



## Dale Edwin Margheim

August 2, 1945 - July 17, 2024

The lights in the NRV educational community dimmed on July 17, with the death of Dale Edwin Margheim. Starting as an elementary school teacher in Giles County and continuing into administration as principal for several Giles and Montgomery County public schools, Dale touched the lives of thousands of students in his 44-year career. No matter where Dale went, he was always greeted by students, parents, and teachers who had a story to tell of how he touched their lives.

Dale was born in Laredo, Texas, grew up in Houston, and earned his undergraduate degree in English from the University of Houston. He married his high school sweetheart, Linda Hale, whose family was originally from Giles County. Dale and Linda moved to Giles County in 1969, and both began teaching at Pembroke Elementary School with Sam Robinson as their principal, mentor, and friend.

Dale was a natural teacher. He was creative, innovative, and daring in his approach to teaching and helped pioneer inclusion education for special education students. He was passionate about reading and literacy. He received his master's in education from Virginia Tech and held state certifications in English, learning disabilities, reading, and elementary education. In 2001, he completed a Doctorate degree in Education 2001.

Dale and Linda were married for 27 years and had one son, Chance Alan. After moving from Texas, they lived for many years in Narrows close to Linda's parents, Ralph and Frances Hale, and her sister, Connie Saladiner, and her family. Linda was sadly diagnosed with breast cancer in 1990, and the treatment needed was not covered by insurance. With the help of the Giles County community, Dale was able to raise the money needed. While the treatment extended her life several months, Linda died in 1992, leaving Dale and their 10-year-old son.

Five years later, Dale found Lynn Foster, and they bonded over their shared love of Jeeps and the outdoors. He won her heart by gifting her gaiters just before taking her to the Cascades on a snow-covered trail. When they married, Dale, Chance, Lynn, and her daughter Hannah established a home in Blacksburg.

Dale was an avid outdoorsman. He shared his love of the outdoors with his new family, spending time paddling the New River, camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting. He was an amazing stepfather to Hannah and supported both his children in pursuing their passions.

After Dale retired from public schools, he continued his mission of helping kids and families as an in-home therapist and counselor. His last role was at the NRV Juvenile Detention Home where he was lovingly known as "Doc." He fully retired in 2015 as Parkinson's Disease began to limit his abilities.

Dale was a voracious reader, loving history and mysteries. He enjoyed music, picking his guitar, and singing along with his warm tenor. While at times he was a quiet, reserved man, Dale also had a wicked sense of humor, a ready laugh, and a tendency to see the good in people. He will be greatly missed.

Dale is preceded in death by his parents, Dorothy and George Margheim, his first wife, Linda Margheim, and his niece Amber Saladiner. Left to mourn are his sisters Sylvia Bordovsky, and Sherry Brooks (Jeb), brother Paul Margheim (Phyllis), sister-in-law Connie Saladiner (Al), nephew Shawn Saladiner (Tina), their daughter Somer, son Chance Margheim and wife Lisa Hyatt, stepdaughter Hannah Lazarte, wife Lynn Margheim, and his beloved dog Jack.

The family will be receiving friends at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg, Virginia on Thursday, July 25, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. They ask that in lieu of flowers, please donate to the Montgomery County Educational Foundation (MCEF) at 750 Imperial St., Christiansburg, VA, 24073. Please write on the memo "In memory of Dale Margheim."

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **25**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home  
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
(540) 552-3211  
[mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net](mailto:mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net)  
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

Don  
Stewart

“ *Don Stewart lit a candle in memory of Dale Edwin Margheim*



Don Stewart - February 14, 2025 at 01:38 PM

EB

“ *Dale was a principal at Shawsville Elementary School and he mentored me for answering questions in interviews. I was subbing there and he gave me my first teaching job. I will forever be grateful to him. He loved helping students and staff. Elaine Belay*

Elaine Belay - August 03, 2024 at 03:26 PM

PR

“ *Lynn, Chance and Hannah, You have been in my thoughts and prayers. Dale was an exceptional leader in our school system. I know he will be missed by many. Phyllis Rettig*

Phyllis Rettig - August 03, 2024 at 12:48 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dale Edwin Margheim.*



July 24, 2024 at 08:04 PM

PW

“ I had the privilege of being his students at Pembroke Elementary School and also Linda Margheim. They left a lasting impression on me. Such professionals and cared about their students every day. I also knew his niece, Amber, God rest her soul. Sincere condolences to the family. May God Bless the surviving family members.

Pamela Higginbotham Williams - July 22, 2024 at 12:07 PM

ND

“ New River Valley Juvenile Detention planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dale Edwin Margheim.

New River Valley Juvenile Detention - July 22, 2024 at 11:08 AM

ND

“ New River Valley Juvenile Detention purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dale Edwin Margheim.



New River Valley Juvenile Detention - July 22, 2024 at 11:08 AM

TA

“ What a terrible loss for education and our community. Dale was a teacher for all that came in contact with him. You often didn't know how much you were learning until later. Tamra Oliver

Tamra - July 21, 2024 at 05:07 PM

JY

“ Doc! It was an honor working with you at the detention home. I will also miss your post-retirement visits with Carol Lee doughnuts! Rest easy my friend, we will take it from here!

Joe Young - July 21, 2024 at 03:24 PM

LL

“ Love, Your Friend, Angie Mitchell LCSW planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dale Edwin Margheim.

Love, Your Friend, Angie Mitchell LCSW - July 21, 2024 at 02:31 PM

LL

“ Love, Your Friend, Angie Mitchell LCSW purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dale Edwin Margheim.



Love, Your Friend, Angie Mitchell LCSW - July 21, 2024 at 02:31 PM

RB

“ Dale was a powerful mentor during my years at Shawsville Elementary School. His examples of encouragement, teaching, and leadership strongly enabled my professional career. I will always remember Dale with love and respect.

Rhonda Baker - July 21, 2024 at 10:21 AM

JS

“Most days at Beer 30, Dale and I would meet in his “shop” to solve the world’s problems and update each other on our aches and pains. He was a great friend and neighbor for 15 years. He fought Parkinsons bravely and continued to maintain his good attitude as he continued to test the limits of his increasing constraints. We moved away a year ago and he and Lynn are often the principal actors in many of our good memories. Adios amigo!”

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**Jim Schlaudecker** - July 20, 2024 at 06:09 PM

TL

“ Forever “ZERO THE HERO” ❤️

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**Tiffany Lovern** - July 20, 2024 at 09:04 AM

PP

“ I loved that Dale and Mark were able to share their Parkinson’s Experience together. They enjoyed Tech tailgates, birthday parties, and dinners together at the homes of some great friends.

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**Pam Pace** - July 19, 2024 at 06:34 PM

BD

“ I will never forget the special times I had at Shawsville Elementary with Dr. Margheim. He was the best!

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**Bonnie and Dulaney** - July 19, 2024 at 06:06 PM