



Chester Dean Henson

December 8, 1944 - March 11, 2022

Chester Dean Henson left this life on March 11, 2022. He was 77. Chester, aka Sonny/Chet/Mr. Henson, was born December 8, 1944, in Casey, Illinois, the son of Chester R. and Elizabeth (Ingram) Henson.

Chet grew up in Paris, Illinois and later moved to Crawfordsville, Indiana, with his mother and stepfather. He graduated from Darlington High School in 1962 then entered the United States Army in 1963. Sonny returned from his tour of duty in Germany in 1966 and entered Vincennes University earning an Associate in Arts degree. He then enrolled at Purdue University in the school of education. Upon his graduation, Chet taught English at Coal Creek Central K-8 school near New Richmond, Indiana for 18 years. During a short interlude from teaching, Chet owned and operated Clarks Hill Grocery from 1990–1992. From 1992 intermittently through 2014, Chet worked as a technical writer with his good friend Boyd Nightenhelser. The call of education brought Mr. Henson back to teaching at Saint Richard's School in Indianapolis where he taught 6th grade English and was an administrator at the middle school. After 5 years, Chet returned to technical writing with Boyd until 2000 when he began the autumn and highlight of his teaching career. Mr. Henson taught language arts at Cold Spring, a K-8 Environmental Magnet School in the Indianapolis Public Schools. Here he combined his love of the outdoors with his love of teaching reading and writing. The fall of 2006, Mr. Henson transferred to Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet 6-12 School. Mr. Henson was awed and honored to

be teaching at such a historic institution. He commented frequently that those last ten years were the best years of his teaching career, and he was proud to have the opportunity to know and work with all of those students, as well as all of the many hundreds of students he had worked with over his 35 years of teaching. Chet retired from classroom teaching in 2010 but continued to substitute in IPS until 2012 when he returned to again working with and getting “popsicles” for Boyd through 2014. Chet continued to tutor students individually until the last lesson plan.

Sonny is survived by his mother, Elizabeth Bryant; son, Jeff Henson; and daughter, Elizabeth (Henson) Turner. He was divorced from two previous marriages, Nancy (Virgin) Henson and Deborah (Chafin) Henson. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Nick Henson, Cheyenne Henson, and Isla Thornton; a brother, Wayne Bryant; and friend, Pricilla Bates.

Funeral services are planned for 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 19, 2022, at Myers Mortuary, 1502 North Lebanon Street, in Lebanon, Indiana. The family will greet friends from noon until the time of service. Interment will follow at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lebanon. Memorial contributions may be directed to Indy Reads of Indianapolis. Online condolences: MyersMortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

935 East Washington Street
Lebanon, IN 46052

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 19. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Myers Mortuary
1502 North Lebanon Street
Lebanon, IN 46052
(765) 482-0620
office@myersmortuary.com
<https://myersmortuary.com/>

Service

MAR 19. 2:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Chester Dean Henson*

November 27, 2022 at 01:43 PM



“ *To Chet's Mom, son Jeff, and daughter Elizabeth: I was so sorry to see that Chet had passed away. We taught together at Coal Creek & NM Middle School for many years. I have lots of fond memories of Chet, both at school and away from school. He was a wonderful English teacher, as well as a great writing teacher. Over the years he had given me writing advice on some of the topics I write about. Chet was one of the few people whom I considered to be a real friend.*
DL White

DL White - March 21, 2022 at 01:34 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for your families loss. He was my favorite teacher from Cold Springs Academy to Crispus Attucks High School. Mr. Henson was an amazing man and even more amazing teacher. He is the reason I graduated from middle school and went to Crispus Attucks. My heart is so full of amazing and funny memories. RIH Mr. Henson. We will see each other again. I'll have plenty of stories to tell you. □□□*

Eric Harris - March 18, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Chester Dean Henson.*



March 17, 2022 at 03:14 PM



“ *Mr.Henson was my writing teacher many years ago. He encouraged me to write poetry and made sure that I knew that I was good at it. I'll never forget him, he touched the lives of so many students. Rest In Peace Mr. Henson* ❤️

Sarah - March 16, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Chester Dean Henson.*



March 15, 2022 at 03:09 PM



“ *My condolences to the family, especially to his mother Elizabeth, whom I remember well from our time for in Lebanon, and his daughter Elizabeth who is my god daughter. Chet led a wonderful and productive life, and will be missed by all who knew and loved him.*

Christine M Smith - March 15, 2022 at 11:32 AM

NH

“ So sorry to hear of Chet's passing. He and Nancy were great friends of my husband, Jerry, and I. Jerry graduated from Darlington, also, in 1961. Later that year, Chet was best man at our wedding. Over a few years, we all lost track of each other until a few years ago, I found him on facebook. My condolences to his family. Thoughts and prayers are with you. Norma Hoffman

Norma Hoffman - March 15, 2022 at 11:25 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Chester Dean Henson.



March 14, 2022 at 07:05 PM