



Philip A Lahr

APR 23, 1927 - APR 11, 2020



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Harper's
Community Funeral Home

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Philip A Lahr

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Philip A. Lahr, 92 passed away Saturday, April 11, 2020 of natural causes, at Coventry Meadows. Born April 20, 1927 he was the son of the late Cleatus and Lucy (Sloniker) Lahr. A native of Clear Creek township in Huntington County (class of 1945), Philip lived the majority of his life in New Haven. After serving in the Army during the end of World War II, Philip returned to earn his teaching degree from Ball State. He began his career as a teacher, coach and principal at Clear Creek High School. His crowning achievement occurred in 1956 when the Clear Creek Bulldogs won the Huntington Sectional, a feat made even more remarkable by the fact that Clear Creek had only 57 students in the upper four grades. He kept in close contact with many of his former players and always enjoyed recounting the tales of games and players of that era. Philip then taught in New Haven schools, at Meadowbrook Elementary and New Haven Junior High for 26 years before retiring in 1991. He was an active member of the New Haven United Methodist Church for over 50 years. Dad was never the same after he lost his wife and partner of 71 years, Ruth McCombs Lahr, in May of 2019. Philip is survived by his children, Alan (Paula) Lahr of Baton Rouge, LA, James Lahr of Columbus, IN, and Marianne (Mike) Smith of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; and 16 great grandchildren. He was also preceded in death by his siblings, Miriam Whitestone, Wendell Lahr and Donna Anderson. A private ceremony will be held. A memorial service honoring both Philip and Ruth will be held at a time to be determined. Preferred memorials are to New Haven United Methodist Church. Arrangements by Harper's Community Funeral Home, 740 St. Rd. 930 E., New Haven.



Tribute Wall

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LS

Linda Shuherk posted:

I'm so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Although I knew Phil and Ruth through NHUM church, I really became acquainted with Phil's kindness and sense of humor when we exercised together some years ago. I am so glad to have known him. He will surely be missed.Linda Shuherk

April 28 at 9:07 AM

DS

Donald Snyder posted:

Dear Lahr Family,Please accept my condolences on Phil's passing. My parents greatly valued Phil and Ruth's friendship, and that friendship deepened over the years. My mother was particularly pleased when your family moved to New Haven, as there were some fellow "Huntingtonians" that had become part of the church and education community. I remember the words of sympathy and support that Phil shared with me when my brother, David, was killed 40 years ago this month. Both Ruth and Phil have left a long-lasting legacy that will be remembered for a long time. My thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of transition.Regards,Donald SnyderSilver Spring, MD

April 22 at 6:57 AM

PS

Phylis Stouder posted:

Dear Friends,My late husband, Lowell Stouder, was a ballplayer for your dad at Clear Creek. These two stayed best friends to the end. I met your mom and dad after I married Lowell and I know they were good examples for all the kids they taught. I know you will miss them dearly and I will be thinking of all the good memories they gave all of us.Mrs. Lowell (Phylis) Stouder

April 15 at 8:56 AM

SH

Stan Hostetler posted:

Having taught with your Dad and having had all of you kids as students; I feel very close with your family. What a super guy your Dad was. You have my sincere sympathy. God's blessings to you all.
Stan Hostetler

April 13 at 8:39 AM



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DJ

David Jones posted:

Thanks to the Lahr family for sharing Phil with so many students in all the positions he had in several school settings. I appreciated him so much as a colleague in education especially during his time at NH Junior High and NHMS. His heart was always with the kids. My condolences to you all. Dave Jones

April 13 at 7:38 AM

JM

Janice McCombs Mcelhaney posted:

Alan, Jim, and Marianne, Just wanted you to know you have my deepest sympathy. I remember your mom and dad from my high school years. The best basketball coach in the area! Your parents (and you) lived in my parents farm house..Carl and Mae McCombs. Of course, your dad married well when he chose your mother from the McCombs family! I know it is hard to lose a parent no matter how many years you have had them. My dad, Carl died at the age of 92 also. I wanted you to know you are all in my prayers at this time.If you are able to have a memorial service, please let me know. If possible I would like to join you.Sincerely, Janice McCombs McElhaney4538 W. 495 NHuntington INtjmcelhaney41@gmail.com

April 12 at 4:25 PM

MW

Max Warner posted:

Dear Lahr children,This Max Warner speaking. Your Dad was a real favorite of mine. He came to teach, coach at Clear Creek at the beginning of my sophomore year. He was my coach on the baseball diamond and on the basketball floor. That year we won the County tournament!! What a great time we had, ALL season. He also was my typing teacher. Another good time. I will always remember your Dad as a really good friend and fun person to be with. My sympathy. Max Warner

April 12 at 2:33 PM

JB

Joni Hill Brown posted:

Al, Jim, Marianne,I was so sorry to see this, but know that your dad lived a good, long life! Our families have so many connections, and your parents were some of the best people I have ever known. Your dad was my 4th grade teacher @Meadowbrook; my mom, Barbara Hill, worked with your mom @Meadowbrook; my sister, Julie Hill-Lauer, was in your mom's class, Jim was a good friend of my brother, Dave Hill; our parents enjoyed being fellow parishioners at church for many years. They were a blessing to many people. Sending my sincere condolences and love to your family. - Joni Hill Brown

April 12 at 9:30 AM



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Janice Reifsnider posted:

They, your dad & mom were family through church ,occupation, and our children . I have missed them since my move to Ohio and very sorry to hear of their passing. God surround you with his loving, healing arms...Janice reifsnider

April 12 at 7:12 AM



Martha posted:

Marianne - I so enjoyed getting to know you, your Dad and Mom through dental visits in Woodburn a long time ago. You had a great example in two loving parents. My sympathy to you and your family.
Martha Bains

April 11 at 5:06 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Philip by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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