



Lyle G. Hamm

August 12, 1948 - April 1, 2020

Lyle George Hamm, of Hudson, NY, affectionately known to his hundreds of students and friends as “Hammy,” and to his 7 grandchildren as “Becky,” passed away at Albany Medical Center after a long and courageous battle with cancer on April 1st, 2020.

Lyle is survived by his wife of 27-years Rose Anne Hamm, of Hudson, his daughter Jessica Chiera (Frank) of Valatie, their children Zac, Jarid and Felicia, his daughter Jene Luciani (Patrick Sena) of Rotterdam, their children Gianina, Ayva, Patrick and Kalen, his brother-in-law Dale Rowe of Mellenville, his nephew Sean Rowe of Mellenville (Michelle), and their children, his niece Courtney Hutchings of Oswego (Daniel) and their children, and cousins and other beloved family members.

To say that Lyle influenced hundreds - if not thousands - of young people in his lifetime, would be an understatement. Lyle spent the majority of his life, teaching others.. In his nearly four decade tenure as a music and band teacher at Taconic Hills, many students credited him with changing their lives, and “caring when no one else did.” One student even dedicated her Grammy award to him. While leading the school marching band, he took them around the country for competitions, and outside school hours, spent his time coaching various sports including girls field hockey, boys swimming and girls track and field. When he announced his retirement, hundreds of students gathered to give him a “Mr, Holland’s Opus” style send-off, which was covered in many local papers.

But Lyle never really retired. He spent nearly every weekday as a substitute at that same school he'd grown up in and graduated from, and spent his entire career at. Teaching was in his blood.

Outside of school, Lyle was an avid triathlete, having once raced alongside Christopher Reeve. Referring to himself as the "real life David Hasselhoff," in a nod to the popular Baywatch series, he relished the 35-summer he spent as a lifeguard at Lake Taghkanic State Park, training many other lifeguards over the years. He served on the ski patrol at Catamount, the Philmont rescue squad, did CPR and first-aid certifications for the Red Cross, was a member of the Columbia County Republican Committee, and was an active parishioner at Holy Trinity (St. Mary's) in Hudson.

Lyle's phone rang off the hook (and still, as we write this, is ringing) with people asking for his help, whether it's for a lifeguard certification, a past student asking for a reference, asking for swim lessons for their children, or his daughters looking for advice.

Those who know Lyle know that when he loved, he loved hard. Such was his love for the music of the Beach Boys ("the only good music there is"), his beloved Kentucky Bourbon, his Minnesota Vikings (even when they were 2 and 11), his alma mater Murray State, and southern food.

He wasn't at all demanding (in fact, his wife Rose could often be found sitting around eating bon bons), had the temperament of a kitten, and loved onions. That last sentence, was our April Fool's joke for you, Dad.

The family will hold a private burial and will be hosting a public memorial service, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Tribute Wall

RM

“ *Mr Hamm was a class act. I have many fond memories of him, from Ockawamick where I knew him as a funny, outgoing teacher of my older siblings, to Taconic Hills where I enjoyed any class that he was a substitute teacher for. He always lit up the room with his smile and jokes. My condolences to his family, he was a truly wonderful man & great teacher. He will be missed.*

Rebecca M - April 24, 2020 at 04:59 PM

PD

“ *Mr. Hamm definitely touched thousands of lives, as evidenced by the number of people writing something about him. He was an inspiration to me in HS (81-85) and taught me so much more than how to march and play music. My own son now plays in a High School Band and so I think of Mr. Hamm often because of the important role he played in my development as a person. He will be missed for sure. RIP big guy!*

Paul Dykeman - April 17, 2020 at 04:04 PM

 Joanne Fink

“ *Jessica,
We were sorry to learn of the loss of your Dad and Mom so much pain at one time. We have so many good memories of you and Casey together and of your family. Your Dad touched all my children's lives including grandchildren. Our thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Love,
Joanne and Steve Fink*

Joanne Fink - April 17, 2020 at 09:10 AM

JE

Thanks Joanne and Steve.. So many wonderful memories growing up together..

Jessica - April 21, 2020 at 07:28 AM

EW

“ This ones tough, I still cant wrap my head around this I just dont have words. Thank you for all you did for me and helped me in school with the exception of Mr Lant, Mr Kelsey, and Mr Gulisane no one impacted my life the way you did. I just wish we never lost touch. You believed in me when not a lot of people did in a lot of ways you were like my 2nd father and I'll never forget you for it. Rest well Lyle you will never be forgotten. The world will never be the same without you in it. My heart and thoughts go out to your family.....EJ Welch

Edward (EJ) Welch - April 12, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ Lyle will be deeply missed by everyone here at The Beach Villas of Deerfield! His presence made life so much happier. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Hamm family! Rest In Peace, Lyle.

John Cercone - April 08, 2020 at 02:04 PM

EF

“ as a current student at Taconic Hills, hearing the words “tomorrow, your sub will be mr. hamm” was one of the greatest things to hear. Hearing the words “Tomorrow, you will have a sub”, will hit different. Hammy, thank you for everything you did, and may you rest in peace. Until we meet again❤️

ethan f - April 07, 2020 at 10:20 PM

TH

“ We will miss one of my most favorite friends. His smile always makes you smile back. His funny gestures of the day would make us laugh. I hope he finds his ripe “tomatoes “. Miss you dearly!
Your friends at Holmquest Farms.

terri holmes - April 07, 2020 at 06:29 AM

RP

“ Mr. Hamm was something of a legend when I was in middle and high school back in the early 2000's; I saw his various mottos written all over the school. Occasionally I had the pleasure of having him as a substitute teacher, and what I saw in him was truly unique. He didn't just want his students to be smart and know facts, he wanted them to be better people with integrity and kindness, inspiring us to be the best versions of ourselves. I will always remember him fondly.

Rajapillai Pillai - April 05, 2020 at 12:01 PM

AO

“ My deepest and most sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Hamm. My relationship with Mr. Hamm courses the span of 25 years.. I was lucky enough to have him as a teacher at TH for a short period if time as a child. I moved away and had been thru some troubling times. Many years later we would cross paths later on my journey as a swimmer and lifeguard. The first time I saw him after all those years I couldn't believe he remembered my name and who I was. He pulled me to the side, gave me some very kind words if encouragement about becoming a lifeguard. The gist of it was that I was worth success... something I never really learned coming up.. he was always open to talk and listen. He guided me thru my many years as a lifeguard and High school swimmer. Clearly and obviously a great man and inspiration to anyone that ever knew him. Just reading some of these memories makes me well up. Blessings to the family left behind.

Angel Otty - April 05, 2020 at 06:31 AM

TG

“ I met Lyle 50 years ago when I worked in the hot dog stand at the Lake. I later worked for him as a lifeguard. Lyle put a smile on everyone's face that was around him. He was always upbeat and just made you feel great when you were around him. Lyle always had a story from years past that we all would enjoy. We lost a good man but the memories are forever. God Bless you buddy!

tom groll - April 04, 2020 at 09:06 PM

MG

“ Lyle was a good cook and in-law. When his father-in-law was too sick from congestive heart failure to go to his favorite German restaurant to celebrate his birthday like he usually did, Lyle bought the ingredients for my father's favorite dish, sauerbraten with dumplings, and brought them to his house and cooked them for him. He even bought enough so my father could enjoy the leftovers for the rest of the week. My father really enjoyed the food and Lyle's company.

Michael Gutleber - April 04, 2020 at 08:38 PM

ST

“ I was very sad to hear of the passing of one of my favorite people in the world. Lyle was one of the nicest people I ever met, and was an incredible teacher. He not only encouraged me to sing and perform, but he also encouraged me to try new things, like the saxophone and piano. I haven't seen him in years, but he's always been a piece of me and always will. RIP. 💔😇

Sherry Thomson - April 04, 2020 at 01:32 PM

WD

“ I got to know Lyle best through lifeguarding at Lake Taghkanic in the late 90s, though his legendary status was already well established. He had beat cancer and then turned his attention to beating cocky teenagers in lifeguarding competitions and triathlons. Lyle was one of the most fun and genuine individuals I've ever met, and everyone fortunate enough to have met him was left better as a result. I'll always remember his sense of humor and his counsel – whether solicited or not. I have no doubt heaven got more entertaining when Lyle arrived in his red Camaro, blasting some Beach Boys, wearing a questionably short bathing suit. Rose and family, I'm so sorry for your loss and know the impact he had won't be forgotten.

Will Dardani - April 04, 2020 at 08:46 AM

TR

“ I met Lyle in 2002 at Amsterdam when he was coaching the TH swim team at Sectionals. I was also there because I was coaching the team from Canajoharie-Ft. Plain. He said he was a new to coaching swimming. It was my 5th year coaching swimming so I offered him my help to make sure his diver had his diving sheet filled out properly. Months later, I received a phone call from Taconic Hills asking if I was interested in coming down for an interview. Apparently some guy named Lyle Hamm had highly recommended me. I interviewed and got the job. Eighteen years later I am still teaching and coaching at Taconic Hills all because Lyle randomly put in a good word for me. The two days I spent with Lyle turned into a whole career for me that I am truly thankful for.

Although he was a music teacher, he should have been dual certified as a P.E. teacher with the time he spent subbing in our department. As a result, I was fortunate enough to get to talk to him frequently. I loved his sense of humor, loved his stories and his love of live. He always wore his emotions on his sleeve. If he got fired up about something, it was only because he took pride in TH and always wanted what was best for the students. I have always respected his ability to create a positive rapport with all students and adults. I can't think of anyone more universally liked than "Hammy".

Maybe one of the reasons for his universal likeability was that he always seemed to place others before himself and would do anything to help you out. When I informed him that I had started training for a couple of sprint triathlons, he quickly offered up his own wetsuit. That is just how he was.

I am very sad that Lyle is no longer with us, but he will always live through us. He has touched the lives of so many people that I'm sure his legacy will live on. His stories will be handed down for generations to come and I will continue to have a greater appreciation for the Beach Boys. "Sail On, Sailor"

Tom Russo - April 04, 2020 at 02:06 AM

EP

“ Lyle--a man whose support was unwavering--first as your student in your lifesaving class, then beside you at Lake Taghkanic, and later coaching against you. Oh I felt your love, your courage, your compassion for sport. Thanks for everything!

Emily Packet - April 03, 2020 at 09:14 PM

DF

“ Hammy was my band teacher at Taconic Hills. I graduated in 1976 so that tells you how many years ago. I'd run in to him from time to time and he always remembered me....what a great man and legend...may he Rest In Peace....

donna quinion fingar - April 03, 2020 at 08:51 PM

DP

“ My condolences to the family. Lyle was a true one of kind individual, I cannot think of Lyle without smiling. I am a better person for having known him.

Dan Proper

Dan Proper - April 03, 2020 at 05:39 PM

TD

“ My condolences to Hammy's family as you lost a great man/LEGEND!!
Hamm,
You never ceased to amaze those that knew you. You were an on the go kind of guy with endless energy! I'm thankful to have known you in the 12 years I have been at TH. My daughter (as many) absolutely adored you and with her new transfer of schools you inquired about her EVERY single time i saw you! Just goes to show what a thoughtful, loving man you were. Always first at the time clock at the end of the day like a big kid! <3 You will be missed and your memories will live on through your friends and family.

Tara Dwy - April 03, 2020 at 02:46 PM

LC

“ In the many years I worked at TH, I never heard – from students, colleagues, or community members - anything negative about Lyle. There will be a huge turnout at his memorial service, but in no way will it reflect the respect and love he earned, the enormous influence he had, or his immeasurable legacy. We know, Rose and family, you will always miss him, and so will we. Lyle was unique. Those of us who were lucky to have known him have great stories to tell, and will always remember him as a truly remarkable man. I am so sorry.

Laura-Ann Cammisa

Laura-Ann Cammisa - April 03, 2020 at 02:22 PM

MD

“*Mr. Hamm was a beloved coach, hilarious prankster and spent every minute in that school encouraging his students to be better. I know, without a doubt, he pushed me to be better, push beyond adversity and think outside the box. I credit much of where I am today to his efforts; all those years of "store runs" where he talked us through life shaped so many students. All my best to his family*

Meghan Douris - April 03, 2020 at 11:56 AM

CG

“*Mr. Hamm was my favorite teacher. He pushed me to be a better person, and flute player. It was nice keeping in touch over the years. I wish I did it more. I will cherish all the pictures I have of him from band, the band trips, and all state. Especially the ones of him and Rose when we had the band trip to VA beach many years ago. "Excuses are for losers". You will be missed by so many. My heart goes out to his family. RIP.*

Christina G - April 03, 2020 at 11:17 AM

SS

“*Mr. Hamm - you were one of a kind and touched the lives of so many. You instilled in me a love of running and gave me encouragement and confidence throughout high school to keep pushing myself. I still tell people on a regular basis some of things you said to me and how important you were in shaping who I am. You were so loved and will be missed by all those who were touched by your kind heart. My deepest condolences to your family.*

Shannon Barden Stec - April 03, 2020 at 10:44 AM

RW

“ I am honored to have worked with Lyle. He was a great person with a great sense of humor. He was truly loved by his students. My condolences to all of his family.

Russell Webb - April 03, 2020 at 10:19 AM

AS

“ I had so many happy memories from my schools days with 'Mr Hamm' - what an amazing man who made a positive impact on those who knew him. He will live forever in the hearts and love of those who knew him.

Ariel Stickles - April 03, 2020 at 09:18 AM

CC

“ We have so many wonderful memories of Lyle, especially he & Rose's visits to our house on their way to Florida every year, which was a highlight of our year, and the last two years spending time with them in Florida. We loved hearing Lyle's stories and advice and we will miss him always.

Jim and Cathyt

cathy casazza - April 03, 2020 at 09:11 AM

RB

“ I knew Lyle for 32 years. I worked beside him in the music department and did his Rock and Roll Shows every year. I am broken hearted over this and it will take a long time to get over this. My deepest sorrow goes out to his family. You are all in my heart

Robert Bates - April 03, 2020 at 07:49 AM

NM

“ *Mr Hamm!!! Why you meant soo much to everyone I miss our memories of life guarding and teaching swimming at Taconic hills! I loved how we life guarded at COARC summer camp you showed me so much I will miss you forever love nicki marzahl (lougheed) in AZ*

Nicki Marzahl - April 02, 2020 at 11:59 PM



“ *I've know Mr. Hamm for many years. I'm happy to say that my kids got a chance to meet him. He was my last CPR teacher. When I mentioned he was still at Taconic Hills to my dad (passed away about 2 years ago) Skipp Porteous he said he was surprised he was still there and knew him. I picture them hanging out now.*

Marylisa Porteous Logsdon - April 02, 2020 at 11:35 PM



“ *Marylisa Porteous Logsdon lit a candle in memory of Lyle G. Hamm*



Marylisa Porteous Logsdon - April 02, 2020 at 11:29 PM

SG

“ *Mr. Hamm was the best teacher. I swear he wanted to beat my head with my clarinet many times. It took me a while to get the hang of it. He was also a great friend. You could go to him with anything and he would just listen. Such a great man. Love you Mr. Hamm. R.I.P.*



Susan Goodsill - April 02, 2020 at 09:36 PM

JM

“ He was an amazing coach and teacher. I will never forget playing field hockey with him in the early 90s! A true gem. RIP coach Hamm!!! My heart goes out to his family.

jessica madison - April 02, 2020 at 09:03 PM

RW

“ Hammy - you were one of a kind. Thank you for everything. I'm so glad I had you in my life - the world is a better place because you were a part of it.

Ryan Wallace - April 02, 2020 at 09:02 PM

AJ

“ Mr. Hamm has such an unbelievable impact on my life, as a coach, a teacher, a leader and a friend. He taught me the language of the world (music). He will be a forever light in my heart and soul. Rest easy, Mr. Hamm.



Ashley Wallace Jones - April 02, 2020 at 08:48 PM

YQ

“ I never had Lyle as a teacher but I used to babysit for his daughter Jessica, as well as my mother did. He was a great guy! My condolences to his family!

Yvonne Quinion - April 02, 2020 at 08:34 PM

DB

“ Lyle had some big shoes to fill when Prof Richards retired. He not only filled those shoes, he outgrew them and made his own high standard for everyone to reach. I know he made all of us better musicians, constantly challenging us to do more difficult music, being innovative in his teaching style. His skill at developing the marching band was amazing. The energy he had was contagious. He lifted everyone else up. I know I am a better man for having known him and been his student.

Dave Beers - April 02, 2020 at 08:23 PM

DD

“ Debbie And Doug lit a candle in memory of Lyle G. Hamm



Debbie and Doug - April 02, 2020 at 08:20 PM

RK

“ I worked with Lyle for many years at Lake Taghkanic and also taught many Lifeguard classes with him. To say he was special is an understatement. I can still hear him on the beach at Lake Taghkanic. The Beach is closed.

Rich Kirker - April 02, 2020 at 07:43 PM



“ Where do I start? Lyle and I had too many great student/teacher moments to ever begin to recall from decades ago. My first visual when you mention him is that great smile and his laugh. He could boil in temper with the best of them, but it was usually deserved, I mean it was the early 80’s. RIP my friend, you left a great impression on this world and will be missed.

Tony Avenia - April 02, 2020 at 06:48 PM



“ I loved running into Lyle in the hallways at school. He always had something funny to say, or just a really warm greeting. You know the really special people when you meet them. He was one for sure! God speed Hammy!

Lynda Akerman - April 02, 2020 at 06:34 PM



“ Dearest Rose Ann and family,
We are so sorry to hear of Lyle’s passing. He was definitely a character and would always make us laugh. Many hugs and much love going your way. Please know that if you need anything at all we are here. Love you Ro. Our very deepest sympathy to all.
Marge and Bruce Jennings

Marge Jennings - April 02, 2020 at 06:23 PM

JV

“ My best friend growing up was Courtney Rowe Hutchings, Mr.Hamm's wonderful niece. To me he was Courtney's and Sean's amazing Uncle Lyle. He was her only Uncle, and she was given such a beautiful gift in him. 27 years ago I had the honor of attending his wonderful wedding to Rose as Courtney's guest. My 5 siblings and I all had the privilege of being instructed and guided by Mr.Hamm be it in band, track, or lifeguarding. My niece Elisa Bennett just completed her lifeguarding class under his watchful eye, his last class. Few communities ever experience the love and dedication that Lyle Hamm bestowed on Taconc Hills and the larger community. My favorite memories are of Mr. Hamm up high on a ladder conducting his heart out. How many times did you climb the ladder to watch over countless lives lifeguarding? Thank you for caring, and sharing your life with us all, We love you, and will carry you in our hearts. Love from Julie Veveiros Ronsani

Julie Veveiros - April 02, 2020 at 05:51 PM

JK

“ I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the entire family of Mr. Hamm. As accurately depicted in this obituary, Mr. Hamm was an inspiration for me through my high school years in band and afterward as a lifeguard. He taught me that practice made permanent, and made sure you were paying attention to his lessons (otherwise you may have had a soft Kenny doll bouncing off your head). Rest In Peace Mr. Hamm. We all miss you and thank you for our above average ability to dodge flying objects.

Joshua Keough - April 02, 2020 at 05:19 PM

MS

“ Lyle was a great great man.... he was a rock for me where my daughter got cancer.... god speed my friend

maureene salas - April 02, 2020 at 05:17 PM

MS

“ I was a lifeguard with Lyle at Lake Taghkanic back in the 1980s. He was unflappable and always ready with a corny joke. We had so many great times. Years later, my two nephews went to school at Taconic Hills and told me about Mr. Hamm and how cool he was. We were blessed to know you, Lyle. Pull in the boat and break down the chair. Your watch is complete. Well done.

Mark Stuart - April 02, 2020 at 05:02 PM

CJ

“ Lyle was a great man with a great sense of humor. For me he was a great mentor. He brought me on to work with the crew at the lake. I will never forget you old friend. RIP Lyle. God bless.

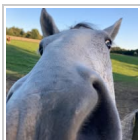
Casey Jack - April 02, 2020 at 04:43 PM

CG

“ Lyle was an awesome guy. I learned Lifeguarding from him and Bob Doolittle. I went on to work and teach with Lyle for many years!!!! A true loss to many!!!

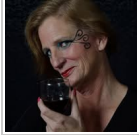


Chris "Bubber: Groll - April 02, 2020 at 04:39 PM



“ Dear Rose and family, my kids and I will never forget Mr. Hamm. He was the most kind, caring and beloved individual. Christmas at TH won't be the same without Hammy in his Santa outfit!

Christie Hegarty - April 02, 2020 at 04:33 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to those that loved Mr Hamm. He made everyone feel special. I remember smoking outside the band room door and he would just look at you and smile. He bought my trap set for the band and kept me safe while in school. I dont think I ever remember seeing him without a smile. He was so passionate about life. He is the one who gave me the courage to keep fighting... I will be forever grateful.. You will truly be missed.

Cindy Curtis - April 02, 2020 at 04:24 PM

SH

“ Lyle and lake taconic fun and games ius life guards use to have. Will miss that smiling



sue hallenbeck - April 02, 2020 at 04:14 PM

LB

“ Lynn Brandt lit a candle in memory of Lyle G. Hamm



Lynn Brandt - April 02, 2020 at 03:58 PM

LB

“ Lyle was a great teacher and friend. I always remember many things about Lyle...his smile,laughter sense of humor, compassion and love for life. Out class band trip to Montreal was the best school field trip. My kids enjoyed his stories and personality. Lyle will be missed greatly by many. Sending thoughts and prayers to the family.

Lynn Brandt - April 02, 2020 at 03:57 PM

TP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



The Piper's - April 02, 2020 at 03:49 PM

TF

“ One in a million ! Hammy just had a way about him. From his sense of humor to his caring heart, he really did change the world in his own way. Forever in our hearts . Love from, The Piper's.
BYE , BYE !

The Piper Family - April 02, 2020 at 03:48 PM

AP

“ I Had the pleasure of having Hammy my 4 years of high school band. The bright orange bow ties he wore to our concert and to the parades.. He was more then just a teacher, he was my mentor, my friend and the one person who you could talk to, vent to, laugh with, and sometimes laugh at!! No matter where I would see him, he would say “Hi Hawver”..lol and he called my nieces Hawver too lol.. he treated my daughters with kindness all the time and never held the crap I pulled in high school against them! Lol FLY HIGH HAMBONE UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!!

angela parsons - April 02, 2020 at 03:46 PM

HT

“ I am so incredibly sorry for the loss of an amazing man! Mr. Hamm first came into my life as a field hockey coach. He truly was the best coach I've ever had, showing so much support and compassion. He taught me endless lessons not just in the sport, but in life. I had the pleasure of working along side of Mr. Hamm for many years as he continued substituting. He was always my first call to fill in for me and served both of my maternity leaves. He also filled in when I needed someone to take over my field hockey coach. The girls loved when he would take over and were so excited to show me what new things he taught them. They would often ask, "why can't he always coach with you!?". Mr. Hamm was a true hero and role model in the Taconic Hills community. He was always there when you needed a good joke or smile. He will be deeply missed. I pray for comfort for all of you during this difficult time, but know the impact he had on many through their stories will bring you peace.

Hollie Van Tassel - April 02, 2020 at 03:20 PM

CM

“ I want to express my sympathy to the entire family. Mr. Hamm was one of the greatest music teachers, well teachers in general, that ever lived. I was a member of the Chorus for 3 years, and included participating in All-County and Area All-State. Mr. Hamm was there every step of the way, helping us rehearse as well as attend all of the functions. He will never be forgotten.

Cathy (Pesce) Martensen

Cathy Martensen - April 02, 2020 at 02:58 PM

BE

“ My 4 years of high school revolved around the band room. I started out just playing one instrument but by the time I graduated I was playing 3. He was a great teacher and a good friend. RIP Lyle Betsy Arnholter Edelman Class of 80

Betsy Edelman - April 02, 2020 at 02:44 PM

SD

“ Lyle Hamm was one in a million, and how blessed we all were to know him and bask in the Hammy-sunshine-rays for a while. He was generous, funny, hard working, and so insightful and caring to every child with whom he came into contact. He was an extraordinary teacher. He was a legend at Taconic Hills, and with good reason: he was well-liked of course, but more than that, he was respected by students, teachers, and parents.

Lyle was a man who made a difference in the lives of so many. He leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and music. You will be deeply missed, Lyle. My family's condolences to Rose, his children, grandchildren, and extended family.

Sharon Davis - April 02, 2020 at 02:42 PM

RO

“ There’s too many memories to share of Mr. Hamm. I just want to say what an amazing person he was. He was always so much fun and rarely ever mad at any of us in band. He had a deep love for music and you could tell as he conducted class and the baton would go flying across the room as the music intensified. You could always count on him no matter what. It was during my senior year that he first became sick and was out for a period of time and we were hell bound to do a good job to make him proud. And when he returned, he was proud of us. He attended my wedding and we would run into each other from time to time and he always knew me and as years went by he knew my kids as well. He would tell me about my son and what a great kid he was. And how my nice my daughter was. He will be missed. It’s not goodbye, Mr. Hamm. It’s till we meet again. My
Condolences to the entire family.
~Becky Orozco and family

Rebecca Orozco - April 02, 2020 at 02:35 PM

JS

“ I had Mr. Hamm as my high school band teacher. He always had a way of brightening up even the worst of days with his smile and his witty jokes. He had amazing aim when beaming us in the head with nerf balls or mini snickers to get us to pay attention in class. He was an amazing man and an even more beautiful soul. I took his motto through life with me and still use it until this day, “excuses are for losers”. I could never thank him enough for imparting his wisdom and wit in the years I knew him. My love and prayers are with your family and the world is a little bit dimmer without his beautiful soul shining in it. He is loved and will be missed terribly.

With love,

Jennifer Schneeberger & Family

Jennifer Schneeberger - April 02, 2020 at 02:28 PM

CH

“ He was my daughters teacher my granddaughters teacher an worked with my husband for 30 some years so u can say he was a great friend RIP my friend ❤️

charlene - April 02, 2020 at 02:22 PM

KK

“ Dear Rose and family,
So sorry to hear about Lyle's passing. He will be remembered for his wonderful music concerts for the Ockawamick Elementary students (the candy bar song) , teaching CPR classes for staff, telling jokes and being a kind and caring man. Rest easy Lyle



Kathy Keyser - April 02, 2020 at 02:22 PM



Rebecca
Janine

“ Mr. Hamm changed lives. He saw you for who you were as a student, and molded his lesson individually to your needs for growth. He did it genuinely and with wit. He made sure to teach about more than music. He taught us about life. He taught us to be humans, and to be good ones. His legacy will love forever in the halls of Taconic Hills, and as long as his students live and those they teach, so does he. RIP Hammy <3

Rebecca Janine - April 02, 2020 at 02:11 PM

JS

“ April 1. Of all days, so fitting. Lyle was a prankster. I wasn't around for most, but he used to share with us in the faculty room about all of the pranks they used to do to fellow teachers "back in the day". Teachers learned to keep their computers "locked" when he was around otherwise they may have found that certain settings had been changed, or worse.

Being a Viking fan my whole life, he and I would commiserate about the Vikings' woes, or gloat in the Viking achievements (more to commiserate about). He was so proud to wear his "Hamm" jersey on game days. Hammie, I was hoping you would be around when the Vikings finally won the superbowl, and we could finally celebrate this together.

God Bless ya, you'll be missed.

Jim Spock - April 02, 2020 at 02:00 PM

TF

“ We enjoyed having you as our neighbor ❤️
You always took the time to listen and talk with our children as well as all the neighborhood kids. You will be missed. Our deepest sympathy to his family.
Chrissy, Alan and David Kaplowitz



The Kaplowitz Family - April 02, 2020 at 01:54 PM

BV

“ We always receive a Christmas card from he and Rose Ann signed " from your holiday Hamms " what great guy.

Bob Vining - April 02, 2020 at 01:49 PM

KH

“ Thoughts and prayers to the family and friend
rip mr hamm you be miss and love by so
many people



Kimberley hazelton - April 02, 2020 at 01:48 PM

AS

“ I grew up down the street from Mr. Hamm, and his daughter Jessica
was my best friend growing up. My favorite memory comes from the
4th of July. Both of our families hosted picnics on that day and in the
evening fireworks flew. We would have firework competitions each
year. But, most of all, I remember as a child going into their house
and the Beach Boys records always playing. Until this day, every
time I hear a Beach Boys song it reminds me of him. He was very
kind and encouraging. Because of him I experienced my only live
concert, Bryan Adams, and learned to love and play the sport of
Field Hockey. He was a big part of my childhood. You will be greatly
missed. Alison

alison stark - April 02, 2020 at 01:46 PM

DC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Lyle had me
laughing every time he came into the Taconic
Hills Elementary Office. He will be greatly
missed. Donna Curtsinger and Family



Donna Curtsinger - April 02, 2020 at 01:40 PM

DA

“ Condolences to all of you! Dawn Olson

Dawn - April 02, 2020 at 01:25 PM

JS

“Where to start. Lyle got me into triathlons. Lyle helped me as a distance runner in high school, which helped me continue on in college to play 3 division one running sports. Lyle helped motivate me to become a good enough swimmer to pass the difficult state lifeguard exam, so I could spend the next 7 summers getting paid to sit on the beach. Lyle was at my wedding with Rose. After the party really got started, Lyle went to his room and returned with shorts on and he got on the dance floor and was blowing that lifeguard whistle as we danced and partied. When I got divorced, he invited me over and gave me more good advice: “don’t date someone with more problems than you have.”
You will be missed, Lyle.

jon Strodl - April 02, 2020 at 01:21 PM

IM

“Does anybody else remember the Snickers? He always had a few bags of the minis and would give them out during class as an incentive to participate.

Ian Macfarlane - April 02, 2020 at 12:46 PM

NK

Fond memories of being in band way, way back at Ockawamick with Mr. Richards. My condolences to family and friends.

Nancy Kern - April 09, 2020 at 12:29 PM