



## Daniel "Dan" Patrick Ritter

October 5, 1951 - August 2, 2023

Daniel Patrick "Dan" Ritter III, 71, of Stilwell, Kansas passed away unexpectedly on August 2, 2023 at home. He was born on October 5, 1951, in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of Daniel Patrick Ritter Jr and Maxine Frances (Kirk) Ritter. He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Janet Sue "Jan" (Channell) Ritter, both of his parents, and a sister Ora "Danice" (Ritter) McClendon. He is survived by his sons Daniel (Robyn) Ritter IV, Richard (Theresa) Ritter, and Ryan Ritter; grandchildren Kyler, Sophia, Madeline, Joshua, Liam, and Levi; brothers Mike, Shon, and Brian Ritter and sister Connie (Ritter) Wright.

Dan grew up in Kansas City, Kansas, attending Holy Name elementary school (Rosedale neighborhood) followed by Argentine Jr/Sr High School (Class '69), where he met the love of his life, Jan. They married August 7, 1971 after their sophomore year in college, and both subsequently graduated from Wichita State University, where Dan earned his BA in Industrial Education while lettering in both track and football.

Dan's high school teaching and coaching career took he and his family from Kansas City KS (Harmon and Turner High Schools) to Miami AZ then to San Diego CA. Dan then moved to collegiate coaching while in San Diego (University of San Diego) and then Terre Haute IN (Indiana State University). After a stint in FL, Dan returned to Kansas City and the high school classroom, coaching, and the establishment of a high school robotics team (the Metal Mustangs – Blue Valley School System), first at Bishop Miege High

School in Roeland Park KS, followed by Blue Valley North High School in Overland Park KS, and retiring from Blue Valley CAPS. Over the years, Dan coached and mentored thousands of high school and college students. A "builder" at heart, and in addition to all the traditional things he built, Dan built a strong family, athletic community, and program of student success.

There will be a memorial visitation with the family on Friday, December 8, 2023 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM at Maple Hill Funeral Home in the Argentine area (3300 Shawnee Dr., KCKS 66106). Funeral services will be held at Queen of the Holy Rosary – Wea (22779 Metcalf Rd. Bucyrus, KS 66013) on Saturday, December 9 at 9 AM. A private family inurnment was previously held in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Children's Mercy Childhood Diabetes Center Kansas City ([www.childrensmercy.org/ways-to-give](http://www.childrensmercy.org/ways-to-give)).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home  
3300 Shawnee Dr  
Kansas City, KS 66106  
(913) 831-3345  
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com  
<https://maplehillfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of Daniel "Dan" Patrick Ritter*



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**Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery** - December 06, 2023 at 04:04 PM

JG

“ *Dearest family of Dan,*

*Your CAPS colleagues just made another donation to the Children's Mercy Childhood Diabetes Center Kansas City ([www.childrensmery.org/ways-to-give](http://www.childrensmery.org/ways-to-give)). We were thrilled to hear that our donation will be tripled (due to matching grant through Dec 31st).*

*Blessings to each of you from Dan & Jan's CAPS Family (Center for Advanced Professional Studies) in OP.*

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**Janet Graham** - December 27, 2023 at 05:37 PM

TW

“ I had the pleasure of working with Dan for several years at Blue Valley CAPS. We could always depend on Dan for lifting our spirits with a joke or a great story, and he always had a way of making me feel important. He was caring and always concerned for others. His legacy of working with the Robotics students and parents spoke volumes for his commitment and his dedication to others. We will all miss Dan so much. I will miss calling him "Lieutenant Dan" every chance and hearing his stories of his amazing experiences in coaching and life. RIP friend. Tammy Fry Ware

Tammy Fry Ware - December 09, 2023 at 08:28 AM

JP

“ Dear Dan, Jan & Ritter Family,  
Please know you are in our prayers and we give our thanks for the great times we had together while you were teaching and coaching at Bishop Miege HS.  
Jim Phelps & Family

James W Phelps - December 08, 2023 at 07:41 PM

IH

“ Dan has always been like a brother to me. I'm praying for the family of both Dan and Jan Ritter. May you rest in Heavenly Peace Danny, and we'll see you in the morning. Rev. Ivan L. Harvey Sr.

Ivan L Harvey - December 08, 2023 at 04:43 PM

DR

“ To Danny Pat, Richard, and Ryan:  
Our condolences of your father. We are unable to travel at this time. So our apologies for not being there with you to share in this grief. Your father was a great man. I have had some of my favorite life experiences because of him, whether it was camping, fishing, eating, or trading stories over a beer. He has built more decks than the number of house he has lived in. There are folks who are "givers" and "takers." Your dad was the humble "giver." He was a mountain of man: sensible, logical, trustworthy, intelligent, and lovable. I see Dan with his big laughter and Jan with her wide smile looking down and still guiding us.  
Dan and Jeanette Ramos

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**DAN RAMOS** - December 07, 2023 at 10:29 PM

FF

“ From Calvin Tran and family. purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Daniel "Dan" Patrick Ritter.



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**From Calvin Tran and family.** - December 06, 2023 at 07:26 PM

FF

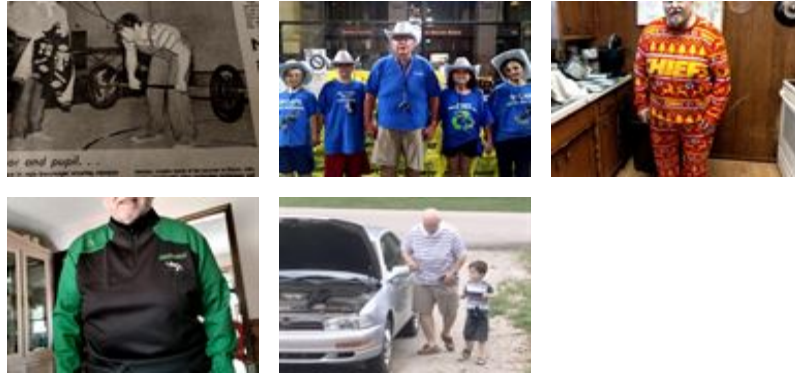
“ From Calvin Tran and family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel "Dan" Patrick Ritter.

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**From Calvin Tran and family.** - December 06, 2023 at 07:26 PM



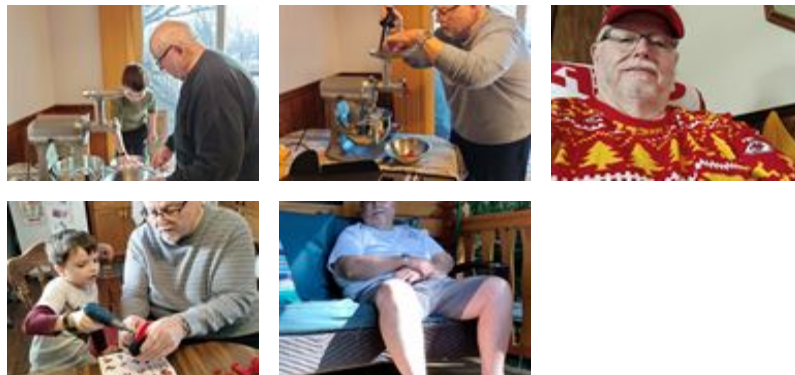
“ 49 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - December 06, 2023 at 04:01 PM



“ 119 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - December 04, 2023 at 11:48 AM



“ *Coach Ritter, was the varsity O,LINE and D,LINE Coach my sophomore year at J.C.HARMON H.S., the fall of 1976. He taught me (us), great technique. He also was the head wrestling coach, and coached the shot put, and discus on the track team.*

Vincent Myers J.C.HARMON class of '79 - December 01, 2023 at 01:41 PM

AW

“ Coach Al ward Naples Florida ,after Jan passed away I was in touch with Dan and he said he was okay. . I called him several times in September and oct with no answer. I am so sorry for your losses so close together. I have included Jan in my prayers with my wife Liz and I will add Dan. 239 404 6986

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**Al Ward** - October 17, 2023 at 05:32 PM



“ Daniel "Dan" Patrick Ritter

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October 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM

SK

“ Sorry. Family

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**Steven Kerr** - September 06, 2023 at 10:45 AM

SK

“ I met Dan at church. We became instant friends. Although I didn't know Dan very long he was a wonderful man. He will be missed. My condolences to his family

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**Steven Kerr** - September 06, 2023 at 10:44 AM

CT

“ Coach Ritter made a difference throughout our community. He was always working to make everyone their best version of themselves. My deepest condolences to the entire family.  
Clarence Taylor

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**Clarence Taylor** - August 31, 2023 at 08:48 PM

MC

“ *My condolences to the Ritter family. I have known both Janet and Dan since Junior/Senior High School. Both were good people and fun to be around. I recently saw them at the All-Class reunion as they were helpful to my wife and me. To the family, sorry for your losses.*

*Melvin L. Coe Sr.*

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**Melvin Coe** - August 30, 2023 at 09:42 AM