teaching world". Dan ALWAYS put everyone else before himself and he forever showed his love, devotion and support for his family, his community and the Johnstown school district. Truly, Dan was an outstanding human being. No doubt he has earned his highest degree now with angel's wings. Go with God Dan. You left everyone here on earth inspired by your teachings.

Allan & Neda Shaub - April 28, 2017 at 03:13 PM