



Robert F. Neylan

JAN 8, 1943 - JUN 18, 2022



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Robert F. Neylan, 79, passed away June 18, 2022. Robert was born January 8, 1943 in Dover, DE to the late Francis P. and Margaret Ann Neylan. He was married to Carol Olsen Neylan for 51 years. Robert attended Dover High School, The University of Alabama on a track & field scholarship, served in the United States Air Force, attended Wesley College, then continued his track career and graduated from his beloved Florida State University. Robert was an educator in the Capital School District for over 30 years before working for the Dover Police Department and The Office of Highway Safety. Robert was a member of the Delaware Sports Museum and Hall of Fame, Delaware Track and Field Hall of Fame and the African American Sports Hall of Fame. Robert was a devoted husband, father, brother, uncle and grandfather in addition to being a photographer, golfer, athletic trainer, coach, FSU fan, and friend. Robert is survived by his wife, Carol; daughters Jennifer Brennan (Terence Jr.) of Marietta, GA., Lauren Scherer (Nicholas) of Marietta, GA., and Susan Dreher (Paul Jr.) of Mountain Brook, AL.; grandchildren Jordan, Terence III, Elizabeth, William, and Natalie; brother David Neylan (Connie), and sister Kathie Markel (Steve); and several cousins, nieces, nephews, and in-laws. A memorial service will be held at Dover High School July 29 at 10am on the track. In the event of inclement weather, the memorial will be held in the gymnasium. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Robert F. Neylan Memorial Fund benefiting the Dover High School Track & Field program at the memorial service, or email RFNMemorial@gmail.com for more information.



Tribute Wall

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JP

Jennifer Poole posted:

I'm just learning of this huge loss and my prayers, condolences, and love go to the family and friends of this great man. I met him through his beautiful daughter, Jenn and we hit it off right away and we would talk track and field whenever we saw one another. Mr. Robert was an awesome man, husband, father, grandfather, and friend. You are truly missed. Love you always ❤️

February 15 at 5:35 PM

SM

Stephanie Merchant posted:

After my brother Russell died I wasn't sure if my parents would ever be okay. The next morning we were sitting outside when Rob came by. He overshot the green and my dad scooped up his ball and put it into his pocket. He let Rob search frantically for a few minutes then held the ball up and saying, "You hoo, are you looking for this?" and he showed Rob his ball. Rob was pleased to get his golf ball back and then came in and shared deep deep condolences to my parents. That was the beginning of our healing. Rob was the only person outside of my family who called me "Stephie". He was always kind, always encouraging. I'll miss when he would join my family for the 4th of July fireworks when he would bring the biggest sound system to blast patriotic music. Now my fondness for Rob will be forever tied to the Stars and Stripes.

July 29 at 10:26 AM

DR

Dan W. Roberts posted:

I first want to express my deep sorrow to the entire Neylan family. I have a major medical appointment in New Jersey otherwise I would be at the Funeral. While I was Athletic Director at Dover High, Robert was the Head Boys Track Coach. He was tremendously successful, winning several State Championships. He brought back the Glory of the Dover Relays. He Coached a list of All State Athletes that can not be equaled. Robert was also the Athletic Trainer for the total athletic program. He was loyal to all our sports programs. Robert was a close personal friend that I will miss greatly. We got along well and also had many disagreements due to the fact that we both very competitive. I knew if a situation came up that I needed help on, I could always count on Robert for assistance. Again my sincerest condolences are given to Carol, David and Kathy and the daughters Jennifer, Lauren and Susan. Truly a great loss for the Dover High Family.

July 24 at 4:48 PM



Tribute Wall

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Carol Balentine Jackson posted:

What was not mentioned, was that Coach Neylan, while I was at Dover High 1970-74, was also the Coach for our Cheerleading Squad. He elevated the squad to be seen as a sport and we had to train just like any other set of athletes. He used to fuss at us for wearing high heels to class telling us we were shortening our calf muscles and putting excessive strain on our tendons and Achilles heel. Let me tell you he made us stretch and stretch and stretch and stretch. We also had to train and condition just like all of the other athletes. We truly loved him. He was the best trainer and looked after us should we get any injuries. Rest In Peace Coach!!! Will miss you! Love you- Carol Balentine Jackson-

July 6 at 1:21 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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