



Hal Richard Paddock

July 19, 1933 - September 24, 2019

Hal Richard Paddock, 86, of Kankakee, passed away on September 24, 2019 at Riverside Senior Life in Bourbonnais. He was born July 19, 1933, in Fillmore, Illinois, to Elmer and Mildred Spears Paddock, who preceded him in death.

After graduating from Fillmore High School in 1951, Mr. Paddock served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War as a helmsman aboard the U.S.S. Maddox and later the U.S.S. Quincy. In 1962, he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Eastern Illinois University and in 1966, he graduated from the University of Illinois with a Master's Degree in Education.

Mr. Paddock spent over 30 years in education, beginning in Hindsboro, Illinois; Bryce-Ash Grove, Illinois, where he taught grades 6, 7, 8 combined, served as principal and coach, bookkeeper and sometimes bus driver. He was a teacher and then a principal for over 30 years in Peotone, Illinois.

During his high school years, Mr. Paddock was one of the top basketball scorers in the state of Illinois.

In retirement, Mr. Paddock was a volunteer at Buckley Homestead Park in Lowell, Indiana, and a member of the Kankakee Veterans of Foreign War and American Legion.

He married his wife of over 60 years, Merry Roberts (Leach) of Alton, Illinois, on March 27, 1956, who preceded him in death. One son, a grandson, and one great-grandson survive him.

Burial will be private with graveside rites.

Tribute Wall

WS

“ Dear Tim, Please accept my sincere sympathy on the passing of your father. He was a good man who truly cared about people. I worked under him as a teacher for many years at Peotone Elementary, and he helped and mentored me as I sought to become an administrator. As a result I was able to follow him as principal at the school. I will long remember his many kindnesses. He and Merry were both a real credit to all educators. Please extend my condolences to your family.

W. Carleen Schmidt

W. Carleen Schmidt - September 25, 2019 at 11:54 PM

TP

“ So sorry for your loss. Mr. Paddock was a great person and a wonderful principal. Peotone students were lucky to have had both Mr. And Mrs. Paddock touch their lives.

Tamra Russell Piper - September 25, 2019 at 10:37 PM

TC

“ I'm sorry to hear of your Dad. He was a Great man, person, an all out human being. My prayers and heart are with you and your family.



Tiger Croxen - September 25, 2019 at 04:18 PM

 Debi
George

“ *Condolences to Tim and his family. I liked this man when he was my principal in junior high and in high school. He was always willing to listen and was very understanding. Since my mom did not have a car available when I was in high school, Mr. Paddock would drive me home whenever I became ill at school. After i was teaching a few years, I was honored to be working for him at Peotone Elementary. Now that I was older I appreciated him even more. He went out of his way constantly to help teachers and students whenever he could! Now being retired, I still think of him fondly.*

Debi Honsbruch George

Debi George - September 25, 2019 at 03:11 PM

BO

“ *Tim, so sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad, he was truly a great person at school and out of school. I remember well all the times you and I spent at the old junior high school playing hide and seek with your dad and shooting baskets, both your mom and dad were always very nice to me and I will remember them for all they gave to the Peotone kids and community. Rest in Peace Mr. and Mrs. Paddock*

Bill Osborne - September 25, 2019 at 11:33 AM

AO

“ My condolences to the Paddock family. Several years after I graduated from Peotone High School I ran into Mr. Paddock on a Friday night in Bradley, Illinois. I loved to throw horseshoes and always heard a gentleman in Bradley had several horseshoe pits in his backyard. Horseshoe pitching enthusiasts would gather to throw each Friday night and the one night I was there much to my surprise Mr. Paddock comes walking through the fence gate. Teams were formed and I was throwing against Mr. Paddock and soon realized I was battling a formidable opponent. Our game ended very quickly as Mr. Paddock and his teammate threw multiple ringers scoring 21 points very quickly. It was then another gentleman who was watching informed me not to feel badly for my poor performance that Mr. Paddock was one of the top horseshoe pitchers in the state of Illinois. I really enjoyed that time with him as two adult friends and not as a student and school principal both sharing the love for the sport of horseshoe pitching. Rest in peace Mr. Paddock you have no idea the influence you had on many young adults lives!

Alan Osborne - September 25, 2019 at 07:45 AM

AS

“ Tim so sorry for the loss of your Dad and your Mom. Always enjoyed running into them over the years. They were very kind people stopping to speak and catch up. They will be missed.

Arta Snyder - September 24, 2019 at 01:10 PM