



Joseph Reese Voshell Jr.

January 8, 1948 - May 18, 2021

Dr. Joseph Reese Voshell Jr. passed away peacefully at his home in Floyd, VA surrounded by his family on May 18, 2021 at age 73 after a long illness.

Reese is survived by his wife Trisha Jimenez Voshell and daughter Stephanie Marie Voshell. He is preceded in death by his parents Carolyn Daniels Voshell and Joseph Reese Voshell Sr. of Norfolk, VA.

Reese was born on January 8, 1948 in Elizabeth City, NC. Reese was a professor in the Department of Entomology at Virginia Tech until he retired in 2014. He was awarded emeritus status shortly after retirement. Reese enjoyed vacationing in Florida and working on various construction projects at his home during his retirement.

We would like to thank Good Samaritan Hospice for their care and support. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ I was a graduate student in Entomology from 1974 to 1978. Dr. Voshell helped me change my career into medicine, pharmacology and nursing. This allowed me to directly help mankind. The rewards were many....I will be always thankful to him. My condolences to his family....

Dr. Ron Baer Ph.D, MS, MSN, CNSD, BSN - September 05, 2022 at 12:03 PM

DE

“ This was a happy place for Reese. We will miss having him.

*Maureen and Dick
Beachcomber In Venice*



Dick Eberhart - May 23, 2021 at 11:15 AM

SE

“ *My name is Shane Evans. I was a graduate student from 1991-1997 and Dr. Voshell was my major professor. I was incredibly lucky to have him as a mentor. Dr. Voshell taught me so much and was such an outstanding example of a teacher, researcher, and scholar. I am so grateful he recognized my passion for teaching, encouraged it, and gave me such a worthwhile and rewarding future. Dr. Voshell was such a generous, kind and patient mentor. He was a major touchstone in my life. I am forever grateful. He was the best.*

My sincerest condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and VT entomology. May his memory be a blessing.

Shane Evans - May 22, 2021 at 10:03 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



. - May 22, 2021 at 07:34 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



. - May 22, 2021 at 07:32 AM

BK

I thank you for all you did for me. It was a distinct honor to be your graduate student and be a recipient of all your support and friendship.

Boris

Boris C. Kondratieff - May 28, 2021 at 04:57 PM

MI

“ *I took an entomology class years ago to renew my teaching certificate. I took it with two other teachers. All of our names began with an "M". So we were the three "M"s. That was the most fun and informative class I ever had during my teaching years. What a fantastic man. I am greatly saddened to know of his demise. Blessings to his family.*

Martha Irvine - May 21, 2021 at 06:32 PM

DB

“ *Trish, I am so sorry to hear of your husband's passing. Your family is in my thoughts.*

Dianne Bourne

Dianne Bourne - May 21, 2021 at 10:28 AM

SV

“ *1 file added to the album Steph's pictures of dad*



Stephanie Voshell - May 20, 2021 at 10:53 AM

ST

“ Reese was a dear friend, and his passing has left me saddened and completely numb. I wish his wife, Trish, and his daughter, Stephanie, all comforts imaginable during this heartbreaking period.

I was privileged to work with Reese for over 30 years at Virginia Tech. He was my supervisor, but much more; he was my pal, the big brother I never had, and often a father figure. Over those 30 plus years, Reese and I never had a cross word between us, an incomprehensible accomplishment. It was a triumph we joked about and discussed often. The last time I chatted with Reese over the phone he reminded me those were the “Golden Years”.

Reese was responsible for the most dramatic change in my life’s path. Struggling, with little or no direction, as an undergraduate at VT, Reese as a professor and mentor, offered me a route that I would follow at the University. He allowed me to grow, mature, and pursue a career that was truly rewarding.

I will genuinely miss my pal.

Stephen Hiner

Stephen - May 19, 2021 at 06:35 PM

LW

Trish, so sorry to hear of your husbands passing. I worked with your Dad Julio Jimenez in Printing feel as though I watched you grow up. Once again sorry for your loss.

Lois Walters - May 20, 2021 at 09:12 AM

GJ

Condolences to Trish and Stephanie with the loss of a wonderful husband and a most caring father. All who knew Reese will be saddened to learn about his passing. He was a most gracious and highly skilled academic advisor as well as a highly renowned professor at Virginia Tech.

Reese was one of the first graduate students in my lab at Virginia Tech in the early 1970's. We spent many hours traveling together between campus and Lake Anna for his research project. While at Lake Anna, we spent numerous hours scuba diving to collect benthic samples (often in frigid conditions yet these experiences were fun for us). Throughout his graduate school years, Reese excelled profoundly with academics and his research.

After retirement, we spent hours biking on the New River and Roanoke River Greenways. We have been close friends for a long time and my blessing is his lifelong friendship.

Rest in peace, my close friend and "buddy!"

George Simmons

George M. Simmons Jr. - May 20, 2021 at 01:47 PM

SS

As a young faculty member at Virginia Tech, I observed Reese closely for many years. I paid attention because i had a lot of respect for how he handled the many academic responsibilities faculty are confronted with. He was an extremely popular teacher and an excellent mentor to his graduate students. His dedication to his profession and the Entomology department was clear. Reese seemed to me a serious and shy person, but with a razor sharp sense of humor. Reese seemed to warm up to me after awhile and we got a long very well over the years.

I was so surprised to hear of his passing, not knowing he was ill, and am saddened by the loss.

Scott Salom - May 20, 2021 at 03:10 PM



My condolences to Trish and Stephanie. This was pretty shocking news. I had the good fortune of being a student in one of Reese's classes when I was graduate student, and certainly learned how it was done from a master. Reese was a very organized and well prepared professor who delivered his material with great skill. This not only made taking his class a pleasure but also provided mentorship on how to conduct labs and deliver lectures, which would help me as well. Later I would become a fellow faculty member with Reese in the Entomology Department at Virginia Tech and certainly looked up to him and always respected him for his wisdom and no-nonsense cut-to-the-chase style. As a senior faculty member he was very kind to me when I started giving me lab space and an old van to help my program. I really liked Reese and am saddened by the loss.

Tom Kuhar

Thomas Kuhar - May 20, 2021 at 03:44 PM

KT

My condolences to Dr. Voshell's family. I had the pleasure to work with Dr. Voshell for over 10 years in Entomology. He was a wonderful person and I feel very fortunate to have know him.

Karen Turner - May 23, 2021 at 06:39 PM

JV

*My condolences to all that knew Dr. Voshell. He was on my Ph.D. committee (1983-1985). He read my dissertation and during the defense, complimented me on a small side-study that I had done to confirm some larger issue. It was just a little thing, but to this day, I have never forgotten it. Now whenever one of my own graduate students comes up with a good idea or does a good job, I give them an "atta-boy" or "att-girl", just like Dr. Voshell gave me so many years ago.
Jeff Vaughan, University of North Dakota*

Jeff Vaughan - July 16, 2021 at 04:39 PM