



Steven Holloman

May 11, 1952 - August 13, 2025

The things we know about Steve Holloman made him a beloved father and grandfather, hall of fame teacher, and icon of Topeka's music landscape.

We know that his story began May 11, 1952, when he was born to William and Jeanne Holloman in Topeka, Kansas and that his story was made better by the arrival of his siblings, Kris, Jim, Jan, and Scott.

We know that Steve was a faithful husband for 51 years, and that the marriage produced three wonderful children. We know that most people knew him only as 'H', but his favorite thing to be called was 'Dad'. Steve was unquestionably proud of his three children: Heidi, Haley, and Brandon.

We know that Steve never missed a chance to watch his grandkids play soccer. We know that Steve hated soccer, but he loved being a grandfather. He loved sneaking away to spoil them with an ice cream cone or Sonic drink. He loved sharing a good underwear joke with his grandkids. And he loved to goad Veronica into admonishing him when he was encouraging them to cause trouble.

Steve was known to be a lifelong fan of the St. Louis Cardinals and Kansas City Chiefs. He was a proud Ichabod. Washburn University had a special place in his heart because it gave him two of his life's greatest gifts—his career

and his wife, Veronica.

We know that if not for Veronica Simmons, we wouldn't know Steve Holloman. Her commitment to Steve provided the foundation and direction he needed to grow into the teacher he would become. Veronica's steadfast love for Steve remained an ever-present power throughout his life.

Outside of his profession, he kept a summer job running a paint crew that he used to make extra money to pay for his family's summer vacation. The members of the paint crew remained his closest friends and confidants.

Steve was best known for his 41 years as a teacher, with more than three decades spent as the band director for Topeka High School. Even in retirement he remained a teacher. Steve taught his grandkids to play their instruments during lessons which he called "jam sessions". He didn't allow any of his grandchildren to become drummers because we all know that 'H' did not like drummers.

But Steve did love his time as the head of the Trojan Band. He cherished the countless memories formed during the Disney trips with the band. He loved taking the jazz band to his favorite barbecue place—Arthur Bryant's—after a trip to the Kansas City Jazz Museum so that he could teach them his trick of always ordering the food to go because he swore that they gave you extra food that way. Steve loved that the neighbors always called the cops when the Howitzers went off during each performance of the 1812 Overture at the Dogs on The Lawn concert.

We know that everyone who was lucky enough to share an encounter with Steve Holloman left that encounter better than they were before. We know that Steve Holloman believed in every student he ever taught, even when they didn't believe in themselves.

What we know about Steve Holloman will flood our memories and fill our hearts for a lifetime. But it is the things that we don't know about him that will forever be his legacy.

We don't know how much pain Steve was in during his final years because not even his declining health could dull the sparkle in his eyes, mischievous smile, or his perfectly timed jokes.

We don't know how many students left his office with a book bag full of food or a \$20 bill because 'H' knew that they needed a little help. We don't know how many beds or Christmas gifts he secretly delivered from the back of his band van to the homes of his students.

And we will never truly know how to measure the influence that his light brought to this world. Because we can never know how many kids chose to come to school instead of skipping just because they wanted to see 'H'. Or how many kids' lives were saved because music gave them the outlet they needed when they were headed down the wrong path. We will never be able to fully know how many students went on to be music teachers or professional musicians after their time in room 332 at Topeka High. We don't know how many people play an instrument today because they were taught to love music by Steve, or because their father or mother was in his class. But that is exactly how Steve Holloman would have wanted it. Throughout his career, Steve shied away from the spotlight because for him it was never about the accolades. It was about trying to reach as many kids as possible in the time he had with them.

We don't know why we were lucky enough to share this earth with Steve Holloman for a brief time, but we're grateful to God that we did.

Steve is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Veronica; their three children, Heidi Nelson, Haley Murphy, and Brandon; and their beloved grandchildren, Brecken, Brody, Britain, Beckham, and Bentley. He is also survived by his siblings, Kris Rowan, Jim, Jan Carroll, and Scott. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Rosary will be prayed at 5 p.m. with visitation to follow until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at Mater Dei Holy Name Catholic Church, 1114 SW 10th Street, Topeka KS 66604. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at the church. Burial will follow at Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Steve's Funeral Mass will be live-streamed on the funeral home's Facebook page, you can follow this link. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063672125244>

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Steve Holloman Memorial Music Scholarship through the Washburn University Foundation. Checks may be made out to Washburn University Foundation, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Condolences may be sent online at www.kevinbrennanfamily.com

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd
Topeka, KS 66606

Previous Events

Rosary

AUG 19. 5:00 PM (CT)

Mater Dei Holy Name Church
1114 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Visitation

AUG 19. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Mater Dei Holy Name Church
1114 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 20. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mater Dei Holy Name Church
1114 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Steven Holloman



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 19, 2025 at 06:05 PM

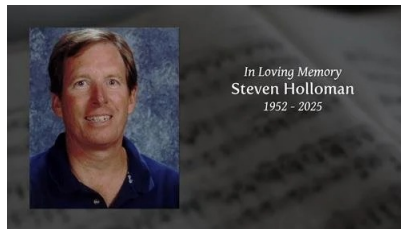
MS

Steve was good-natured, fun-loving and fun to be around. We will miss him. Our prayers are with the family. Carl and MJ Sojka

MaryJane Sojka - August 20, 2025 at 11:25 AM



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Steven Holloman



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 18, 2025 at 05:14 PM

RB

I was so sorry to hear of Steve's passing a few days ago. Our friendship goes back many decades to our younger years. We worked together at Falley's market at 10th & MacVicar. We had good times with the "gang", and we had lots of great memories. I was very pleased when my daughters entered Topeka High School and joined the marching band. I give lots of credit for their getting safely through the high school years to Steve's dedication to his students and to the friendships that the girls formed while in the band. I enjoyed times that we would get together at band concerts and reminisce about "the good ole days." More recently, I looked forward to seeing Steve at our grandchildren's high school concerts. I will miss him greatly.

Dick Bauman

Richard M Bauman - August 19, 2025 at 04:28 PM



We met when I was a transfer kid in the 5th grade and he introduced me to Sal to start individual drum lessons. He called me "Rosie" because I was a shy kid who would get really flushed in the face if embarrassed in the slightest. He treated me and all my classmates to Dairy Queen when we excelled at our playing tests.

I kept playing the drums for 8 more years and it was one of the best activities I could've ever been a part of. Drumline was amazing and Sal was also an amazing mentor. Holloman was my band director again throughout high school, always encouraging me to do my very best in everything. He will always hold a special place in my heart and be forever missed. -Sophie Lorson

Sophie Lorson - September 13, 2025 at 11:03 PM

JB

“ My deepest condolences on the passing of Mr. Holloman, a remarkable teacher, mentor, and friend. From Lowman Hill to Topeka High, and even KU Midwestern Music & Art Camp, his steady guidance, discipline, and love for music shaped not just my musicianship, but the person I've become. He gave us more than scales and scores, he gave us direction, confidence, and a sense of belonging. Rest in power, Mr. Holloman. Your legacy lives on in every note we play. 🎵❤️

Jeff Benson - August 29, 2025 at 02:50 AM

SB

“ So sorry for your loss. We are thinking of you and wishing you comfort and strength. Mr. Holloman was a wonderful man, educator and musician. He had an enormous impact on our kids and their Topeka High careers, and we treasure so many great band memories.

The Beatty family

Stacey Beatty - August 25, 2025 at 04:12 PM

SJ

“ I don't remember a time when Steve wasn't part of my life. My dad, Larry Harris, and Steve worked at Topeka High together for over 20 years. Both of them had a love of music, laughter, and teaching. I'm sure they are together now sharing lots of really bad jokes! I'm so very sorry for your loss.

Stacie (Harris) James

Stacie James - August 22, 2025 at 01:24 PM

BP

“ Veronica, I am so sorry for your loss. I enjoyed working with Steve at Topeka High. He was a very kind man with a wonderful sense of humor. May God wrap his loving arms around you and your family during this time. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. God bless you and your family.

Bev Page-Ferrell

Bev PageFerrell - August 21, 2025 at 09:35 AM

AG

“ My thoughts, prayers, and condolences to the Holloman family. Hoy, Hoy, Mighty Troy

Alejandro Guerrero - August 21, 2025 at 07:19 AM

NB

“ I met Steve thru the teacher paint crew. He has painted my house several times thru out the years, most recently last summer. What a nice guy! He will be missed! Deeann Boydston

Nikki Boydston - August 20, 2025 at 06:12 PM

SB

“ Music is such a beautiful gift from God! And the Holloman family all shared this wonderful talent! Steve shared this blessed gift in such a very special way, at Church, School with his students, and with the Topeka community! He gave so much to all of us and enriched so many young lives with this beautiful gift! He was such a fun, caring and sharing person! Topeka schools, and Community has lost an angel! We always enjoyed the Masses that the Hollomans shared their talents at Holy Name. He will be missed by all who knew him. My prayers for each of you.

Sally Brooke

sally brooke - August 20, 2025 at 03:46 PM

LW

“ To the Holloman family. So sorry for your loss of such a great man. He will be missed by all the people he came in contact with and made a huge connection.

Dash, Leslie, Kenna, Micah, Morgan and Nigel Williamson

Leslie Williamson - August 20, 2025 at 11:13 AM

ME

“ Our most sincere condolences, The alumni and active members of Gamma Nu Chapter of Kappa Sigma, Washburn University. AEKDB

Mike Emmert - August 20, 2025 at 08:26 AM

GL

“ Steve made a huge difference in so many lives. My mother, Virginia Rundell, absolutely loved your dad. She only would go to masses at Holy Name that the Holloman's were singing and playing at. The world is not as bright without him, but heaven has to be singing!!! God Bless you all.

germaine leuszler - August 19, 2025 at 08:54 PM

TA

“ Dear Holloman Family,

On behalf of the Topeka Public Schools District, we extend our deepest condolences to your family. We are deeply saddened to learn about the passing of our beloved former staff member Steve Holloman, what an incredible man who filled the halls of Troy with such joy, laughter, music, and love. Mr. Holloman was an incredible teacher representing care, strength, love, and kindness in everything he said and did. His legacy lives on through the countless staff and students' lives he touched over his 36 years of employment at Topeka High School and through his 41 years of service impacting countless families in elementary, middle and high school. Mr. Holloman is a person who entered every classroom with the certainty that every student would excel and he ensured that occurred. There are some people who you meet that have such an impact that the entire community is changed forever, he was one of those individuals. What an incredible person who lived a life that is an example for us all.

Please know that your Topeka family is thinking of you and all in the family. It is my personal prayer that you are comforted as God welcomes a good and faithful servant home. May your positive memories of a strong-hearted and beloved staff member and friend to many, uplift and comfort your family. A donation will be made in his name to Washburn and a memorial brick will be placed at the Burnett Center in memory of Mr. Steven Holloman, a man who forever changed Topeka.

*Dr. Tiffany Anderson
Superintendent of Schools
Unified School District 501*

Tiffany Anderson - August 19, 2025 at 05:25 PM

ME

“ Steve started out as my teacher for orchestra at Boswell Junior High. He was funny and kind. I still remember him singing, “I like my mozzarella with oats of hot sauce!! to the tune of La Sorelia...he later was a colleague when I be came a music teacher for Topeka Public Schools. Hw was. Great man!

Michiko Ehler - August 19, 2025 at 10:16 AM

IT

“ My deepest condolences to the Holloman family for your loss. Steve was a treasure whose immense energy and genuineness had an enormous impact on me and my classmates. The values he encouraged us to nourish in ourselves are the same ones I strive to cultivate in my own students. In this way, I hope that I can offer some source of solace in that Steve’s legacy will continue to reverberate even here across the ocean and anywhere else in the world my fellow Trojans may be who were blessed to have known and be mentored by this very special man. Steve will be dearly missed and I will cherish his memory all of my life.

Iefan Thompson
THS Class 2004

Iefan Thompson - August 19, 2025 at 05:02 AM

DW

“Hey Shriner!” Our traditional warm greeting. What began some 45 years ago as neighbors developed into a close friendship. Steve and Veronica have played an important and enduring role in our lives. Watching our young families grow in numbers and in age was a joy. We celebrated birthdays, graduations and weddings together as well as grieving the passing our parents.

Steve and I had very different career paths and seldom talked about our work. We simply enjoyed each other's company. Maybe we enjoyed getting completely away from our work life and welcomed the opportunity to unwind, relax and not vent. I must say though that Steve was one of the most positive individuals I have ever known. We enjoyed drinking some beers, watching our kids play, and talking sports, including KU football and basketball. I experienced a lot of firsts with Steve. First time I helped lay carpet, shingle a roof, or get raccoons out of a tree which resulted in the Fire Department's arrival. Heck, at first, I didn't even know I wanted kids until I held baby Heidi.

Spending the Fourth of July with the Holloman's was a tradition. Our family always looked forward to the Collins Park Parade and Steve leading the band, along with Veronica hosting a great picnic lunch. We had a great time shooting off fireworks; especially, the year he and I shot off several gross of bottle rockets onto the yard of a neighbor. Steve felt guilty the next morning and picked up all the sticks. In the early years we walked the neighborhood and sang Christmas carols. I appreciated him putting up with my off key, but enthusiastic, singing. I am sure he was glad I was never one of his students.

The Holloman clan regularly attended our annual Volleyball Party over Memorial Weekend. Steve was a full participant in many robust games right along with many of my high school friends from McPherson.

While we moved to Kansas City, we maintained our friendship. Our

lives continued to get busier and time would fly by, but we could always pick up where we left off and share a good laugh and have a great time.

Steve was a solid, long-time, real friend. Thea and I will miss him greatly.

Dan & Thea Walstrom

Dan Walstrom - August 18, 2025 at 09:38 PM

ME

“ *Wishing the Steven Holloman family strength and comfort during this difficult time. We met Steve when he was student teaching at Seaman High School under the guidance of Mr Gary Stroud. We knew then, that he had that "music educator" gift and a great concern for others. Please accept our warmest condolences.*

Michael and Debra Ebert

Michael Ebert - August 18, 2025 at 07:22 PM

KR

“ *My sincere condolences for the Holloman family. I taught at Randolph Elementary and always loved seeing Steve walk down the hallway! His joyful nature and bright smile were contagious. Prayers to all during this difficult time. Kelly Rahmeier former kindergarten teacher at Randolph Elementary*

Kelly Rahmeier - August 18, 2025 at 07:20 PM

MG

“ My prayers and condolences are sent to the Hollomon family. Mr Hollomon was a devoted husband father and grandfather and especially to his students He Always greeted me with a smile and how's it going Mr Hollomon May be gone from sight but will remain in our hearts Mike Goehring

mike goehring - August 18, 2025 at 04:32 PM

HS

“ Steve is indirectly responsible for my love of jazz and passing it along to my children and grandchildren. As a freshman in high school, I had no choice when it came to attending my sister's band concerts and watching her as marching band drum major. I was not a fan until she joined jazz band. Mr. Holloman quickly became the GOAT. Thank you, Mr Holloman, for your love of music and for your love of students.

Holly Swim - August 17, 2025 at 11:59 PM

DP

“ Dear Heidi and family, my family and I are saddened to hear about the passing of your father. What a legacy he has left behind. My son played the sax all four years at THS. I remember when I saw Mr Holloman at a football game and I thought to myself, "This man needs a raise!" He was a ball of energy and seemed to have such a great relationship with his students. Parent teacher conferences with him were so much fun. We laughed and laughed over things that had happened through the school year. When my son was an adult and an electrician, he did some work for Mr Holloman. He treated him just like he did at THS. Friendly and funny. He pulled out a band shirt for him and they were able to reminisce. My son said he overheard Mr Holloman bragging about him to other people when they were at a gathering. I never heard anyone say an unkind word about about your dad. Heidi was my granddaughters teacher. She also taught my great nieces and nephews. All of them loved Heidi. She was a joy to be around and funny and friendly like her dad. I have heard a passage I would like to share. I am sure you have heard it. During 9/11, the queen stated that, "Grief is the price we pay for love. Grief doesn't end but it changes. It is a passage, not a place to stay. It is not a sign of weakness, nor lack of faith. It is the price of love." Holloman family, take care. Your father was well loved by everyone. What a legacy.

Deb Packard

Deb Packard - August 17, 2025 at 07:30 PM

GH

“ My sympathy goes to all the Holloman family. When Steve came to Randolph to teach, he always had a smile on his face and greeted everyone. I loved his band concerts and the way he treated the band members with respect and they treated him with love and respect back. May all the good memories make your grief lighter and know he was loved by all! Gayla Hoyt, retired kindergarten teacher, Randolph.

Gayla Hoyt - August 17, 2025 at 03:09 PM

JT

“ Our deepest sympathy to Steve's family, and especially to Veronica, Kim's Larned neighbor, and to Haley, who taught Niel trumpet. Steve's legacy as a mentor and teacher who went above and beyond is remembered and cherished. Kim and Joy Thompson

Joy Thompson - August 17, 2025 at 02:26 PM

JL

“ Veronica, I am stunned and deeply saddened to hear the news of Steve’s passing. My heart breaks for you and your family. He was no doubt a great man. The obituary and all the wonderful tributes to him are powerful and highlight Steve’s outstanding legacy at Topeka High, in the community and most importantly the love of his family. I found myself smiling and laughing and shedding tears as I read them.

I am extremely proud and privileged to have known Steve. We first met in 1970 when he pledged the Kappa Sigma Fraternity at Washburn, and I became his pledge father. We were roommates in the fraternity house until I graduated in 1972. I enjoyed performing in music ensembles as well as recreational sports with him during those years. We both continued throughout our lives being sports fans (although I’m not a Cardinals fan) and music educators. Although we were in different communities, we were able to stay connected, and I am thankful for those times together.

*Karin and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
Jim Leacox*

Jim Leacox - August 17, 2025 at 10:20 AM

MB

“ My condolences to the Holloman family. Steve was a year behind me at THS. I also played in Marshalls and TJW with Steve . Mike Branaman

Mike Branaman - August 17, 2025 at 09:30 AM

KF

“ My life was greatly enhanced by the years I spent working with Steve at Topeka High. He loved teaching and he loved his students and I learned from him every day. He brought laughter and wisdom to Topeka High and was an outstanding mentor. My heart is with Veronica today and is filled with beautiful memories I have of each of them.

Kevin Fenton - August 17, 2025 at 08:45 AM

KA

“ The Holloman kids grew up on the next block. Always friendly, it is no surprise Steve became a great teacher and mentor. It was always a pleasure to reminisce when Veronica & Steve, grandkids in tow, stopped in my store. My thoughts are with your family... he will be greatly missed.

Karen Alfrey - August 16, 2025 at 10:42 PM

ML

“ Jim, Jan and all Steve's family and friends. I never knew Steve personally, but his reputation is legendary at not only THS, also all of Topeka. He gave a great deal of himself to build a music legacy that includes thousands of students. Prayers for his memory to bring you comfort. Mike LaFontaine, THS 74



Mike LaFontaine - August 16, 2025 at 07:43 PM

RR

To all of Steve's family and friends, I send my heartfelt sympathy to all of you. Know that Steve has touched and improved the quality of so many lives being a teacher for so many years. My heart goes out to all of you.

Sincerely,
Rhonda Rowan-Eddy

Rhonda Rowan-Eddy - August 16, 2025 at 10:15 PM

BK

Love you Aunt Rhonda ❤️

Beth Kamprath - August 19, 2025 at 02:35 AM

FE

“ My condolences to Veronica, the Holloman family, friends, and Steve’s students. Steve was a year behind me at Topeka High School. We were both clarinet players that sat next to each other. Steve became a close friend from high school forward, maybe because of his practical joke tendencies. I recall one rehearsal that I left my clarinet on my chair to get some music next to Steve. When I returned to play, I felt I blew wax out of the ears due to a penny I found in my barrel joint. When I turned to Steve, I saw his mischievous smile and laughter that revealed his devilish deed. We both got a big kick out of this. It wasn’t until my senior year as principle first clarinet and concert master for the band on our spring concert that I inadvertently got back at Steve. We had professional guest artist Bud Brisbois that I stood with before our first number, the Shostakovich 5th symphony, waiting for our director, Bruce Hoad, to have me come out to tune the band. I played the solo 1st clarinet part throughout the whole piece. Mr. Hoad forgot to have me come out, and started the band. I turned to Bud Brisbois to ask him, if I should go out to play, but he thought it might be a bad idea. Steve frantically pulled my part up and sight read the part, while sweating through the whole experience. Steve did a good job, for which we later talked often. Steve always created lasting experiences with everyone he knew. It was those experiences with Steve that are his legacy and allow us to learn lessons of life. May you rest in peace my friend.

Fred Evans - August 16, 2025 at 07:19 PM

JM

“ Kris, Heidi, Haley, and Brandon, I am so sorry for your loss. I enjoyed working at Randolph with you and Steve when he came to teach elementary band. My sympathy to all of you including Heidi, Haley and Brandon who I had as students at Randolph. I always enjoyed seeing Steve at Cooks eating and visiting with friends. He always had time for a short visit and always smiling. Julia Marsh

Julia Marsh - August 16, 2025 at 06:46 PM

AR

“ I was lucky enough to know him. He was truly one of a kind. The kind of person who made you feel seen, valued, and cared for. His heart was huge, and his loyalty ran deep. His love for his family wasn't just something he spoke about — it was something he lived. Whether it was through his actions, his words, or just the way his eyes lit up when he talked about his loved ones, it was obvious: family meant everything to him. He was a music man, always ready with a beat, a rhythm, a drummer to yell at, and a story to tell. He was a steady presence, a source of strength, and a warm light in the lives of so many. Big Dog, you left a mark on this world — one that won't fade. The lives you touched, the joy you brought, the love you gave — it all lives on. You may be gone, but your impact is lasting. You will be deeply missed, but never forgotten.

Ashleigh Rutherford - August 16, 2025 at 06:07 PM

DF

“ Diane Ferguson purchased the Treasured Lilies S pray for the family of Steven Holloman.



Diane Ferguson - August 16, 2025 at 04:49 PM

DF

“ Diane Ferguson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Steven Holloman.

Diane Ferguson - August 16, 2025 at 04:49 PM

TG

“ Steve holloman was a good person i used to visit Steve at ths band room and Steve holloman would give me candy and at the basketball games he would buy me a hot 🔥 dog and put peppers on the hot 🔥 dog im sending my symphaty to the holloman family may Steve rest in peace 🙏💜 □ terry I glenn

Terry Glenn - August 16, 2025 at 03:38 PM

FM

“ I wonder how many people can say that Steve is the reason why they are a music teacher or musician, or just a decent human? My musical journey with the Hollomans started when I was seven. My dad had just died and my mom thought piano lessons would be a good idea. Veronica was very patient towards an immature little guy who had no desire to practice anything but his Atari. Steve would come into their house on Collins and always say hi. He'd say he needed to go brush the peanut butter out of his teeth before starting his own private teaching.

Jump ahead seven years and I'm a freshman trumpeter in Steve's band. Piano wasn't my bag but trumpet really was and is, and Steve gave me more opportunities to grow and learn and gig over the next four years. In fact, Steve gave me my first paying gig playing for a wedding at Holy Name.

A highlight performance of every year was the July 4th Collins Park parade. I could count on seeing Steve's smiling face, a flip folder of music and a cold one post-performance.

I could fill pages with what Steve meant to me. Great director, amazing musician and teacher, and a person that the world will be worse without. He will be truly missed.

Fred Mullholland - August 16, 2025 at 03:24 PM

MM

“Where do I even begin. Never thought I'd be writing this so soon. Mr. Holloman was more than just a teacher to me. He was a mentor, a leader, and most importantly a friend. I came to THS in 1992 as a scared freshman and was out on the field for marching camp. When we did the drill down, I was the last freshman standing amongst all these upper classman. I remember him coming up to me and saying how impressed he was. Then there was the next 4 years where I became a section and squad leader after not making drum major, but he told me he needed my guidance for the low brass section. He was always very positive and supportive of us. Then when he asked me to catalog every piece of music we had and which concerts we played it from the beginning of his time, and it took weeks plugging it all into a spreadsheet. But I believe he used that program many years after I graduated. Lol then when I became a dad before my senior year, everyone told me I had ruined my life and would never graduate. H told me his door was always open to talk, vent, whatever I needed. That's the kind of person he was. I went along to band days as a student, a chaperone, and many times as a bus driver for the band. When I went on to my current job driving busses across the country, I would always send him texts letting him know about the cool places I was seeing and things I was getting to do, especially after the passing of my mother. I will save and cherish every one of those text messages. We would text on birthdays, fathers and mothers day, Xmas, etc. He was like a second dad to me. This one is gonna hurt for a long time. Topeka lost a great one and im willing to bet Mr. Harris was there waiting with a joke and a coke for him just like the old days. God now has an amazing leader for the Angel marching band and they are about to strike up that band. Love you H. Miss you already.

Matthew Millard - August 16, 2025 at 02:18 PM

MM

I also forgot that the reason i have my nickname today is because he gave it to me. We had 4 Matt's in the band ans every time he would say hey matt we would ask which one. Lol he finally gave us all nicknames. Mine if you change the i in Millard to and A you get a mallard, a duck. Lol and its stuck with me for 34 years.

Matthew Millard - August 16, 2025 at 02:20 PM

RH

Ha! ha! ha!!!

Renee Hall - August 16, 2025 at 02:30 PM

BW

“ *Veronica and Family:
Thank you for sharing Steve with our community. Please remember to touch your heart and you will find him there. Remember to look up!
Love,
Beverly Fox Williams*

BA Williams - August 16, 2025 at 01:23 PM

RH

He was truly a gift to our church & our community of Topeka!

Renee Hall - August 16, 2025 at 02:32 PM

JW

“ *As a parent, I admired Mr Holloman's influence on his students! My two children was in THS Band and they never complained about getting up early for practice or staying for any band activities! They were fully dedicated to Mr. Holloman and I truly believe their success was in part do to his leadership, his caring and his ability to make band a fun activity! His legacy lives on in everyone he had contact with and Topeka should be proud to have him as a legend,
John Warren*

John Warren - August 16, 2025 at 01:16 PM

RH

WOWOWOW what a great commentary about Steve H!!

Renee Hall - August 16, 2025 at 02:31 PM

DH

I didn't have Steve as a teacher, but I went to room 332 as a member of the orchestra. When my teacher, Larry Harris would tell one of his corny jokes, Steve would look like "Really? That's the best you have?" But I could tell he thought it was a riot. He would tease me, calling me Chaka Khan, as my last name sounded the same. I pretended to be offended, it was our joke.

*Debbie Conn Huckstep
Class of 1986*

Deborah Huckstep - August 16, 2025 at 03:28 PM

JM

“ I met Mr Holloman at Boswell Junior High, not in band but choir. Technically, there wasn't a choir class the first year, we met at lunch. Mr Holloman managed to get choir added to the curriculum the second year because he knew there were kids that wanted that musical outlet. That passion kept me singing all through my high school and college years! RIP Mr Holloman

Jeff McGhehey - August 16, 2025 at 12:40 PM

CK

I met Mr Holloman at Boswell Jr High where he taught orchestra and choir. He always made me feel like I was a better musician than I ever was. He made me first chair violin for a time which may have been his tricky way to make me practice more not to let him down. He also gave me the opportunity to sing a solo part at the Christmas concert my 9th grade year. I grew up and became a teacher and I'd like to think that I used/use some of the tricky tactics I learned from my favorite teacher with my students. I think of Mr Holloman often when I hear a song on the radio that we sang at Boswell. I saw Mr and Mrs Holloman at the mall a few years ago and they called me by my first name. All those kids, all those years, and he knew me by name, it was amazing!! Mr Holloman will be greatly missed on this planet, but like many others have said his legacy lives on forever. Prayers go out to his family, he was definitely to leader of the band!

Carolyn (Erickson) Kintzel - August 18, 2025 at 10:21 PM

TD

“ *What can I say about Steve Holloman? The Hollomans were instrumental in every aspect of my musical life from elementary school through high school and beyond. Veronica was my elementary music teacher. She recognized and encouraged gifts in me that I wasn't quite sure I really had. I went on to play trumpet under Steve Holloman at Boswell junior high and then on at Topeka High. And if that's where it had ended, that would have been a massive blessing and would have been enough. But when I graduated college with a degree in music ed, Steve was instrumental in helping me get my first job at Hayden High School. The first week I was teaching there, he burst in to my band class with his Assistant, instruments at ready, and played the Topeka High School fight song for me in the middle of my class. They waved a quick goodbye and dashed out the door to get back to their own class. Those first few years as an educator, Steve was an amazing mentor. He answered every question I had no matter how silly. He gave me tips and tricks on how to be an effective teacher. When I had kids who needed to audition for honor band, he would take them to Topeka High and record them because he already had things set up to do that. Or so he said. And when students made honor band from Hayden, he would often just load them up in the Topeka high bus with his kids and drive them down to Wichita and keep an eye on them for me. He made everything I did as a teacher easier and more effective. And always with a smile. I wish I could have made connections with my students the way he made connections with his. But I think he was just one in a million. ❤️*

Tess Dozier Dykes - August 16, 2025 at 12:31 PM

JM

“ Steve's parents were longtime friends with my parents which resulted in many, many family get togethers. Some of my best memories are with Steve and the rest of the Holloman kids as we took over the neighborhood with play and adventure. Knowing Steve grew up to be such a huge presence at THS and beyond is no surprise. God Speed, Stevie.

Janet Morgan - August 16, 2025 at 12:07 PM

SE

“ Many prayers to the family! Steve and I both took clarinet lessons from Mr. Van Slyke. I was only in elementary school, and he was in college. When he became our band director my senior year, I was so excited! I know he left a legacy of kindness and caring, of strong musicianship and work ethic. of being your best at all times. Great life lessons. Thank you for all you gave to us.

Stacy Eckert - August 16, 2025 at 11:42 AM

MM

“ Brandon, I am so sorry about the loss of your of your dad. I've always been touched by the way you often spoke of him as a teacher, a painting buddy and, most especially, as a dad. I send prayers and my sincere condolences.
Mike Murphy

Mke Murphy - August 16, 2025 at 11:39 AM

GB

“ Diana and I are so saddened by Steve’s passing. I enjoyed attending band camp in Hastings, Nebraska with him for years. He was a kind man and always put his family and students first. He often shared stories about his children and his students. Everyone loved him. Steve always had a wonderful smile and fun laugh. It was fun when he directed Marshall’s band. I was invited to conduct Nobels of the Mystic Shrine with his Topeka High Band. I was nervous because this was a large music group and they played well. I just followed the students and it went well. I was grateful for being invited to directed my Alma Maters band. Heaven just gained a wonderful man. I am better for knowing him. He will be greatly missed.

Gary Branaman - August 16, 2025 at 10:16 AM

CA

“ To the family: I am so sorry for your loss. Words cannot describe the impact that Steve had on my life; always smiling every moment I walked into THS to rehearse with his kids for music festivals, the many years of playing in Marshall’s Band together, the driving to State Music Festival and running late, all the get togethers, but most importantly being godfather to my son. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Cathy Altman - August 16, 2025 at 09:42 AM

TG

“ I enjoyed playing in Marshall's Band next to Steve (Dad, Grandpa) and when he directed the band. I always liked his choice in music (even "The Marriage of Figaro" which got many eye rolls from the clarinet section - well, at least from me!). There are so many people in Topeka and beyond who have been touched by Steve's kindness, energy, generosity, and the the way he genuinely cared for each and every human being he encountered. I think "He was a great man" fits him very well. I am so sorry for your loss. You all are in my prayers.

Sincerely,
Terri Good

Terri Good - August 15, 2025 at 08:12 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Steven Holloman.



August 15, 2025 at 07:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Steven Holloman.

August 15, 2025 at 07:12 PM