



## Richard "Dick" Lynn Daake

July 17, 1946 - May 3, 2016

### CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF RICHARD L. DAAKE

Richard (Dick) Daake, age 69, of Bartlesville, OK, passed away Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at Jane Phillips Medical Center. He was born July 17, 1946 In Charles City, Iowa, to Reuben and Bernice (Holthaus) Daake. He was later joined by two brothers, Bob and Don. His parents, who were from hardworking German stock, farmed the land and raised large fruit and vegetable gardens, flower gardens and an apple orchard. They were faithful members of the Charles City Wesleyan Church and Dick, as a young boy, accepted Jesus as his Savior and Lord.

Dick developed a strong interest in science in 6th grade which continued through high school, and his goal was to someday develop a cure for cancer. While in high school Dick felt the call of the Lord on his life to become a teacher in a Christian college. After finishing a 2-year liberal arts program at Miltonvale Wesleyan College in Kansas in 1967, he completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry at Houghton College, Houghton, N.Y. in 1969. Following graduation he was drafted into the army and served for two years as a chaplain's assistant at Ft. Ben Harrison in Indianapolis, IN. On June 27, 1970 Dick married Kathy Barnett, his college classmate and sweetheart. He began a 5-year doctoral program in inorganic chemistry at Iowa State University and earned his PhD in 1976.

Following graduation the couple moved to Oklahoma where Dick had

accepted the position to teach chemistry and physical science at Bartlesville Wesleyan College, which was later renamed Oklahoma Wesleyan University. Dick taught inorganic, analytical, and physical chemistry and he oversaw the creation and development of cross-disciplinary science curricula. His favorite class was "The History and Philosophy of Scientific Inquiry," a course he developed as a result of being an avid reader of science, history and philosophy, and a writer of science. Dick turned down several opportunities to move into administration because his first love was teaching. On several occasions his wife's former kindergarten or 1st grade pupils from Wesleyan Christian School, ended up as his college students. Dick applauded the efforts and successes of his students and he was always interested in their future pursuits. Maybe one of his students will someday find a cure for cancer. Dick served as Chairman of the Division of Science and Math for 33 years and was the Faculty Chairman for 11 years. He directed the college's first three comprehensive self-study efforts for North Central Accreditation and he wrote a series of successful grant proposals for the science department. He was instrumental in acquiring needed equipment for the labs and spent his summers repairing and refurbishing the donated equipment, using mechanical skills stemming from his years working alongside his dad on their Iowa farm. Dick has eight publications in chemical journals. He received the Sears Teaching Excellence and Leadership Award from BWC in 1990, the college's ABCD (Above and Beyond the Call of Duty) Award in 1997, and the OWU Alumni Association Faculty Member of the Year Award in 2002. He was a member of several professional science organizations, including the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society in which he served as an officer, in the local chapter, for four years. Dick retired in May, 2012 after teaching at OWU for 36 years.

Dick loved his wife, his children, his grandchildren and above all, his Lord. Some of his children's favorite memories with their dad were practicing science in his lab on the weekends and exploring the countryside for rocks and fossils. Dick enjoyed the thrill of discovery whether it be through scientific

research or studying family history and genealogical records. He encouraged others to write down their stories to pass to the next generation just as he had done. Crystal-growing, glass blowing, vegetable gardening and carpentry were other interests.

Dick lived life with integrity and purpose and he was known for his dependability, thoroughness, and strong work ethic. He believed God to be the ultimate source of all truth, and the Bible and nature to be revealed truth, unveiling the wisdom and purposes of the Creator. A poster with the following quote hung in his office: "All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen."

The following "Prayer to a Bride and Groom" written by Dr. Louis H. Evans, was prayed over Dick and Kathy on their wedding day: "May they never take each other's love for granted but always experience that breathless wonder that exclaims, 'Out of all this world you have chosen me.' When life is done and the sun is setting, may they be found then, as now, hand in hand, still thanking God for each other. May they serve Thee happily and faithfully together until, at last, one shall lay the other into the arms of God."

The family thanks Dr. Manus and his staff, at the local cancer center, for their loving care and medical treatments, Jane Phillips Home Health Care for their invaluable help, and Hopestone, the local cancer support center. Thanks goes to sister-in-law, Barbara who used her medical background to counsel and support Dick during his illness. The family has been blessed by the many prayers, cards, phone calls, emails, visits, gifts, and meals from family and friends.

Dick is survived by his wife, Kathy, of the home, and their four children and four grandchildren. The children are Philip of Oklahoma City and his fiancé, Cathryn, and daughter, Haley; Daniel of Bartlesville; Rebecca Thomas and her husband, T.J., and their three children, Gavin, Maddux and Eden, of Bartlesville; and Rachel Aguilar and her husband, Joseph, of Colorado. He is also survived by his brother, Bob, and wife, Brenda, his brother, Don, and

wife, Barbara and 7 nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Arrangements are under the direction of Davis Family Funeral Home. A private graveside service will be held at White Rose Cemetery and a memorial service for family and friends will be held on Saturday, May 7th at 2:00 P.M. at First Wesleyan Church, Bartlesville, OK. Online condolences may be left at [www.davisfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.davisfamilyfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorials in Richard Daake's name be made to Oklahoma Wesleyan University at 2201 Silver Lake Rd., Bartlesville, OK 74006, attention of the Business Office.

# Cemetery Details

## White Rose

804 west 11th st  
Bartlesville, OK 74003  
<http://www.cityofbartlesville.org>

# Previous Events

## Celebration Of Life Service

MAY 7. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Wesleyan Church  
1776 Silver Lake Road  
Bartlesville, OK 74006  
<http://www.fwcbartlesville.org>

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ Daniel P Daake lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Lynn Daake



Daniel P Daake - February 15, 2019 at 01:11 PM

DD

“ Daniel P Daake sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard "Dick" Lynn Daake



Daniel P Daake - February 15, 2019 at 01:10 PM

TY

“ Kathy and Family, So sorry to hear of Richard's passing. May God comfort all of you and give you his peace at this time and in the coming days. You are all in my prayers.  
Sincerely, Traci Yorman

Traci Yorman - May 09, 2016 at 09:56 AM

RH

“ I was a high school classmate of Richard's. We sat next to each other in science lab and he helped us all dissect our frogs. In June of 2016 our class will hold it's 51st class reunion. At this time as a class we will pay tribute to him. May his family and all who enjoyed him be "Blessed" in Richard's memory.  
Robert Havner, CCHS Class of 1965

Robert L. Havner - May 08, 2016 at 10:13 PM

RK

“ I was a classmate of Richard's and we also shared many memories riding the school bus together. Sorry for your loss

Richard Kellogg - May 07, 2016 at 10:28 PM

JG

“ Dick was with me -(we were both college freshmen) 50 years ago last week - April 1966 - in a little prayer chapel - at Miltonvale Wesleyan College (KS) -when God called me to the ministry. He shared that moment with me.  
And - we were in chemistry class together as college freshmen. I could barely get through it. Dick - even as a college freshman - was a genius at chemistry. He knew as much as the professor. He helped me get thru the class - really! I would never have made it without his patient (unofficial) tutoring.  
I am deeply saddened to hear that he has passed. A tremendous loss for us here.

Jlm Garlow - May 07, 2016 at 03:24 PM

DN

“ Our good neighbor. So very sorry for the loss, but know he is in Heaven now and not suffering. Thinking of you Kathy and sending prayers.

Dick and Mary Nunneley - May 07, 2016 at 03:03 PM

CC

“ I was blessed to work with him @ OWU for 6 years. Great professor & wonderful person! Will be missed. Will pray for his family to have God's comfort. I know we will see him again someday in heaven.  
Sincerely, Dr. Carol Coose

Carol Coose - May 07, 2016 at 11:55 AM

SK

“ We are so sorry to hear the news of Richard's passing. Arlyn and I were classmates of his, graduating from Charles City High School in 1965. You all are in our thoughts and prayers. With our heartfelt sympathy, Arlyn and Shirley (Hugeback) Kukhan

Shirley Kukhan - May 07, 2016 at 10:58 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" Lynn Daake.



May 07, 2016 at 09:27 AM

DJ

“ My sincerest sympathies and condolences in this time of separation. Dr. Daake's positive spirit and passion for science played a key role in why I pursued and completed my degree in science at OWU. May you embrace God's comfort and peace during this time.

Debbie Just  
(Debbie Divelbiss, class of 1986

Debbie Just - May 07, 2016 at 07:25 AM

RB

“ Ruth Brant lit a candle in memory of Richard "Dick" Lynn Daake

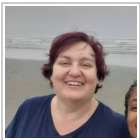


Ruth Brant - May 06, 2016 at 11:49 PM

NH

“ Dick was a good friend from High School to College and as he taught some of our family at OKWU. His quick wit and sense of humor were outstanding. I have so many great memories of all of the activities we did at the Daake farm and with the Charles City Wesleyan Church youth group. He will not be forgotten as a man of God first, a great family man and then a great mentor and teacher. Many precious memories linger on as we honor his life.

Nancy Howell - May 06, 2016 at 04:10 PM



“ I worked as Dr. Daake's work-study employer for four years in the 1990s. He was such a good man and had a lasting impact on my life. He always encouraged me to pursue my dreams, which was something I badly needed to hear from the adults in my life. I've thought about him often over the years. Rest in peace, Dr. Daake.

Carrie Pålsson - May 06, 2016 at 01:54 PM

ME

“ So sorry to hear, Dick was a favorite upper classmen at MWC. He was a true spiritual blessing to me. GOD BLESS YOU DEAR FAMILY.

Mike Engle - May 05, 2016 at 09:10 PM



“ Kathy, we share your sadness and hope. You modeled unconditional love so well to me as a teenager, in your patience with children. May the God of all comfort be close to you.

Phil McCallum - May 05, 2016 at 12:17 PM

BB

“ We are so sorry to hear of Dick's death. He is enjoying Jesus now. As a younger member of the youth group in Charles City, he was always kind and had time for me. I loved going out to the family farm and being with his parents.

May God comfort your hearts in special ways,  
Dave and Brenda Babcock

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**Brenda Babcock** - May 05, 2016 at 11:42 AM

EP

“ Dr. Daake loved Oklahoma Wesleyan. He was a leader of the faculty, a teacher of the students and a servant to everyone. He embodied the ideals of OKWU and more specifically he was directly responsible for adding the "practice of wisdom" as the fourth pillar of the university's mission statement. Dick's wise, obedient and humble walk of holiness was an inspiration to all blessed to cross his path. OKWU is forever grateful and literally would not be what it is today without Dr. Dick Daake.

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**Everett Piper** - May 04, 2016 at 10:14 PM

SH

“ Dick was a man who chose a life of love, commitment, selflessness, and generosity. William and I will always remember our friend. You and your family will be surrounded by prayers.



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**Suzanne Harlan** - May 04, 2016 at 10:57 AM