



Dr. James Daniels

November 14, 1935 - June 10, 2007

James Douglas Daniels, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, died Sunday, June 10, 2007, in Columbia, SC. Mr. Daniels was born in Harmony, NC, on November 14, 1935, to the late James Carr and Rhetta Douglas Daniels. He is survived by his wife of forty-nine years, Marie B. Daniels, of Blythewood, SC; sons, Christopher James Daniels and his wife, Teri, of Columbia, SC, and Gregory John Daniels of Athens, GA; daughter, Susan Daniels Henderson and her husband, Kyle, of Cheraw, SC; five grandchildren, Christopher, Justin, and Alexander Daniels of Columbia, and Catherine and John Henderson of Cheraw; and sister, Pat McJunkin, and her sons, Jim and John McJunkin, of Statesville, NC.

Mr. Daniels graduated from Davidson College in 1957 and served as a Lieutenant in the United States Army from 1958-1960. From 1961-1965, Mr. Daniels was a faculty member and coach at Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, VA. After earning his Ph.D. degree in history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1968, he taught history at Valdosta State College in Georgia and served as Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences from 1970-1980. Mr. Daniels served as President and Professor of History at Coker College in Hartsville, SC, from January 1981 until his retirement in June 2002 at which time he received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor.

Mr. Daniels was a member of the Southern Historical Association, Sigma Chi Fraternity, and Omicron Delta Kappa. He is listed in the Directory of American

Scholars and was a frequent public speaker in historical, athletic, and higher education areas. He was Past President of the Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Hartsville Rotary Club, member of NationsBank Advisory Board (Bank of America), and the Pee Dee Heritage Board. Mr. Daniels served the Presbyterian Church as a Sunday School teacher, a deacon, and an elder. He also served on numerous presbytery committees and as a Commissioner in 1991 to the 203rd Presbyterian General Assembly. He especially enjoyed preaching in churches of various denominations in the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina.

Mr. Daniels enjoyed teaching, reading, collecting Presidential biographies, fishing, and following his favorite teams: the UNC Tar Heels, the Boston Red Sox, the Coker Cobras, and the Hammond Sky Hawks. While living in Valdosta, GA, he was a member of the Deep South Basketball Officials' Association, refereeing high school and junior college games. He valued his friendships and associations with the players, coaches, and other referees. In addition, Mr. Daniels served on the board of the Valdosta Boys' Club and coached and mentored countless boys in both football and baseball, stressing the importance of the following three things to them: God, family, and your team.

A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, June 12, at 11:00 a.m. at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia, with visitation following in the parlor. A memorial service will be held that afternoon at 5:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Hartsville, followed by visitation in the Family Life Center. Mr. Daniels will be buried in a private ceremony at Magnolia Cemetery, Hartsville. Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Coker College, or a charity of one's choice.

The family extends sincere appreciation and gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and staff of Palmetto Health Baptist ICU for their loving care.

Previous Events

Service

JUN 12. 5:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
104 E. Home Ave.
Hartsville, SC

Tribute Wall



“ I was resently reading *The Messenger* online and happened to see the obituary for Dr. James Daneiels. I am native of Hartsville, but have since moved away. Dr. Daniels was one of the kindest people I've ever met. I had the chance to meet him at Coker College when I was in about the fifth or sixth grade. He always had a smile on his face and would cut a joke to make everyone laugh. I remember asking him to "get me in college" when I got old enough. He laughed and made the promise that he would. I saw him a few years after that, and he actually remember me and my statement. I was so shocked, that he cared enough to remember what I asked him. He has held a special place in my heart ever since. Sadly enough, I wound up choosing another college, and I am now an educator in the Aiken County School District. He has forever made an impact on my life, and I hope to one day touch students and others lives the way he has done. My prayers are with you. Asia##imported-begin##Asia Kelley##imported-end##

October 26, 2007 at 03:47 PM



“ We at the Darlington County Veterans office extend our sincere sympathy to this veteran's family.

We appreciate his service to our country.

Darlington County Veteran Affairs Office

Warner DeHart, Service Officer

Tara Stokes Waddell, Asst. Serv Off.

Judy Norwood Knight##imported-begin##Darlington County Veteran Affairs Office##imported-end##

July 11, 2007 at 01:35 PM



“ I just learned of Dean Daniels' passing, and I am deeply saddened. I worked as a student assistant in his office while I attended VSC (1979-82). He was the most caring, kind, compassionate, sincere person I have ever met. One memory pervades my thoughts as I ponder his passing. . . I had a huge test in zoology that I felt totally unprepared for. Something compelled me to go to his office the morning of the test--when he saw my dilemma and how worried and upset I was, he closed his office door, took my hands in his large ones and prayed for me! I was in awe that a man with such status and responsibility took the time to pray with me, a college student! He was like a father to me, and I missed him sorely after he moved to Coker College.

Dean Daniels--that all I ever called him--was truly a great man and I have thought of him many times over the years. I learned from him that no matter who you are or what your status in life, loving your fellow man should always come first. I was indeed blessed by God to have known him.

God bless you as you deal with your loss. Hold onto the memories, for memories of Dean Daniels are truly precious ones.

Deena Savelle Hood###imported-begin##Deena Savelle Hood###imported-end##

June 19, 2007 at 11:28 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Dr. Daniels. I just found out about his passing. He was a wonderful man and a super fishing buddy. I will always treasure that trip. My condolences to the family. I love and miss all of you. Tania###imported-begin##Tania Drinkard###imported-end##

June 16, 2007 at 05:56 PM



“ Dear Mrs. Daniels, and family. I have had the honor of knowing such a great friend, and sit in his Office for an Interview years ago. I just got in from Church Camp today, and that's when I saw the announcement in the paper. Jim was a Legacy to Coker College and to this community. There was never a time that I passed Dr. Jim and Miss Marie in stores or anywhere, that he never smiled. I will cherish the memories of my dear friend. I wish I had known sooner, so that I could have paid my respects to you, Susan and the sons. Jim had a loving family that stood by him and God will bless you for that. Please know that all of you are in my thoughts and my prayers that God will send you the comfort that you need during the days ahead. And The Angels will encamp around all of you. God bless.##imported-begin##Grady O'Neal##imported-end##

June 15, 2007 at 05:53 PM



“ My heartfelt condolences are extended to your family during your time of bereavement and thereafter. I am a high school classmate of Susan's and was very fond of Dr. Daniels.

Find your strength and solace in GOD.##imported-begin##Audra Marine##imported-end##

June 15, 2007 at 05:34 PM



“ Marie and Family,
Herb and I want you to know you are in our prayers during this time of your loss. Our faith as Christians is that Jim in with our Lord and free of all pain and suffering. How wonderful that we have that assurance. We know you will miss him and so will all the rest of us.##imported-begin##Herb and Betty Roos##imported-end##

June 15, 2007 at 11:04 AM



“ *Dear Daniels Family,*

Some people are given the gifts of encouragement and edification. Dr. Daniels was such a person. He will certainly be missed. God bless you all.##imported-begin##Raymond H. Fisher, Class of 1978##imported-end##

June 14, 2007 at 12:46 PM



“ *Dr. Daniels is one of the best professors I have ever known. I was so blessed to have him for several courses in undergraduate & graduate schools at Valdosta State. He is the primary reason I went to graduate school and became a history professor. I began teaching in 1971 and continued to do so, until 2005.*

Dr. Daniels taught me so much about life, American history, teaching, research, writing, and about caring about students and the job you do for them.

I am grieved by his passing, but it is comforting to know that some his "class" lives on in the lives of the many students he enriched so greatly.##imported-begin##Howard freeman, Jr.##imported-end##

June 14, 2007 at 12:24 PM



“ I learned a lot more than just U.S. history when I took Dr. Daniels' course in the early 1970s, He encouraged me academically, and he showed an interest in his students that contributed to the sense of community at the time at Valdosta State College. I didn't always agree with him--we were a generation apart at a time when that gap was exacerbated by a wide range of issues--but he always had my respect. And, I liked him! He was a very good man.

Robert Bohler

Student Publications Director

Texas Christian University

Fort Worth, Texas###imported-begin##Robert Bohler###imported-end##

June 14, 2007 at 08:51 AM



“ Dr. Daniels had the amazing ability to bring Coker students, staff, alums, and Hartsville citizens into one big community and gave us a real sense of family that still exists today. We are so grateful for his life and his legacy. My condolences to his family.###imported-begin##Becky Sparrow, Coker College Class of 1964###imported-end##

June 14, 2007 at 07:11 AM



“ Dr. Daniels was a dear man. He always had a smile on his face and always made an effort to come across campus just to say hello to you rain or shine. I will always remember his words of wisdom and cherish the class that I had the privilege of taking under him while I was at Coker. He will be truly missed and remembered by many for years to come.###imported-begin##Lora Harrell###imported-end##

June 13, 2007 at 09:37 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to you. Jim was one of the finest men I have ever met. His life bore marvelous fruit for mankind. I know heaven has been enriched by his arrival.*

God bless all of you in your loss.##imported-begin##Margie Tedders, Retiree from Valdosta State University##imported-end##

June 13, 2007 at 07:01 PM



“ *With Deepest Sympathy to the family. Dr. Daniels will be missed greatly. He left a huge impression upon my life. God bless your family.##imported-begin##Lisa Alewine##imported-end##*

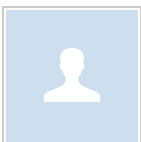
June 13, 2007 at 03:39 PM



“ *You will be missed!*

MM##imported-begin##Mike McKinley##imported-end##

June 13, 2007 at 02:51 PM



“ *To the Daniels Family:
I know that you are proud of the legacy left by Dr. Daniels. He touched my life with his kindness and sincere compassion. We all are the better for having known him. He was a good example for all. I pray that God will bless you with His comfort and care.##imported-begin##MaryEsther Dowdy##imported-end##*

June 13, 2007 at 02:34 PM



“ I'm sorry to learn of your loss, but so thankful we know where Dr Daniels is. I'm sure he and my dad are enjoying each other's company as I write this. Sincerely, Hamp##imported-begin##Wade Bell (Hamp)##imported-end##

June 13, 2007 at 12:41 PM



“ I send my love to all...##imported-begin##Samantha McJunkin ##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 10:24 PM



“ Our warmest sympathies and condolences reach out to Jim Daniel's family for his loss. As a young professor, I initially served with Jim, who I admired. He was a giving and caring man, and I will always remember his good will and encouragment for my own academic and administrative development,as this progressed until my retirement from Valdosta State after 30 years. I will always remember the faith and confidence he invested in me...Jim Daniels was a good man, and he was a splendid human being whose life was sharing and caring for others. Candy and I will miss him in many ways...
Ron Barnette
Professor Emeritus of Philosophy
Valdosta State University##imported-begin##Ron Barnette##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 10:14 PM



“ Thank for being such a great friend.##imported-begin##Kent Nance##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 06:30 PM



“ *Daniels Family*
I am sorry to hear about your loss.
Please know that your family is in my thoughts and
prays.##imported-begin##Pat Rozier##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 03:53 PM



“ *Dear Marie and family,*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you, your children and your extended family. Jim was a fine man and an inspiration to all who knew and loved him. He will be sorely missed. His life had such a powerful impact on so many lives and we count ourselves as fortunate to have known him. Our deepest sympathy...

Rose and Fred##imported-begin##Dr. and Mrs. Fred A. Ware,
Jr.##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 03:10 PM



“ *Marie, My deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family. Dr. Daniels was truly one of my first inductions to Hartsville and Coker. He was a genuinely remarkable person and will be deeply missed. Give Susan a big hug for me. Fondly, Terrie##imported-begin##Terrie & Spann Reames##imported-end##*

June 12, 2007 at 12:07 PM



“ Marie and Family,
We love you so much and we offer our prayers for your family. Jim was a kind and loving man. He always encouraged us to be our best. We will never forget what he taught us through the life he lived.

Ben, Dora, Reagan(Cannon)and Lindsey Gafford##imported-begin##Drs. Ben and Dora Gafford##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 11:59 AM



“ Dr. Daniels was such a dear person. I first met Dr. Daneils during my interview at Coker. He asked me who was my favorite president and why. Every time we spoke it was if I was the only person in the room at that time and that I was the most important. He was a wonderful man.

May God's peace and love surround you,
Sincerely,
Beth Johnson##imported-begin##Beth Johnson ##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 08:41 AM



“ What a legacy of wisdom, compassion and a devoted legend. He has been and will be remembered as a spirited part of such a fine institution an Coker College. It was as a young teenager that I was introduced to Dr. Daniels and his impact upon my life can be intrpreted as one that was completely positive.

My prayers are with your family and for the continuation of such a progressive legacy. Peace be unto you and your family.##imported-begin##Marty Goodman##imported-end##

June 12, 2007 at 12:23 AM



“ Dear Mrs. Daniels, Susan, Greg, and all of the family,
I am so saddened to hear about Dr. Daniels. I know that he has gone on to more life in Heaven but he will greatly be missed here on Earth. He was a very special person to me and I will always remember him. Susan, I wish that I could travel to Hartsville to see you and your family. You and your family hold a special place in my heart and I am very thankful to have been blessed with the chance to be friends with you. Dr. Daniels was truly a great person and I will miss him.
With love and deepest sympathy,
Catherine Chaplin Hanson###imported-begin##Catherine Chaplin Hanson###imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 09:45 PM



“ Marie,
We are so sorry about Jim. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.He was such a wonderful man.He will be dearly missed by all.
Love,
Patsy and Chip Auman###imported-begin##Patsy and Chip Auman###imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 05:28 PM



“ Dr. Daniels was one of the most remarkable men I have ever known. He touched the lives of so many people. I feel blessed to have known him. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Much Love, Kristi###imported-begin##Kristi Kessler Walters###imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 05:03 PM



“ Dear Mrs. Daniels, Susan and family:

I have lots of wonderful memories of Dr. Daniels and your family. Please know that I have you all in my thoughts and prayers. Susan, I loved your Dad very much! I always enjoyed visiting your house and playing in the gardens. Your Dad always welcomed us girls and I am so thankful to have such good memories from childhood with you and your family.

*With love,
Nancy Chaplin Cathcart###imported-begin###Nancy Chaplin
Cathcart###imported-end###*

June 11, 2007 at 04:38 PM



“ *Dr Daniels has left footprints for all of us who knew him. He was a remarkable man and friend to all. He once told me that, "You only get to keep what you give away." Dr Daniels lived those words and touched everyone he met in a special way. Marie, may God wrap His loving arms around you and your family as you face the difficult days ahead. May a special memory of Dr Daniels bring a smile to your face as you reflect on a life that impacted so many people.*
*Love, Walt & Teresa###imported-begin###Walt & Teresa
Peterson###imported-end###*

June 11, 2007 at 04:21 PM



“ Jim Daniels didn't make first impressions, he made lasting impressions and they all were good. His contagious smile and rapier wit were admired by every person he met. We spoke many times about history (especially the life and times of Andrew Jackson!). Accolades will be many for this man who lived and enjoyed life and in so doing touched countless others. He will not only be missed, but will be remembered. I am honored to say that Jim Daniels was my friend.

May God grant to family and friends the "peace that passes all understanding."

Tom Kinard, Florence###imported-begin##Tom Kinard###imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 02:53 PM



“ Dr. Daniels was a wonderful soul. He was always happy to see everyone at Coker College. HE was always at the basketball games supporting his teams!! God Bless Dr. Daniels!! We will miss him forever!!!###imported-begin##Tina Blackmon Morton###imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 01:08 PM



“ As a former student and President of the Student Government Association at Coker College I was very saddened to hear of Dr. Daniels. He was always a mentor of mine. His door was always open for a question and he always had a smile on his face.###imported-begin##Randy Cooper###imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 12:56 PM



“ *Finding the words to express my sorrow and condolences is so hard right now. You know what great man Dr. Daniels was and how vibrant and cherished memories of him will continue to be.*

Please know that I am sending you love. Know too that my parents join me in our prayers for all of you in this time of grief and in the days of healing and hope that are yet to be.

Love,

Liz##imported-begin##Liz Yarema##imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 12:24 PM

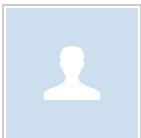


“ *The world will miss a sweet, sweet spirit but heaven will be blessed. Dr. Daniels was a wonderful person and I feel so fortunate to have known him.*

You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mary##imported-begin##Mary Holland##imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 11:43 AM



“ *To the Daniels family:*

Coreen & I are so sorry for your loss. It was a pleasure to know Dr. Daniels. We will have good thoughts for you all.

God's Peace,

Bill & Coreen Dalrymple

Hartsville, SC##imported-begin##BILL & COREEN

DALRYMPLE##imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 11:32 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of loss. May God wrap you in His love and power as you travel this difficult road. He has promised to be with you every step of the way.##imported-begin##Rev. Fletcher and Lynn Rawls##imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 09:31 AM



“ Deepest sympathies on the loss of Dr. Daniels, a truly wonderful person. I work at Northeastern(Chesterfield-Marlboro) Technical College and had the privilege to meet with Dr. Daniels on several occasions. His kindness, humor and that twinkle in his eye always made me feel so comfortable in the comfort of such a distinguished man. I'm sorry for the loss of this gentleman, and glad that I had the opportunity to make his acquaintance.##imported-begin##Sandra Barbour ##imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 09:29 AM



“ As a student and graduate of the Coker College Evening Program, I had the honor of meeting Dr. Daniels on several occasions. He could always call you by your name, offered words of encouragement and left you with a wonderful smile. He will be greatly missed!##imported-begin##Stephanie Elmore McCullum##imported-end##

June 11, 2007 at 08:11 AM



“ I will always remember the time Coach Daniels visited our family in Florence at the time of my father's passing in 1986. It was so good to see him after the many years since playing on his Boys Club football team in the early seventies.

Godspeed Coach

My best to Greg and the rest of the family.

Bryan Griffin

Valdosta, Ga###imported-begin##Bryan Griffin###imported-end##

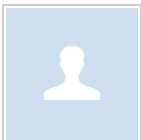
June 11, 2007 at 01:15 AM



“ Marie and Family, I always enjoyed seeing all of you when you came to eat at The Admirals Flagship. Dr. Daniels enjoyed talking as much as I did. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. My love and sympathy to all of you.

Love, Carolyn###imported-begin##Carolyn Pait###imported-end##

June 10, 2007 at 10:54 PM



“ Marie,
We were saddened by the news about Dr. Daniels. He was such a special person. We will keep all of your family in our prayers.

Pat, Robert, and Brian James###imported-begin##Pat & Robert James###imported-end##

June 10, 2007 at 09:48 PM



“ *Dear Susan and Family,
I am sorry to hear about your father's passing. I'm not sure if you remember me, but we went to high school together. I just wanted to let you know how sorry I am and that I will be praying for you and your family. May God bless and keep you close during this time and in the days and weeks to come.*
Crystal Talbert Minnehan##imported-begin##Crystal Talbert Minnehan##imported-end##

June 10, 2007 at 09:30 PM



“ *As a student and graduate of Coker College, I had the honor of meeting Dr. Daniels and it was an honor. He always knew your name and that you were part of the Coker College family. If you only met him once he had a special way of touching your heart and your life. He was a very special man and he will be missed but never forgotten.##imported-begin##Mary Jennings Gibbs##imported-end##*

June 10, 2007 at 07:48 PM