



## Gordon A. Nesler

August 10, 1931 - January 13, 2011

Nesler, Gordon A. age 79 of Brighton, January 13, 2011. He was a teacher at Walled Lake Western, retiring in 1995. He is survived by his wife, Judy; son, Greg (Marna) Nesler; sisters, Evelyn Nesler and Dorothy (Mac) MacDonald; granddaughters Katelyn Nesler and Alyssa MacDonald. He was preceded in death by two sons. Memorial service will be held on March 5, 12 Noon, Oakpointe Church, 50200 W 10 Mile Rd, Novi MI 48374. Visitation Saturday, March 5, 2011 at 10:00 AM until the 12 Noon Memorial Service at Oakpointe Church, 50200 10 Mile Road (10 Mile and Wixom Rd) Novi. Visitation begins at 10 am until start of service. Memorial contributions may be directed to University Of Michigan Department of Neurology c/o Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth MI 48170. Contributions will be used for Multiple System Atrophy research, in memory of Gordon Nesler. To leave a message of condolence or share a memory with the family, please click on the view and send condolence link on this page.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gordon A. Nesler*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM

AJ

*Happy Earth Day!*

**art jalkanen** - April 22, 2025 at 11:03 AM

A1

“ *I will be the first one to admit that I did not like science in high school, in fact I did not like high school. That being said I did enjoy having Mr. Nesler as a teacher and I was saddened by the loss when I saw the obituary in the newspaper. I have since become a high school business teacher and I would think that a little bit of his compassion for his students lives on in me. Sincerely yours, Aaron Wallace*

**Aaron Wallace (Class of 1988)** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

BS

“ *Judy, we want to send our condolences to you and your family. The time Gordon spent with us gave us all an inspiration. He would challenge us in areas to further our education, or just challenge us in a fun sort of way. We knew that he loved teaching. Challenging him back with questions was entertainment for all of us. He was very rarely stumped, and enjoyed the "brain exercise". He has left us with fond memories. May you be comforted by God at this precious time. In Our Prayers, The Be Our Guest Staff*

**Be Our Guest Adult Day Service** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

JB

“ Mr. Nesler's class was one of my favorite classes. I know many thought he was a bit strange and maybe wierd but i think those just didn't really understand his depth. If you paid attention you could tell that he was a very smart man. Possibly too smart to be teaching at a High School level. I always felt comfortable in his class. Gordy was just a very nice guy. R.I.P. Mr. Nesler. I pray that the lord bless his family in this difficult time. Gordy was cool! Always a good memory!

---

**Jeff Boike** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

D1

“ I was a student of Mr. Nesler (Gordie) at WLW. He truly was one of my favorite teachers and I always looked forward to his class. He was awesome about giving out the "hall passes" even though he knew I would be using it the whole hour....When reminiscing with old classmates, "Gordie" always gets brought up. and always brings a smile to our faces. RIP Mr. Nesler, you will be missed my many people whom you have touched their lives.

---

**Dawn Whaley (Hynes) WLW 1979** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

AK

“ I hope loving memories of Gordon will bring comfort soon. My thoughts and prayers are with you all and I wish I could be there with you on the 5th. I know there will be much love surrounding you, Judy.

---

**Anne Kraft** - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

RH

“ When I came to Western High School in January of 1972, I was assigned to room C-100 in the Science wing. My neighbor, in C-101, was Gordie – we were the only two rooms in that hall. Gordie would come over and talk with me daily and I relished the talks that I had with him, as he always had sage advice. When I first came to the school I had nothing to hang on my walls and Gordie gave me a giant Periodic Table that I hung on the classroom wall until the day that I left in 1997 after 26 years. It may still be hanging there now. He taught General Science and Earth Science at the time and then it eventually ended up being just Earth Science. He was the first teacher that I knew that had students engage in group and cooperative work and could come up with a final conclusion or project as a group. This was not a favorable learning situation to the then current administration so they were constantly “on his case” about doing that. But he never stopped doing it. Now it is the norm – people working together in groups and coming to a final solution together. I remember one time at a staff meeting when the principal (Richard Smith at the time) was ranting and raving about something and Mr. Smith made a statement about anyone who did not agree or like what he was saying was free to leave the meeting; Gordie got up and left – he was the only one to do so. And that is the kind of independent person that he was and I respected him for that. I do know that he worked for NASA at some point prior to becoming a teacher but I do not know when that was. Gordie was a logical thinker, loved drinking coffee (as he considered it the perfect drink), and very philosophical and logical about what was happening in the world. Gordie retired one summer, never notifying anyone at the time – that same thing that I did. I missed him and would have embraced him if he had ever come back to the building for a reunion, but he never did. I did recently find out that my nephew’s new wife was his optometrist so I did find out a little bit about him through her. I will miss Gordie greatly and am very saddened by his passing, especially since I couldn’t see him at least one more time prior to that tragic event.

---

Rick Harwood - December 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM