



James Reed Delaney

March 11, 1940 - December 9, 2020

James Reed DeLaney, 80, of Easton, MD, passed away surrounded by loved ones on December 9th, 2020, after a difficult battle with Alzheimer's disease.

James was born on March 11, 1940, to Sidney and Anna DeLaney in Rutherford, NJ. He attended Rutherford High School where he met, Joyce, his lifelong partner of 58 years. Together they lived a wonderful life and raised a family of four in Hawthorne, NJ, before retiring to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 2005.

After graduating in 1958, James went on to study biology at Bucknell University. In 1962, he started his career in education as a biology teacher at Teaneck High School. His passion for teaching and natural leadership propelled him into the role of principal in 1977. He would spend the rest of his career in education and took incredible pride in his time spent at Teaneck.

James lived a life that truly made a difference. He was a celebrated leader, influencing and educating decades of students. He lived with a desire to create an environment where students and staff could thrive. He developed a culture at Teaneck that celebrated diversity, inclusion, excellence, and enthusiasm for helping others. He led and inspired a team of accomplished educators to create a truly high performing institution. His work and influence on the students and staff he served was a defining aspect to his character and

life accomplishments. In addition to his career, James sought to make a difference in his community as well. He was active in his local church and committed to volunteer work. James cherished his time at Estling Lake in Denville, NJ, where his family spent their summers, and he happily gave his time to contribute and support the community.

While he demonstrated so much pride in his work and community, nothing mattered more to James than the love, time, and memories shared with family. He was a caring and devoted spouse, father, grandfather, and brother. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; his children, Nancy, Jimmy, Becky, and Todd, .and his grandchildren, He is also survived by his dear brother Dick, his wife Toby,, and their wonderful family.

The family will be celebrating the life of James in a small private ceremony. To honor his memory, the family has established a scholarship fund that will provide financial support to a high school senior from Teaneck High School to pursue higher education. Please make donations out to:

Community Scholarship Fund of Teaneck

680 Albin Street

Teaneck, NJ 07666

Re: James R. DeLaney Scholarship Fund

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Mrs. S. J. McClelland lit a candle in memory of James Reed Delaney*



Mrs. S. J. McClelland - November 21, 2024 at 09:21 PM

MM

Please allow me to reminisce. I was thinking of just how Mr. Delaney was an integral part of my children's educational experience at Teaneck.

I am the mother of two THS graduates. Our son went off to Harvard and our daughter went to Stanford from Teaneck High School when Mr. Delaney was the moving force and inspiration for all of his students. My children are both physicians now and our son, Woody, took THS to the State High School Chess Championships in the 1990s.

All the students thought Mr. Delaney was part Eskimo because there were NEVER any `snow days` for THS students. He was interested only in educating his students and their intellectual and mutual fellowship as THS students, as a community.

Since Mr. Delaney's departure from THS, as principal, there has never been anyone of his stature, commitment and dedication to the students of Teaneck High School.

May he rest in peace.

Mrs. S. J. McClelland

Mrs. S. J. McClelland - November 21, 2024 at 09:24 PM



“ *James Reed Delaney*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *James Reed Delaney*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *James Reed Delaney*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *He was my Principal at Teaneck High School. I can't remember ever speaking with him and had little to do with him, but always thought he was a good guy nonetheless. A bit surprised he was only in his 40's then. Thought he was older. I hope he had a good retirement and did not suffer at the end. Rest in peace!*

Michael Fisher - July 16, 2021 at 11:18 AM

MC

“ I met Jim when his team came to Thomas Jefferson Jr. High School to observe my Algebra class as part of an evaluation process to determine my suitability to be tenured in the Teaneck School system. Subsequently, 1984, I was assigned to Teaneck High School and Jim became my Principal.

My son, Doug about to enter ninth grade, did not relish my transferal along with him to the High School.

I treasure the 12 years that I spent as a Mathematics teacher at THS under Jim's leadership. The educational and professional standards established and inspired by Jim challenged me and his outstanding staff to bring our A game every day. Students enjoyed a collegial atmosphere that demanded excellence and perpetuated the love of learning.

Early in my time at THS, I was assigned to lunch room duty. The day before Xmas holiday, I was shocked by a food fight which caused utter chaos when all the students rushed into the hallway. Luckily the bell rang for students to go to the next class. When I returned to the Math office, utterly frazzled, there sat Jim enjoying our holiday lunch. Later his only comment was " No student apologized?"

Under Jim's stewardship, a variety of innovative programs were created designed to meet enriching needs of HS students. Sections of the library were established to study the Holocaust, African American History, Latina and Pacific Island cultures. A full day was devoted to the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. Many other "Out of the classroom" activities recognized the diverse population with it's twenty odd different languages being spoken in Teaneck homes. Students were involved in nationally recognized programs such as Peer Leadership.

Personally, Jim DeLaney was Principal during both my sons HS

careers. To them he was an exemplary leader, educator, role model and caring person.

My late husband, Dr. Cecil Glanville, was president of Teaneck's Youth Guidance Council. It's mission was to interact with youths involved in minor offences, provide counselling to the family, thus avoiding the criminal justice system. As Principal, Jim enthusiastically coordinated with the Council to establish policies to help the youth of Teaneck. Our family enjoyed hosting Holiday parties for those hard working volunteers. A small reward and such fun.

After I retired, I was flattered by Jim's request to join him in a program to provide educational support to some Charter Schools in the Newark Community. It was an enriching and productive experience. Thanks Jim.

Jim, REST IN PEACE.

Mattie Glanville Clarke

Mattie Clarke - December 26, 2020 at 02:46 PM



Mattie,

My family and I greatly appreciate this message and your kind words. Dad made a difference for sure and impacted so many. I'm so grateful you shared your experiences with him. I remember as a kid hearing about your son and the connection, through dad, to MLB player was always something I bragged about at school. I used to have his card kept out and displayed growing up. Part of the Teaneck family!

I wish you all well...the past few weeks have been tough but dad is at peace and we continue to be grateful for these sentiments that affirm how lucky we were to have him in our lives.

*Be well,
Todd DeLaney*

Todd DeLaney - December 29, 2020 at 09:28 PM



“ *Thank you for being such a rock to all of us at THS. God bless you and your family.*

- Jennifer Papantonio (nee White), THS '83.

Jennifer Papantonio - December 16, 2020 at 09:07 AM



“ *Mr. Delaney was my favorite teacher at Teaneck High School. The students knew that he loved to teach and truly cared about his students.*

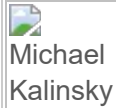
Kathleen C. - December 16, 2020 at 03:23 AM



“ *Jim was an advocate for the entire community of staff, students and parents. He was fair, impartial, a wonderful human being. He will be missed. May his memory be a blessing.*

Jamie Elkin

jamie Elkin - December 13, 2020 at 09:50 PM



Michael Kalinsky

“ *Mr. Delaney was the Principal at THS for my class of 88. I was not a bad kid, not on any teams but somehow he always remembered my name and looked out for me throughout my 4 years at THS. My sincere condolences to his family. Sgt. Mike Kalinsky, Cecil County Sheriff's Office, Elkton, MD.*

Michael Kalinsky - December 13, 2020 at 06:44 PM

JS

“ *When I was at Teaneck High School, I had a problem with a teacher who ordering us (for 30 minutes mind you) that if the teachers went on strike we should stay home. I told the teacher that I didn't think it was appropriate for him to tell us what to do with our lives and I thought he should focus on Physics instead. I had never spoken back to a teacher like this in my life. The teacher kicked me out of class and sent me to my Vice-Principals' office. I instead went straight into Mr. Delaney's office and told him the story. He told me not to worry about it and sent me home for the day. On the next day, I showed up to class extremely nervous. In the back of the class stood Mr. Delaney. The bell rang as I took my seat sweating profusely. The teacher entered the room, put his briefcase down, and proceeded to apologize to me. I turned around to the back of the room just as the door was shutting and Mr. Delaney was gone. That's just one of many stories my family has about Mr. Delaney. He was a good and decent man and a wonderful Principal.*

Jennifer Skinner - December 13, 2020 at 04:40 PM

MM

“ *Marilyn And John Morris, lit a candle in memory of James Reed Delaney*



Marilyn and John Morris, - December 13, 2020 at 08:57 AM

PO

“ Our sincere condolences to the Delaney family.
May Jim’s memory be a blessing ; may he rest in peace.
Paul Ostrow THS ‘69
Ricki Glassen Ostrow THS ‘70



Paul & Ricki Ostrow - December 13, 2020 at 08:49 AM

HE

“ Mr. Delaney was my teacher early in his career at THS. I enjoyed his classes and learned a lot. He was approachable and he related well to students. He liked to talk with us about our futures something that was not always done. My condolences to his family. Hilary Eth, THS 1969.

Hilary Eth - December 12, 2020 at 06:48 PM

IB

“ So sorry to learn of Jim's death. I so enjoyed working with him as my principal.
Irma Praise Ball

Irma Ball - December 12, 2020 at 05:05 PM

J'

“ Only undefeated football coach in THS history: 1-0-0

"If you come to me with a problem I will solve it my way. It's in your best interest if you solve it yourself." - The Head Learner

John Hanna (THS Mathematics '70-'05) - December 12, 2020 at 04:09 PM

GM

“ So sorry to learn this sad news. He was already a legend when I began teaching at THS in 2001. Sending condolences.

Gina Melnyk - December 12, 2020 at 04:07 PM

JD

“ Ours was a long association, with some interesting moments in the early days (I saved a note that he once sent on a sheet from a pad that had PRINTED on it, "Forgive me. God isn't finished with me yet")and so many happy memories. It wasn't always easy working in the Teaneck Public Schools, and there was many a meeting when we both rolled our eyes or kicked each other gently under the table. Condolences to the family on the loss of someone who was a positive force at Teaneck High School for so many years, and a positive influence on me.

Judy Distler

Judy Distler - December 12, 2020 at 12:55 PM

MC

“ I am very saddened by this news. He cared about his students and his staff. Please accept my deepest condolences.

marie carmela - December 12, 2020 at 11:58 AM

JT

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Jim hired Kevin, Rich, Toni, Ros and I when he started the A2 program at THS. He backed us in everything we did. Jim was always a teacher advocate. He made a lasting impact on the Teaneck community.

Janis Burt Tytell - December 12, 2020 at 11:29 AM

DB

“ I am deeply sorry for your loss. Jim was a role model for all who worked at THS. To me, he was a leader and a friend. When I came to the High School from TJ in 1984, Jim and Jay Wolff took a chance on moving me from Biology teacher to Guidance Counselor. The next year, when I might be transferred back to Biology, Jim would not have it. He made sure I remained in Guidance. His faith and confidence in my performance was my stepping stone to being a counselor for 25 years. He continually showed his leadership and caring nature throughout the years. I can remember Jim DeLaney and Paul Nonas as Biology teachers, best of friends. I can picture them together again. Thank you Jim for your guidance, your leadership, and your friendship. Rest In Peace, “Boss.”

Dan De Bari

Daniel De Bari - December 12, 2020 at 09:35 AM

ND

“ I will never forget you Mr Delaney. You were my Teacher I graduated in 1966. Then when my children went to High School and you were their Principal. I had the pleasure after years after graduation to see in on occasion not as a teacher but a Principal You always had compassion in every thing you did in Teaneck High thank you for that. RIP Mr. Delaney you will teaching again in Heaven

Nancy DiSimone Deininger - December 11, 2020 at 06:56 PM

NG

“ Jimmy was one of my best friends when we were in Washington School. My fondest memory was when I was home bound with an illness and he and Jack Manning brought me homework daily and also a comic books to cheer me up. He was a good friend and we had many fun times together as young elementary children. I am saddened to hear of his passing and my thoughts go out to Joyce and the family

Norma Trottere Grimaldi

Norma Trottere Grimaldi - December 11, 2020 at 02:44 PM

PT

So sorry to hear. He was my biology teacher in my Sophomore year at THS. I was from the class of '68. I remember him well.

Paul Thoma - December 14, 2020 at 07:46 PM

SB

So sorry to learn about Jim's passing. Jim was an incredible principal who supported teachers and understood issues from a teacher's perspective. He demonstrated leadership at Teaneck High doing what he believed would be best for the students during some very troubling times. He was also my husband Carl's (class of '68) biology teacher. He was a boss and a friend.

Sheri Borrin Social Studies '73-'06..

Sheri Borrin - December 17, 2020 at 08:51 PM