



E. Clark Mester Jr.

May 21, 1947 - March 6, 2021

E. Clark Mester, Jr. loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, brother in law, and uncle passed away peacefully at home on March 6, 2021 surrounded by family. He is survived by his wife of 51 years Kathleen Mester, son Christian Mester (Tina), daughters Stephanie Mester and Erin Phillips (Richard), three grandchildren Laney, Colin, and Tess, three sisters Susan, Beth (Mike), and Patty (Ken), and one brother in law Tim Ambrose (Tricia). Clark, a sculptor, spent over 48 years as a professor of art at Bowie State University. An athlete at Villanova, he continued his passion for football by coaching at DeMatha Catholic High School and Bowie State University. He loved being with family and rocking out to AC/DC and Pitbull. He was one of a kind and will be deeply missed.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to DeMatha Catholic High School's Crew program, Football team, or the Moylan Scholarship Fund in E. Clark Mester's name. Virtual funeral to be held on March 13, 2021 at 10:00 am. Registration link and donation information below.

FUNERAL MASS REGISTRATION:

Register in advance: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkd-uurD8qEtF1n4GJ-7M5-vKfpUbfEMtm> *After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

DONATIONS:

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in Clark's name to DeMatha Catholic High School's Crew program, Football program and Moylan Scholarship Fund. To give, go to dematha.org and click on "Online Giving". When you get to "Donor Designation" scroll down to "In Memory of Clark Mester" and click. You can also send a check to the school and put "in memory of Clark Mester" in the reference section. All contributions go to the John Moylan Scholarship Fund at DeMatha. If you want to earmark for Crew or Football, place that in the "Comments" section.

Giving link:

<https://www.dematha.org/alumni/supporting-dematha/httpdemathafinalsitecomalumniaalumnisupporting-dematha>

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Charles L. Stevens Funeral Home, Inc. - March 11 at 02:24 PM



“ Kathy, I was so sorry to read of Clark's death. Please know that you and your family are in my prayers. Karen Gibbs Kearns (NDA '65)

Karen Gibbs Kearns - March 19 at 08:59 PM



“ Clark was a star football player but he like hanging out with us non-athletic types. He was a real person. He had a great sense of humor. We had some good times together. I really admired him during my Villanova years. So sorry to hear of his passing yesterday. My best to his family. Steve Grado

Steve Grado - August 24 at 12:28 PM



“ Mr. Mester, a man I truly thought a lot of and have a great respect and appreciation for. I Learned a great deal from his teachings...not just about fine arts & sculpting but about life in general.. . How to think critically as well as outside of the box. We had several great talks that stuck with me well after college, and I feel enriched to have known him. My sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues. -Eric Pinder (BSU Fine Arts graduate, 2000.)



Eric Pinder - March 30 at 01:20 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Philip Whatley - March 13 at 01:51 PM



“ My condolences to the the family of Clark Mester. He was a great coach, teacher and friend. Thanks Clark for all your support. May he rest in PEACE. GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

Donald Ball, Dematha class of 1972,and Bowie State College 1977



Donald Ball - March 13 at 01:25 PM



“ 15 files added to the album Memories Album



Rebecca Bailey - March 13 at 10:53 AM



“ To laugh often and much; To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Jim Bader - March 13 at 01:20 AM



“ You don't meet many people with the quality of character that Clark had. I think that rubbed onto his children and is why his son Christian quickly became a bestie when we met my freshman year in college nearly thirty years ago. From then, we became family, and Clark and the Mesters became my family too. From Thanksgiving to other visits to Maryland/DC I spent a lot of time with the Mesters, even sleeping in the angel room, and I'm so grateful for the warmth and love with which they all embraced me. If I had to choose just one adjective for Clark, warm is the one that sticks with me the most. I admired Clark so much for his gentleness but also his complexity. Football coach and artist, father and chef, gentle human, but also with a strong political edge. I knew we were on the same page at Thanksgiving should politics come up. We could argue, or fume quietly together . He would cook me a special main meal of salmon when I didn't eat turkey. He was such a good cook and I'd ask him for recipes and culinary advice. The salmon story always comes up in my memory because he always went through extra effort to welcome me, to accommodate me, to make me feel special and loved. This is something I value so much about the whole Mester family and especially Clark! All I know of him is love and warmth and kindness. He gifted me with one of his beautiful masks and would show me all his art sculptures with pride. I've attached photos from our last physical visit together nearly five years ago... My pregnancy (here in Cape Town, South Africa) followed with early motherhood and then the Covid pandemic sadly blocked another visit, but I'm so grateful for technology and that Kathy arranged videochats (photos attached too) for us during Clark's last months, despite the global time challenges, and that my daughter Juliette, Christian's goddaughter, could meet this wonderful man and him, her. Christian and I have been friends through my own father's passing, and Jock and Nunu, and Nana and Pops, his father-in-law Jim, and I can't leave out Madchen (doggie), and now Clark. There is sadness in all their losses, but this one hurts the most (besides of course for me my own dad's passing). I was grateful to have the opportunity to knowingly be saying farewell to Clark in the calls we had and the messages we shared, to express my love and appreciation for him. I send my deep love and heartfelt condolences to all the Mester family and my thoughts are with all who love and miss him, especially Kathy, Christian, Steph, Erin, Tina, Laney, Colin and Tess with whom I've shared most of my memories of Clark, but also to those not mentioned here. Rest In Peace Clark and wishing strength and comfort to all who mourn your loss. We can all be comforted by the knowledge that in you we got to be close to humanity and goodness



Czerina Patel - March 12 at 08:12 AM

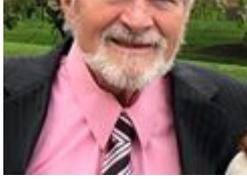


“ RIP Clark ! Prayers and Condolences for the Family !

Steve Kemp - March 13 at 09:51 AM



“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



Charles L. Stevens Funeral Home, Inc. - March 11 at 01:59 PM



“ When i came to Bowie State as a nursing major i knew that it wasn't for me. My life changed the day i walked into your classroom. You were always pushing us to be the best we could, not just in your class but outside of school as well.

You always had a way of making us laugh and given us the advice that we need. You were one of the bright lights at Bowie state. Thank you for being who you were, thank you do our many talks, and the many memories we created



nita thompson - March 11 at 01:46 PM



“ Professor Mester, thank you for everything you've taught me during my college tenure. You were tough on me, but that was because you saw my potential. I will always cherish you as a great instructor and friend. You will be dearly missed. My condolences to your colleagues, friends, and family.



Joel Thomas - March 11 at 12:47 PM



“ Clark and my brother Hugh were friends since Villanova. I remember Clark visiting our family home many times. He was always so polite and respectful. I remember his smile.

May he rest in peace.

Madeleine Ortman

Madeleine Ortman - March 11 at 10:03 AM



“ 102 files added to the album LifeTributes



Charles L. Stevens Funeral Home, Inc. - March 10 at 09:49 PM



“ Over the years I would encounter Clark on visit to DeMatha during football season. He was always nice to me. The trait that impressed me the most about him. I NEVER heard anyone say anything bad about him. He seemed to draw respect from everyone wherever he went. There aren't many people I can say that about. He always seemed to have a subtle little smile.

RIP Clark, you are in my prayers and in my thoughts.

David Kane - March 10 at 09:24 PM



“ Flash back to September 1965, freshman year at Villanova. I walk into my dorm room at Coor Hall and sitting at his desk, drawing Conan the Barbarian sketches, was my roommate for the next three years, Clark Mester. What a mismatch!! A wild child from Pittsburgh and straight shooter from Silver Spring Maryland, both plopped down in Philly. After stowing his sketches I thought we should stroll down to Rosemont to check out those incoming freshman but Clark pulled out some note paper and wrote a letter to his high school sweetheart, Kathy. He'd do that everyday our freshman year. I was lucky if I wrote my parents once a semester and didn't ask for money! Flash ahead one year, first varsity football game against VMI. Clark didn't start the game but ran into the huddle midway thru the first quarter. He was hyped out of his mind. His face was beet red and scrunched up inside a helmet that looked five times too small. He looked like he was ready to explode. Quarterback Jerry Bellotti took a look at him, turned to me and said, "He's your roommate, do something!!" We broke the huddle, Clark sprinted to the line of scrimmage and before the rest of us got to our positions, Clark got in his stance and on the first sound he heard he fired off the line and flattened a VMI defender. Flags flew everywhere, tempers flared and you could hear the refs say, "whats wrong with that guy?" Not a thing. Clark started every game the rest of his career and didn't commit another penalty. Good Dematha upbringing!! I could tell another hundred stories like that about Clark, but he wouldn't want me too. He never wanted the spotlight to shine on him. Clark loved his family, his schools and his friends but he didn't love anyone as much as Kathy. High school romances normally burn out quickly, but theirs lasted over 51 years. Their lives should be a template for us all. We'll keep them close to our hearts.

Frank Boal - March 09 at 11:52 PM



“ I met Clark our Freshman year at Villanova. He drew the shortstraw when it came to a roommate the next three years. He got me!!

Clark was such a good guy, he wrote to Cathy EVERY DAY our freshman year while I was wrecking havoc up and down the Mainline. He'd just shake his head and smile. I remember our first VU varsity football game our sophomore year against VMI. Clark didn't start but came in about halfway thru the first quarter. He was so hyped up, his face was beet red and scrunched up inside his helmet and he looked like he was ready to explode. Our Quarterback Jerry Belotti turned to me and said, "He's your roommate, settle him down!!" That wasn't going to happen. Belotti call the play, we broke the huddle, Clark sprinted to the line of scrimmage and as soon as Belotti started calling the signals Clark fired off the line and crushed the guy across from him. Flags flew, tempers flared. The VMI player said, "Whats wrong with that guy?" Both teams laughed. Clark started every game the rest of his career and never committed another penalty.

He gave all the credit to his high school coaches at Dematha HS. God he loved that place.

I could tell you a hundred stories like that about Clark but he just tapped me on the shoulder and shook his head. He never wanted the spotlight pointed at him. That's what set him apart.

He loved his family, his schools and his friends but he didn't love anyone as much as Cathy. How many people marry their high school sweetheart and 51 years later are still deeply in love with that same person? I've always envied that love, devotion and dedication. What a wonderful couple. They are a template for life.

I'm so thankful we reconnected during our 50th VU Reunion in 2019.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Cathy and the rest of the Mester clan.

God bless. I'm a better man for having known him.

Frank Boal - March 09 at 10:52 PM



“ Several years ago I met Clark & his wife Kathleen at a Charity event Christian had invited my wife and I as his guests. As the evening wore on Clark & I had several funny & lively conversations. When it came time to leave I complimented Clark on his tie which he immediately took off & gave to me. None of us could stop laughing...Thank you Clark, I still have that tie :)

Denny & Elaine Rudolph - March 09 at 12:52 PM



“ I had the great privilege to know Clark. He was a very special person. A true DeMatha Catholic High School alum. I extend my condolences and sympathy to Kathy, Christian and all who knew him. They are in my thoughts and prayers. May he Rest In Peace with our Lord. We have lost a great man.

Charles J. Kenny Jr. J. Kenny - March 09 at 10:17 AM