



Daniel L. Van Goethem

February 25, 1952 - December 21, 2023

Daniel Louis Van Goethem, 71, of Kansas City, Kansas, passed away peacefully at home and surrounded by loved ones on December 21, 2023.

A husband, daddy, grandpa, son, brother, cousin, brother-in-law, favorite uncle, and friend, Dan was the most honest, loving, sincere person we knew. He enjoyed good times, great friends, fast cars, funny jokes, loud motorcycles, fabulous food, and so many grand adventures. The stories never end when the sentence begins with, "I was thinking about the time when..."

Dan was born in Rosedale, Kansas to Robert and Donna (Smith) Van Goethem. His family lived in the Rosedale community for many years, and Dan attended elementary school at Frank Rushton. Later, they moved to Overland Park, KS. Dan participated in Boy Scouts, basketball, and baseball for several years. He also learned to play guitar and "enjoyed" several years of accordion lessons. He excelled at sports, with a throwing arm that was a force to be reckoned with, as was his ability to slide into any base, especially making the second and third basemen nervous. He did play football for one year in junior high but found that a tall, skinny guy had little padding needed for that sport.

Fishing and hunting were favorite activities, but easily replaced with the magic of working on his favorite vehicles. First, he owned a '64 Buick Skylark and

then a '69 Plymouth Barracuda fastback, which he drove in an official drag race, winning a first-place trophy. Many will say that Dan might have been involved in other drag races along old Metcalf, where he and his buddies set up their own quarter-mile strip. No trophies, but much fun!

Dan would eventually own his favorite, a '67 Pontiac GTO. He enjoyed showing it at several car shows, as well as the compliments from fellow car enthusiasts.

Dan and his future wife met through mutual friends from Dan's KCK days on January 19, 1970 at King's Food Host, a popular spot for teenagers to hang out after school events. Their first date was on Feb 14, 1970... one thing led to another, and they were married May 26, 1973.

After graduating from Shawnee Mission West High School in 1970, Dan earned a degree in Wildlife Biology from Kansas State University in 1974. Hoping to put that degree to use, Dan applied to 17 state wildlife/forestry programs. Upon discovering there wouldn't be an opening for five years, he pursued a career in scientific research at KU Medical Center and fulfilled his love for the outdoors and wildlife through those hunting and fishing trips.

Dan loved the Kansas State Wildcats and spent many years attending football games with Theresa, supporting the Purple Pride, often traveling to bowl games with friends and family.

It wasn't long before he was recruited by Midwest Research Institute, where he quickly realized how much he enjoyed the challenges and diverse opportunities he was granted there, from cancer research to studying neurotoxins. While at MRI, Dan was contracted to provide work for Bayer, Inc. (then known as Mobay and Miles, Inc.), which offered him a position in 1984. During his long and successful career at Bayer, he provided international

support on toxicology studies, regulatory issues, product development, and worked with the US EPA, US FDA, California EPA, and Health Canada. Dan was very proud that he was a Diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology and one of a handful of persons who passed the exam on the first time.

After retiring in 2012, Dan focused his energy on his family, trying his hand at raising cattle, and taking care of his land. Dan enjoyed countless road trips with the grandsons, Kubota rides around the lake, and estate sale shopping. He loved those "50% off for anything you can fit on your trailer" deals! Long before grandchildren, Dan delighted in cruising around the lake on his boat and particularly enjoyed pulling riders behind on a tube and launching them over the wake and into the air! He became very adept at guessing the color of M&Ms with his eyes closed and always enjoyed the opportunity to play the "funnel trick."

Dan is remembered for his kind heart and mischievous nature. Family and friends alike fondly recall how he welcomed people readily and treated everyone like family. There are too many fun adventures, practical jokes, and ribbings to list...Even in his last days with us, Dan's kindness and good-natured jokes persisted.

Shortly after Dan's diagnosis with Alzheimer's disease, Pete, a volunteer with the hospice care team, began capturing Dan's life story to share with loved ones. Please enjoy reading more stories and wonderful anecdotes in this journal linked below.

<http://tinyurl.com/danvangoethem>

Dan leaves behind the "best wife he ever had" of 50 years, Theresa; daughter Vanessa and favorite son-in-law, Sean Piela; grandchildren Brennen and Ryann of Roeland Park, KS; grandchildren Daniel and Elly of the home;

mother, Donna Van Goethem, Overland Park, KS; daughter, Nicole; brother David (Cheryl) Van Goethem, Stilwell, KS; sister, Diane (Allen) Armon, Fairway, KS; sister, Jan Mundt, Nixon, TX; and many beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his nephew, John Paul Van Goethem, father, Robert Van Goethem; step-mother, Linda Van Goethem; and his brother, Jeff Myers of New Braunfels, Texas.

A celebration of Dan's life will be held at Maple Hill Funeral Home on Thursday, December 28, 2023. Visitation begins at 9:00 AM followed by a 10:00 AM service. Interment will follow at Maple Hill Cemetery. We ask guests to consider joining the family in honoring Dan's fun-loving spirit by wearing something plaid or a Hawaiian shirt.

Dan's family extends its gratitude to Crossroads Hospice & Palliative Care for their extraordinary support and service to Dan and his family, who allowed his wish to remain home to be realized.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation in Dan's memory to the Podcasting Club of the Kansas State School for the Blind via the KC Blind AllStars (1100 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66102 or <https://www.kcblindallstars.org/about/>) or to Veterans Community Project (8900 Troost Ave., Kansas City, MO 64131 or <https://www.veteranscommunityproject.org/give>).

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **28**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

DEC **28**. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Burial

DEC **28** (CT)

Maple Hill Cemetery
2301 S 34th St
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 262-6610
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

DS

“ *Dave and Cheryl
Sorry for your loss. Prayers coming your way*

Don and Paula Staton - December 30, 2023 at 04:02 AM

WB

“ *Dan and I were colleagues in the toxicology institute in Stilwell. We both had an interesting time together in managing this institute with many scientific and regulatory challenges. Dan was the best colleague one could hope for with a solid scientific background, people skills and good leadership. I am very sad to hear about his passing away, my condolences to Teresa and family.*

Werner H Bomann - December 28, 2023 at 02:09 PM

WB

“ *Werner H Bomann planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel L. Van Goethem.*

Werner H Bomann - December 28, 2023 at 01:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.*



December 28, 2023 at 01:53 PM

WB

“ Dan and I were colleagues in the toxicology institute in Stilwell for several years, where we had an interesting time together in managing this institute with many scientific and regulatory challenges. For this task Dan was the best colleague one could hope for, with a very solid scientific background, people skills and great leadership. I was very sad to hear about his passing away, my deep condolences to Teresa, his family and friends.

Werner H Bomann - December 28, 2023 at 01:48 PM

DH

“ I didn't know Daniel. I knew Teresa. she is sister to Gary Hicks. he used to be my brother-in-law. just wanted to tell family that I am sorry for their loss

Dixie Stephens Hope - December 28, 2023 at 01:31 PM

LF

“ Love, Your VCP Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel L. Van Goethem.

Love, Your VCP Family - December 27, 2023 at 01:47 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.



December 27, 2023 at 01:47 PM

DA

“ I have many good memories of Danny from our school years. Playing on the same baseball team, going to the swimming pool on hot summer days, playing Monopoly and Stratego, building forts for snowball fights, or playing sports with other neighborhood kids are just a few examples of enjoyable times shared with Danny. My condolences to his family.

Dale Arand - December 27, 2023 at 11:02 AM

NN

Dear Teresa

I'm sending my deepest condolences and love to you as you go through this difficult time.

I was blessed to be with Dan for a little while and all I saw was a person with a pure heart full of love and appreciation. He always checked on everyone's around him even if he didn't have to. His pure smile, the stories and memories he shared with me have blessed me forever, while he talked about my grandfather. Being with you, Dan, and your family taught me how love, kindness and unity were important. I came in as a helper I end up finding a school of life. You Teresa took me as a daughter advices me and supported me while you were the one needing all the support.

I can't understand what you are going through now, but I want you to know that I'm available anytime you might want me to be with you as you go through this grief. I am sending you strength and courage , and prayers may Yahveh our lord and savior guide you, strengthen your heart and heal your soul. Hugs to all the family and may Dan loving and kind soul rest peacefully.

Nadine Ngo - December 28, 2023 at 08:32 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.



December 27, 2023 at 10:53 AM



“ *Treasured Memory - 8" x 7" Frame (Holds 4x6 Photo) was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.*



December 26, 2023 at 10:50 PM



“ *I remember going on a lot of road trips. I remember going to Seneca driving through the next day which was pretty cool. I really wish the road trip tradition can continue without G2 no matter if he's here or not.*

Daniel Vette - December 26, 2023 at 09:25 PM



“ *Roy & Diana Thomas purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.*



Roy & Diana Thomas - December 26, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *Dan was a highly respected and valued scientist in our Toxicology Group at Bayer Research Park , Stilwell . He was often the “go to “ expert for advice on many registration issues, and combined his great work ethic with a quick wit and sense of humor . Rest in Peace Dan . Condolences and Prayers to his family and friends .*

Harry Strang - December 26, 2023 at 05:37 PM



“ 122 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - December 26, 2023 at 04:03 PM

JP

“ A donation was made in memory of Dan to the Podcast Club at Kansas State School for the Blind by Donna and John Piela.



John Piela - December 26, 2023 at 02:25 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage* was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.



December 25, 2023 at 09:55 PM

BW

“ I met Danny through his sister Diane along with his wife Theresa. My husband, Brett and I both retired from Bayer (Mobay, Miles, Cutter, Cutter Miles, Bayvet and so on in my 27years) and that's where my husband met Danny. They both worked at the Research Park in Stilwell. He always had nice things to say about Danny and always delivered Danny's many hellos to me. I have such fond memories of the VanGoethem family and the time spent with them in my JR High and High School days. Diane and I are still blessed with our continued friendship and I know how much she will miss her big brother. My deepest condolences and God Bless and keep you all in his loving arms as you heal. Love to All.

Brett & Kathy Williams - December 24, 2023 at 11:28 AM

AM

“ Dear, dear Theresa...and all who loved Dan...we are sending all of you our love, knowing that Dan is at peace. We are holding you in the light.

Anne & Merrell - December 23, 2023 at 07:07 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.



December 23, 2023 at 04:53 PM

ME

“ Marge Eckard planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Daniel L. Van Goethem.

Marge Eckard - December 23, 2023 at 04:53 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.



December 23, 2023 at 02:56 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel L. Van Goethem.



December 23, 2023 at 09:54 AM