



Dr. Michael A. Brookshaw

June 20, 1952 - April 8, 2016

Dr. Michael A. Brookshaw, age 63, of Kankakee and formerly of Winston-Salem, NC, died Friday, April 8, 2016 at Presence St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee.

He was born June 20, 1952 in Kankakee, the son of William & Mercedes Olivia DeVan Brookshaw.

Dr. Brookshaw was a graduate of Bishop McNamara High School and Southern Illinois University. He earned his PhD from the University of Illinois. He was Chairman of the Department of World Languages and Cultures at Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina where he also was a foreign language professor. Dr. Brookshaw received the prestigious honor of Professor Emeritus at the University. He was very much involved in the education system. His hobbies included listening to music, loved movies, was an avid fan of technology. He loved to travel, was an avid reader, and especially loved teaching. He was very devoted to his family.

Surviving are his siblings, William Jr. & Bonnie Brookshaw of Memphis, TN, Stephen M. Brookshaw of Memphis, TN, Carolyn O. Moore of Kankakee, Thelma F. "Tina" Brookshaw of Park Forest, Mary V. Brookshaw of Kankakee, and Judy M. Dear of Kankakee; many nieces and nephews; and many dear friends which included Jim Burns, Ruth Fair, Dr. Valerie Saddler, Dr. Carolyn Anderson and the WSSU colleagues

He is preceded in death by his parents; and six siblings, Theodore Brookshaw, Eleanor Brookshaw, Charmaine Woods, Ellen A. Gholston,

Lawrence T. Brookshaw, and Jeffrey Brookshaw.

A private family visitation will be held.

A public funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m. Friday, April 15, 2016 at Mound Grove Cemetery Chapel in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to Winston-Salem State University or donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

Mound Grove Gardens Cemetery

1000 N. Greenwood
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-6726

Previous Events

Cemetery Chapel Service

APR **15**. 10:00 AM (CT)

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Kankakee, IL 60901
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Tribute Wall



“ My heart is so heavy right now (10.24.16) as I am just finding out about the passing of Dr. Brookshaw. This man was my teacher, a father figure and my friend. After graduating from WSSU, Dr. Brookshaw would call to see how I was doing and how I was progressing. Never failing to give an encouraging word. He was a tough man, but he was a man with very high expectations for those he loved. It is because of him and his encouragement, I grew to be a successful, loving, and dedicated educator just as he was. Though he's no longer here on Earth, he'll forever be in my heart and memory. Rest in Heaven Dr. Brookshaw, until we meet again.

~Dr. Zevlin Staten

Silverio Jimenez - October 24, 2016 at 08:39 PM

NC

“ blessings to Michael, may he be at peace.



nansi chandler-norum - June 21, 2016 at 11:32 PM

EC

“ My deepest sympathy to the Brookshaw family. Michael & I both grew up in Kankakee, Illinois and attended Southern Illinois University in the 70's. I remember him being a friendly person which is characteristic of the entire Brookshaw family.

Elayne Coffie
Grand Prairie, TX

ELAYNE COFFIE - May 20, 2016 at 08:07 AM



“ *Michael is one of my very best friends, and I will forever miss him. I will never forget my wonderful visits to Kankakee. As an only child, I found myself a great big amazing family. I love you Michael.*

*Jim
803-240-0224*

Jim Burns - April 14, 2016 at 03:59 PM

AC

“ *To: The Family of Dr. Michael A. Brookshaw:
We Would Like to Express Our Sincere
Condolences on The Loss of Your Love One.
May God Continue to Bless Your Family.*

Annette Crossley



Annette Crossley - April 13, 2016 at 11:22 PM

CJ

“ *So Sorry For Your Loss*



Catherine jackson - April 13, 2016 at 07:33 PM

ML

“ *Marvin and Judy Lewis purchased the Fruit Abou
nds for the family of Dr. Michael A. Brookshaw.*



Marvin and Judy Lewis - April 13, 2016 at 07:32 PM

EG

“ *To the Brookshaw Family:*

We express our deepest condolence to you. Your lost is God's gain; as we know that the Lord has added another beautiful flower to his everlasting garden.

We will keep your family in our prayers.

Lovingly,

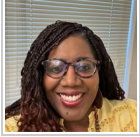
Wren and Eddye Gill

Eddye Gill - April 13, 2016 at 11:21 AM

RF

“ What could I say that someone else has not already said. Dr. Michael Brookshaw was my former boss at Winston-Salem State University. He and I became extremely close during that time. He was more to me than just my boss, he was my friend. I can honestly say that out of my 47 years I have never had anyone that I could honestly say was my friend other than my mother and Dr. Brookshaw. I remember one time during my undergrad days that I had a literature review that I had to do. So I go to Dr. Brookshaw and tell him that I have this paper to do and don't know how to do it. To make a long story short, Dr. Brookshaw took time out of his busy schedule to help me prepare this paper that was about 26 pages long. He would stay late after work, we would email each other over the weekend, he made sure that by the time we finished that paper I would know how to do another. Dr. Brookshaw has been there for me more than I can say. He was the type of person that if he saw and knew that you had the potential to be better, he took it upon himself to push you until you became better. Dr. Brookshaw was like the brother that I never had. I could always call him and share things with him. Because of him I am a much better person, because of him I have learned to push myself as he would push me, even now I feel his presence in this time of sorry. I will forever remember Dr. Michael Brookshaw for his zest for life. He never let anything stop him from achieving his goals in life. He was a vibrant man who took control over his life and not allowed his life to take control over him. I will forever remember him for the knowledge that he shared with me about life. He will always be in my heart. Thank you Dr. Brookshaw for allowing me to be a part of your life. I will surely miss you

Ruth Fair - April 13, 2016 at 09:34 AM



“ Dear Family of Dr. Michael Brookshaw,

I am heartbroken that my mentor, professor, and friend is gone. He touched my life as an adult student of Spanish. He encouraged me to work to surpass all of my educational goals. Our last conversation was on the phone and he told me to "retire and live life to the fullest." He laughed when I told him I had to first put my children through college. He was such an inspiration and full of wisdom. I am honored to call him my mentor and friend. He will be missed, but his investment in the lives of his students is evident in their success!

*Kimberly Johnson-Martin
Assistant Principal
North Rowan High School*



Kimberly Martin - April 12, 2016 at 10:19 PM

SS

“ To the Brookshaw Family

My heart goes out to all of your wonderful family. I ven though I only meant Michael two Times he was a warm very caring person,whose Chrasma was most definitely mores impressive. I know how much his students seemed to adore him from previous writings, But his family are the ones who have a void in their lives. May God Bless you and keep your family together with peace and tranquility knowing Michael,is out of pain and celebrating wth his family who have gone before him. May they be rejoicing upon seeing his prescence before them at the Lord's table. God bless and keep you in his prayers.

*Much heartfelt sympathy .
Sherri & Jim Steiger*



sherri steiger - April 12, 2016 at 08:28 PM

RM

“ I can't believe my favorite Spanish Teacher is no longer with us. He was a Great Teacher, I was a Poor Student. He taught me more than Espanol, he taught me life lessons. He taught me how to persevere. He taught me how to be a caring person. Senor Brookshaw went above and beyond and I am forever indebted to him. He will be missed. Class of 1994.

Rodrick Murray - April 12, 2016 at 07:35 PM

SP

“ I'm lost for words and I wish I could write him something in Spanish!!! Wow Dr. Brookshaw you changed my world!!!!!!!!!!!!SU class of 2002

Shante Parker - April 12, 2016 at 03:26 PM

ED

“ Tough Professor. Warm heart! Absolutely one of the greats! He required excellence from each student he encountered, and nothing less. Thank you for all you contributed to WSSU and to your students! " 'A' en su vida" Rest in peace!

Ebony V. Douglas - April 12, 2016 at 11:16 AM

KS

“ He was my favorite professor. He convinced mt to change my major from journalism to Spanish. He was like the strict uncle that you didn't want to disappoint but had a heart of gold. I will truly miss him. He shaped my future and taught me about Spanish literature and culture....and really how much our African roots run through S. America. Rest in paradise Dr. Brookshaw.

Keshia Covington Sadler - April 12, 2016 at 09:38 AM

NC

“Wow! I'm shocked and saddened by the news! I will never forget when we were students in his classroom how he suggested to me that I should major in Spanish! He had total confidence that I could master Spanish as a second language. In retrospect, oh how I wish I had seen that to fruition! Deepest Condolences to his family and WSSU students, faculty & staff. Mourning the loss of a phenomenal and passionate professor! R.I.P. Dr. Brookshaw! Gone but never forgotten. 💔 C/o '91



Natasha C. - April 11, 2016 at 08:06 PM

JE

“Dr. Brookshaw was such a big part of my life during my undergraduate years as a student at WSSU. He is one of those individuals that helped shape and mold me into the woman I am today. Señor Brookshaw te extraño tanto! I will never ever forget him...I must go find one of the many recommendation letters he wrote for me as a student when I was applying to be a part of an academic program or organization. He invested so much time in me and I am proud to say I am a living product of what he was so passionate about and that was, HIS STUDENTS to be SUCCESSFUL! We love you! #BrookshawKid #EsLaVerdad

Joevanne Estrada - April 11, 2016 at 07:59 PM

SA

“ It saddens my heart to hear of the passing of a great professor my twin sister and I had. He believed in us and our dreams. We will never forget the long hours we spent in his office talking about education, our dreams, church (trying to convince him to go), and life in general. He was a great man, and I am glad he was apart of our lives, and a wonderful professor. Love him always, Stacie and Tracie Alston 😭

Stacie And Tracie Alston - April 11, 2016 at 07:40 PM

NM

“ To say Dr Brookshaw was amazing and my favorite professor would be an understatement of epic proportions. I don't think I've met a professor who cared more for their students and their growth. He not only encouraged us to learn the language but to experience and live it as well. His lessons went beyond the classroom and as a result he'll be greatly missed. Easily one of the greatest people I will ever know. Descansa en paz.



Nefe M - April 11, 2016 at 04:58 PM

CD

“ Awww man, Dr. Brookshaw you will surely be missed. As a Mass Comm major I dreaded the required two years of Spanish that I had to take. Yet, you pushed us, made us laugh and learning a second language, well, tolerable. "Creo que si!" as you would say. The broken Spanish that I can speak and comprehend 13 yrs later, is because of you! You knew your stuff, and it made me proud to be in the skin I'm in. Rest in peace!

Crystal D. - April 11, 2016 at 03:31 PM

 Alexis
Devone

“ *Dr. Brookshaw was a great man and very passionate about his craft! May he Rest in Peace!*

Alexis Devone - April 11, 2016 at 11:42 AM

TC

“ *Dr. Brookshaw was a great man and one of those people that made an impact on everyone around him. He will be missed but never forgotten.*

Tolly Carr

Tolly Carr - April 11, 2016 at 11:19 AM

AP

“ *Dear Mary Virginia and Family,*

Oh My God; I am devastated! Dr. Brookshaw was my friend and I will miss him wholeheartedly. He was a joy to be around; kind, considerate and loving. He had a heart of gold; love the students here at Winston-Salem State University, so much so that he would pay for special events for them out of his pocket. When he got to know you, you were on his gift list; for Valentines Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and your Birthday. He never forgot you. He visited you when you were sick and showered you with flowers for no reason - he was special! God's Angel is on his way - Rest in Peace Michael, you were loved!!!

*Annetta Payne
Office of the Dean
The College of Arts, Sciences, Business and Education
Winston-Salem State University*

Annetta Payne - April 11, 2016 at 11:03 AM

MS

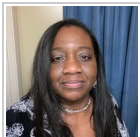
“ Dear Family,

Dr. Brookshaw was my colleague - but most of all, he was my friend! I just read the message informing the university community of his passing and I am so deeply saddened by the news.

My mind quickly races back to the last time that I saw him. He was in the packing lot behind the Hall-Patterson Building - packing his car with the contents of his office. I quickly walked over and gave him a BIG HUG; it was the first time that I had seen him since he had left for the surgery. He said, "it is time to take care of me." As I was on my way to class, our conversation was very brief. Oh, how I now wish that I had more time to talk with him.

I will truly miss our spirited conversations, the candy treats and the wise counsel that he always shared. Dr. Brookshaw was my friend. I miss him already.

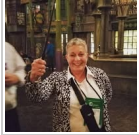
Ms. Sheryl Smith - April 11, 2016 at 10:14 AM



“ A stellar colleague to say the least. I am deeply saddened to know that he is gone. He will be missed. To the family, may God bless you and keep you. May He shine His face toward you and give you peace. Johanna Porter-Kelley



Johanna Kelley - April 11, 2016 at 06:58 AM



“ *I just saw Michael and Mary in Menards not long ago, he gave me a big hug and told me how glad he was to see me. He was such a wonderful man, I have known him since he was a little boy, what a wonderful family the Brookshaw' s are, I feel privledged to have known Michael. My sympathy to all his family.*



Tina Guenette Grise - April 09, 2016 at 06:07 PM