



Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart

October 21, 1947 - April 6, 2018

Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart, age 70, passed away on April 6, 2018 in Raleigh, NC. While he was a long-time Division I men's college basketball coach, his life was more than just wins and losses. To his family, his zest for life, love, and laughter made him the winningest coach in history.

Born October 21, 1947 in Cincinnati, OH to the late Robert Wallace Stewart and Ruth McBurney Stewart, Coach Stewart spent his formative years in Pittsburgh, PA with brothers Bob, Bill, and Tom before attending prep school at Worcester Academy (MA) and playing for legendary coach and personal mentor Dee Rowe. Coach Stewart was a star athlete and went on to play basketball at Rutgers University before being drafted by the Atlanta Hawks. Following a short professional playing career, Coach Stewart found his calling in a long-time coaching career.

His illustrious coaching career brought him to stops at UConn, Penn, Oregon (and the Kamikaze Kids), Fordham, Penn State, NC State, South Carolina, and UNC-Greensboro. Following retirement from coaching, he remained active in the basketball community through administration and providing radio color commentary for UNC-Greensboro and Elon University men's basketball games. Coach Stewart impacted the lives of many players, coaches, staff, administrators, officials, and fans.

However, Coach Stewart's best work was done off the court – he was the quintessential family man. Coach Stewart was a beloved husband to Patti, father to Salem, Ty, Kelley, Maggie, and Traci, and grandfather to Chase, Kyla, Nolan, Walker, Knox, and Emma. To his family and friends, Coach Stewart was a general directing his troops; a coach guiding and teaching his kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews; and the master of ceremonies and standard bearer for the celebration of all holidays, vacations, and pick-up basketball games. Most of all, Coach Stewart was a humble observer and audience, taking a backseat, soaking it all in, and standing to give a rousing ovation no matter the performance.

He was a world traveler, which he delighted in sharing with his family, a dog lover, a walking encyclopedia of the best restaurants and hotels across the country and world, a true master of the grill, and loved trips to the beach, especially Fripp Island, SC. Coach Stewart was a fierce competitor, hard worker, loyal friend, and as authentic as people come. Coach will always be known for his infectious laugh. A deep belly laugh that lit up his face, his laughter was contagious and filled the room during one of his favorite activities – swapping stories and reminiscing with friends.

Coach Stewart is survived by his wife, Patricia Wentzel Stewart; five children, Salem Lee Bartlett and husband Chip of Wilmington, NC, Ty Terrill Stewart and wife Sarah of Las Vegas, NV, Kelley Stewart Catlett and husband Christopher of Holly Springs, NC, Maggie May Warren and husband Julien of Trent Woods, NC, and Traci Stewart Johnson and husband Jeffrey of Cary, NC; two brothers, William “Bill” Stewart and wife Vicky of Birmingham, AL and Thomas “Tom” Stewart of Raleigh, NC; and six grandchildren, Chase Stewart, Kyla Bartlett, Nolan Catlett, Walker Catlett, Knox Warren, and Emma Warren. He is preceded in death by his brother, Dr. Robert Lee Stewart of Greenwood, SC.

Coach Stewart’s life will be celebrated during a memorial service at the Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian (200 High Meadow Dr, Cary, NC 27511) on Saturday, April 14 at 11 AM. The family will receive family and friends immediately following the memorial service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Richard E Stewart '65 Memorial Basketball Scholarship at Worcester Academy (worcesteracademy.com/givenow Special Instructions: type name of scholarship) or help us honor and support the caregivers that meant so much to Coach Stewart and his family by giving to the Coach Stewart Caregiver Fund (gofundme.com/coach-stewart-caregiver-fund).

Comments



“ Dick Stewart and I became teammates and friends in 1964 at Worcester Academy while playing for the legendary Dee Rowe. "Stew" not only made me feel like an important and valued member of the WA family but became a life long friend. Our paths crossed many times during Stew's and my coaching careers. As a player Stew was one of the best defenders I ever saw or played with and was one of the toughest competitors I ever competed with. I am so saddened to hear of his passing and will always remember him as a loyal friend who helped a young kid adjust and thrive in the demanding atmosphere at Worcester Academy. Rest in peace, my friend.

Scott Beeten - July 19, 2018 at 10:30 AM



“ Dear Patti and family:

I was so sorry to hear about Dick's recent death.
My thoughts are with you.

Nancy Doll

Nancy Doll - April 18, 2018 at 02:06 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 14, 2018 at 08:20 AM



“ Dick was my supervisor and ended up my friend. He and Patti made me feel like one of the family. I know he will be truly missed. My love and prayers go out to the family.

Joann Cozart - April 14, 2018 at 08:11 AM



“ Although I never met Coach Stewart, I do know Maggie and Kelly, two of the most wonderful young women I’ve ever met. They are a such a tribute to their parents. Our condolences to the family on the passing of their dear husband, father and grandfather. What a legacy he left.

cindy mitchell - April 13, 2018 at 10:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 13, 2018 at 03:01 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 13, 2018 at 10:54 AM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Ron Billingslea - April 12, 2018 at 05:33 PM



“ Patty, Salem, TY and family, my world was rocked when I heard of Dickie's passing. Growing up with Dick was one of the best thing to ever happen to me. When I think of Dick I think of that great smile and that great laugh. Rest in peace my friend. May you find peace and comfort.

Three P's, one H, one I, and one S

scott phipps - April 12, 2018 at 02:09 PM



“ Coach "Stewart" and I shared many good times on our scouting trips in those UConn state cars, especially to the banks of the Raritan River. Dick, Coach Rowe, and Jimmy V were big influences in my coaching career. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sincerely,

Bill DeGrazia
UConn 71

Bill DeGrazia - April 12, 2018 at 11:21 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 11, 2018 at 05:17 PM



“ Patti and family, I am so saddened to hear the news of Dick's passing. May you find peace and comfort in the days and weeks ahead. RIP, my friend Dick Stewart. Go fly high on that mountain!

Kim Newnam - April 10, 2018 at 10:45 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 10, 2018 at 03:39 PM



“ From: CIE Family purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



From: CIE Family - April 10, 2018 at 02:27 PM



“ Patti and family,

I am saddened to learn of Coach's passing. Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers as you adjust to a new normal. May your good memories sustain you!

Love,
Sherry O'Neal

Sherry Jay O'Neal - April 10, 2018 at 01:19 PM



“ Purity and Peace Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 10, 2018 at 12:09 PM



“ To Patti, and their entire family. My heartfelt condolences, prayers and love on your loss. Rest In Peace Coach Stewart. #NcState90

James Smith - April 10, 2018 at 11:58 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 10, 2018 at 11:54 AM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Edward "Dick" Stewart.



April 09, 2018 at 05:05 PM



“ Patti,

Very sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family in my prayers.

Susan Ayscue

Susan Ayscue - April 09, 2018 at 04:45 PM



“ Patti

I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I think of you often and I hope you are doing ok otherwise. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time. May God give you peace and comfort.

Love

Judy Murray

Judy Murray - April 09, 2018 at 11:43 PM



“ Traci and family,

My heart aches for you as you go through this sad journey. The obituary is such a beautiful tribute to your dad. Your memories will sustain you and will always be a part of you. We love you and will see you Saturday.

Love you!

Susie and Oliver

susie hines - April 09, 2018 at 04:28 PM



“ Dick was a special loyal friend and neighbor in our lives and our sons Ed and Hamer. Always a smile to greet you and always there for support. He was a gift to those he knew him. Always trying to get the most out of those he taught the game. Always giving his time and praise to those he taught. Always supporting his family and friends. We will greatly miss his smile and laughter and so thankful for him being a part of our journey! Scooter & Janet Holcombe

Scooter Holcombe - April 09, 2018 at 12:26 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Coach Stewart



Traci Stewart - April 09, 2018 at 09:06 AM