



Fred Cole

MAY 24, 1945 - JAN 29, 2024



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Fred Cole

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Fred D. Cole, 78, of Effingham, IL, formerly of Vandalia, passed away peacefully at 8:30 PM, Monday, January 29, 2024, at his home.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 AM, Saturday, February 03, 2024 at Hohlt & File Funeral Home, Vandalia. Interment will follow at Fairlawn Cemetery, Vandalia. Military Rites will be accorded at the graveside by Crawford-Hale American Legion Post # 95, Vandalia, Brownstown VFW Post #9770, & the Illinois Army National Guard. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 10:00-11:00 AM, Saturday, at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers and gifts, memorials may be made to Transitions Care or Carle Auxiliary. Online condolences can be expressed at www.hohltandfilefh.com.

Fred Dale Cole was born on May 24, 1945 at home, in Morgan Twp., Coles County, IL, son of Robert and Olive Mabel (Courtney) Cole; the twelfth of fourteen children. Fred graduated from Charleston High School in 1963. Throughout high school, he worked at the Charleston Livestock Barn and for various farmers in the area. Following high school, Fred worked for the Federal Huber Corporation. He eventually returned to Charleston, where he was employed by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

In October of 1965, Fred was drafted into the military. He began basic training at Fort Knox and was then transferred to Fort Gordon in Georgia for teletype and crypto training. In August of 1966 he flew to Travis Air Force Base in California, and from there to Vietnam for a year. Fred was discharged from the Army on July 23, 1967.

After his military service he married the love of his life, Shirley Ann Calvert on September 15, 1967, residing in Casey, IL. In the fall of 1968, Fred attended Lakeland College transferring to Eastern Illinois University, where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Science majoring in History and Social Studies Education.



Obituary

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Fred started his teaching career at Greenville High School, retiring in 2002 after 31 years. While he was teaching, he and his wife had two sons and lived in Vandalia. He also owned and operated Fred's Small Engine Repair and invested in 80 acres of farm land. After his retirement, he and his wife moved to a farm in Shafter Twp., eventually moving to Effingham in 2018. Fred enjoyed collecting International Farmall Tractors, cherished the time spent with his family, and was a proud Veteran and former member of the Crawford-Hale American Legion Post #95 and V.F.W. Post # 3862, both of Vandalia

Mr. Cole is survived by his wife, Shirley Cole of Effingham; son, Wade Cole of Lake Station, IN; son, Adam Cole and wife Krista of Colorado Springs, CO; siblings, Virginia and husband Ed Buchanan of Charleston, Kenneth "Kenny" Cole of Charleston, Judy Cole of Naperville, and Larry Cole and wife Debbie of Mattoon; grandchildren, Brienna, Calvin "Jasper", Robyn, Olivia, and Sophia; numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Gertrude, Marjorie, Charles Richard "Dick", Ronald "Red", Gladys, William "Bill", James "Jim", Ralph, and Harold "Butch".



Events

Fred Cole

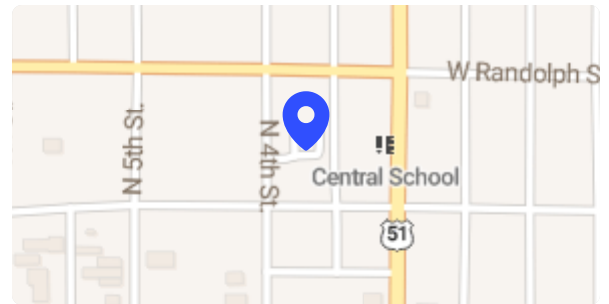
MAY 24, 1945 - JAN 29, 2024

Visitation

Saturday, February 3, 2024

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT

Hohlt & File Funeral Home, Ltd.
204 N 4th Street, Vandalia IL 62471

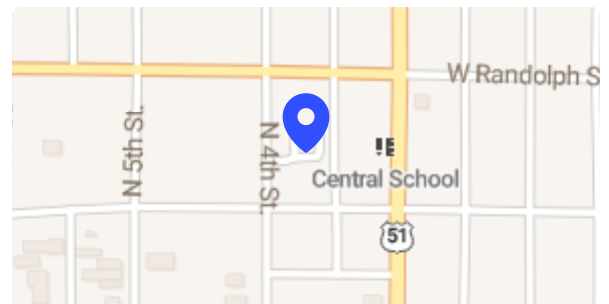


Funeral Service

Saturday, February 3, 2024

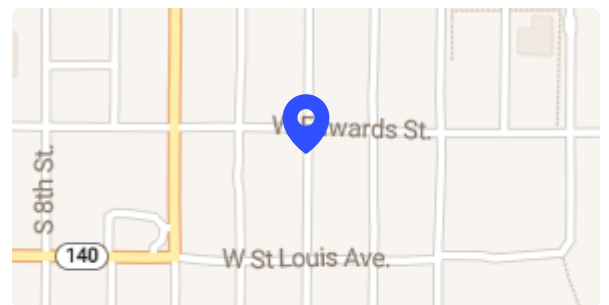
11:00 AM CT

Hohlt & File Funeral Home, Ltd.
204 N 4th Street, Vandalia IL 62471



Cemetery Details

Fairlawn Cemetery
South 6th St, Vandalia IL 62471





Tribute Wall

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Alyssa Aarhaus posted:

Our hearts go out to you and your family during this time, Adam. - COL Aarhaus and the 89th TC Team

February 2 at 3:17 PM



Alyssa A. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Fred.



February 2 at 3:12 PM



The Szpara Family And Penelope sent a Serene Retreat to the Cole family.



February 2 at 7:47 AM



The Szpara Family And Penelope planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Fred.



February 2 at 7:47 AM



Todd Brown posted:

I didn't look forward to many classes in high school but always enjoyed Fred's and managed to learn something in the process. My mom taught with Fred for many years and thought of him as a good friend.

February 1 at 3:12 PM



Anonymous sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Cole family.



February 1 at 2:55 PM



Tribute Wall

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AR

Ann, Bella, Cailyn, And Russ planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Fred.

February 1 at 2:55 PM



TF

The Granlind Family sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Cole family.

February 1 at 8:28 AM



BC

Betsy Cole posted:

Aunt Shirley, Wade, and Adam and families. So sorry about Uncle Fred's passing. He will be welcomed by a lot of family. I had some great times with you guys. Betsy Cole

January 31 at 6:14 AM

JC

John Corn posted:

Fred was one of a kind. Teaching with him for many years showed me that a teacher should be firm but human. He was one of my son's favorites. While unable to be there in person, please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all. John Corn

January 31 at 4:41 AM

CT

Craig Tidball posted:

To the family of Fred Cole, I was privileged to be one of the first students of Mr. Cole at GHS. I appreciated his passion for teaching and his concern for individual students. I recall one particular time when he was teaching us about the stock market and he set up a program for each of us to invest an imaginary \$100k brokerage account. After a few weeks of trading, I had done quite well with my play money by investing in various companies. Mr. Cole pulled me aside after class and said, "Craig, I noticed your work in the market. You're quite good at this. Don't lose interest in what might be a career for you." Several years later, I did just that and have retired from a 40 year successful career as an investment counsellor. You can tell when a teacher really cares and that was Fred Cole. My condolences to the Cole family. Craig Tidball - Warsaw, Indiana

January 31 at 2:37 AM



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Steve Thies posted:

Fred was a great teacher! My friends and I enjoyed his class(es). Also, he was a good friend of my father's at GHS, and was always available to help Dad with his projects. Sincerest condolences to the family.

January 30 at 4:33 PM



Anonymous sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Cole family.

January 30 at 4:28 PM



Adam, Krista, Ollie, & Soph planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Fred.

January 30 at 4:28 PM



Howard & Diana Bentley & Tom Cole sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Cole family.

January 30 at 4:20 PM



Jamie Klick & Family (Former Jamie Lopez) sent a Blue Caribbean Bouquet to the Cole family.

January 30 at 4:19 PM



Dixie A. sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Cole family.

January 30 at 3:35 PM





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Karon Warman Davis posted:

Known his family for years. So sorry to read this. Hugs and prayers to all.

January 30 at 3:22 PM



Sue Stone posted:

Share a memory of Fred? I have SO MANY memories. Not sure where to begin. He brought so much to GHS. Sending my sympathies.

January 30 at 2:16 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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