



Everett Cook

March 20, 1924 - April 6, 2020

Everett J. Cook, 96, Topeka, Kansas, died unexpectedly of natural causes, Monday, April 6, 2020.

Mr. Cook was a teacher and administrator in the Topeka Public Schools for 37 years before he retired in 1986. He taught at Gage Elementary School and was principal of Polk, Quincy, Shaner and Potwin elementary schools. Everett also directed summer Headstart and was an Area Director at the time of his retirement.

Everett was born March 20, 1924, in Topeka, the son of Everett H. and Eva L. Newell Cook. He attended public schools in Topeka and graduated from Topeka High School in 1942. Everett received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Washburn University; a Masters of Education from the University of Kansas; and a Specialist in Education from Emporia State University.

Mr. Cook was an Army veteran of World War II. He served in the South Pacific and Japan assigned to occupation duty with the 27th Engr Const Bn. Everett was also served in the Army Reserve and retired in 1984 with the rank of Colonel.

He was a member of the First Southern Baptist Church, in Topeka, where he served as a Sunday School teacher. Everett was also a member of the Topeka Elementary Principals Association; Topeka Administrators Association and was a life member of the National Education Association.

Everett married Alice Ruth Hodgson of Topeka on June 20, 1947. She survives. Other survivors include a son, Kevin D. Cook, his wife Karen, grandson, Ethan and granddaughter, Erin, all of Flower Mound, Texas; a daughter, Tracey D. Cook and grandson, Justin Moore, both of Topeka. His sister, Marjorie Lee Cook Sasnett of Waxhaw, NC, died in 1991.

A Celebration of Everett's Life will be scheduled later this year and announced at that

time.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Midland Care Hospice, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - October 23 at 04:03 PM



“ Tracey Cook sent a virtual gift in memory of Everett Cook



Tracey cook - May 31 at 02:02 AM



“ Mr. Cook was my principal and sixth grade teacher at Polk Elementary. I learned many things in my time there--having a new student whose family had escaped Hungary, and how to handle things in our lives new to us at that time. I know you won't remember, Tracey and Kevin, but I babysat you when you lived on Mission. Somehow I think Mr. Cook is making new friends and meeting old. Grateful to have known him, God bless you.

Barbara Warren Salyer

barbara salyekr - April 14 at 12:22 PM



“ Thank you for your service to our Nation, Military Service is by far the greatest gift you can give. May God bless you, your Family and your Friends.

Mike Simmons - April 12 at 02:32 PM



“ I was so surprised and saddened to learn of Everett’s passing. He was such a good neighbor and friend during the years he and Ruth lived on Village Drive. He always had some good advise or interesting facts to share. I admired his lawn and gardening skills that seriously put mine to shame. He was truly a good man who loved his family. We will all miss him. I’m so sorry for your loss.

Diana Stanley - April 10 at 04:57 PM



“ I send my deepest sympathy to Mr. Cook's family. Mr. Cook was my substitute father after my father was killed in 1949. I was in Mr. Cook's 1950-51 6th Grade class at Gage Elementary School.

I not only received an education from Mr. Cook, I also learned the importance of being there for people in need. He also taught me that a person had to do their best to become the very best.

I was very fortunate to see Mr. Cook at the Topeka High School, Class of 1957, 55 year reunion. I was able to shake his hand and tell him "Thanks for being there".

Sincerely,

John V. Shideler

John Shideler - April 09 at 07:03 PM



“ Dear Ruth, Tracey, and Kevin: I am thinking of you during this time and grateful that I knew Everett Cook. My memories include the annual New Year's Eve parties, which I looked forward to so much as a child, in the 1950s and 1960s, with your family, the Rages, Timkens, and my family, the Grahams. I don't think any of us missed one year, and our families would take turns hosting. I also remember the annual principal picnics at Lake Shawnee, where we would all be together for a big breakfast and a time of community. I celebrate the contributions Everett Cook made as an educator in Topeka. Praying for comfort in this moment and in the future.

Pamela Graham

Pamela Graham - April 09 at 02:23 PM



“ Dear Ruth,

I was saddened to learn of Everett's passing. I served with him in the Army Reserves. He was a true leader, a caring soldier and a friend. I hope this message finds you surrounded by strength and compassion.

With Deepest Sympathy,
Jerry Wymore
Command Sergeant Major, Retired

Jerry Wymore - April 09 at 10:11 AM



“ Ruth, Kevin and Tracy - I was so sorry to hear of Everett's death. My mother and father, Alta and Delbert Graham thought so highly of him, and I have such fantastic memories of the times our families spent together when I was a child, especially those New Year's Eve parties with the Cooks, Rages and Timkens. My heart goes out to all of you, and my thoughts and prayers are with you. He was a fantastic person, so highly respected in his chosen profession, and will be greatly missed.
Debra (Graham) Neal

Debra Graham-Neal - April 09 at 08:18 AM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Tracey Cook - April 09 at 12:57 AM



“ Ruth, Tracey and Kevin,

We are very sorry to learn of the passing of your husband and father. Everett will always be remembered and loved. My childhood is filled with memories of the times our families were together. The Cooks, Grahams, Rages and Timkens were faithful friends. Growing up, I can't remember a New Years Eve that the gang didn't get together. The evening was always filled with laughter and fun. That reoccurring party must have continued for well over 30 years.

My Dad loved to party and now Delbert, Lloyd, Tink and Everett are together. In my Dad's words... "The Party's Just Begun!"

With Loving thoughts,

Steve and Jan Timken Kays

Jan Timken Kays - April 08 at 09:29 PM



“ Thank you for your service to our Nation. A member of the GREATEST GENERATION, you maybe gone, BUT you will never be forgotten for what you did for our Nation. Hand salute SIR!

Mike Simmons - April 08 at 02:49 PM



“ Thank you for your heartfelt words. Dad loved this country and it's refreshing to know someone else also cares as he did. Bless you for your kindness-Tracey Cook

Tracey cook - April 08 at 08:56 PM



“ William Moore: I remember going fishing with EJ and a fellow that he called Sparky. We had a great time. I always admired EJ he was a smart man, and never had a bad outlook on life. I'm sure he will be missed by several but he will always hold a place in my heart. May God hold you in his hands as we hold you in our hearts.

William Moore - April 08 at 01:40 PM



“ Thank you Bill. Sparky is still a mystery. He loved taking you fishing and filleting the tiny little fish he'd catch. You are right. He never had a bad outlook on anything. He adored you and respected the man you became.

Tracey cook - April 08 at 02:13 PM



“ Kevin,

We're so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. It is a part of life that is filled with sadness and lots of looking back. May this time be filled with good memories and gratitude for the relationship that you had. I didn't know your father, but because I know you fairly well, I must assume that he was a really good man and father.

Sincerely,

John and Aurora Dascanio

John Dascanio - April 07 at 09:56 PM



“ To the family my deepest sympathy. From Sarah Guffy and kids. They all attended Southwest Avondale and Mr. Cook was our principal. Every time I saw Mr Cook he told me how good my kids were. We would have a laugh but he insisted. The last I saw him was when I worked at Sam's club. His beautiful wife would thank me for keeping him busy while she shopped. Everett we could talk for hours. Thank you for being in my kids life's. RIP.

Sarah Guffy - April 08 at 11:42 AM