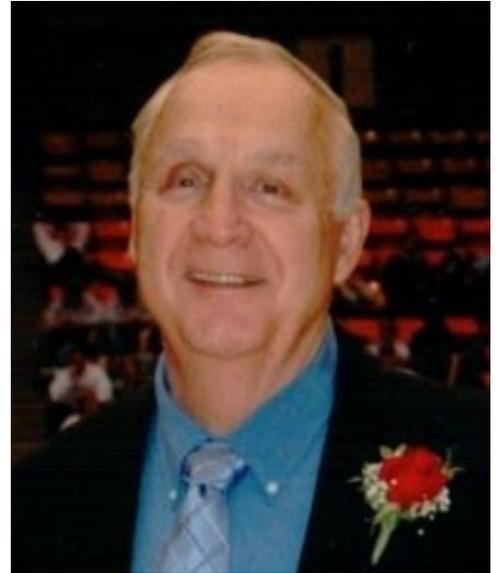


David Wessel

March 8, 1936 - May 5, 2017

Funeral services and a Mass of Christian Burial for David D. "Coach" Wessel, 81, a resident of Davenport will be 11:00 am Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 4097 - 18th Street, Bettendorf. Burial will be in Davenport Memorial Park. The family will greet friends Monday from 4:00 until 8:00 pm at the Halligan McCabe DeVries Funeral Home, 614 Main Street, downtown Davenport. There will be additional visitation in the gathering space at the church Tuesday from 10:00 am until service time. The family encourages friends to join them for a luncheon and time of sharing memories following the burial. The luncheon will be in the activities center at the church. They know how meaningful it will be to hear your special memories and stories of how Dave touched your life.



Born: March 8, 1936

Death: May 5, 2017

Dave died Friday, May 5, 2017 at his residence in Davenport. He was surrounded by his family and passed away following a courageous battle with leukemia. His family is comforted knowing that Dave has been reunited with his beloved wife, Kathy, who preceded him in death March 6, 2017.

David Dean Wessel was born March 8, 1936 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa the son of Melvin and Maxine (Petranek) Wessel. He graduated from Roosevelt High School where he excelled in sports, including football and basketball. He received a football scholarship to Drake University, and after a year transferred to Coe College to be near to his then sweetheart, Kathy. He graduated with a degree in education and his coaching certificate. He also obtained his Masters in Administration from the University of Iowa.

While attending Coe he was a three year letterman in football, and his senior year named first team All-Midwest Conference center on Coe's championship team.

He was united in marriage to Kathryn Ann Miller on May 10th, 1958 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Cedar Rapids. They had been blessed with over 58-years of marriage at the time of her passing. Their love for their children and family was always a priority.

Dave, or Coach Wessel as he was known, began a nearly 60-year career in teaching and coaching, starting first in West Branch, Iowa; and then after one year he accepted an assistant coaching and teaching position at Davenport West High School. His coaching career culminated in 409 career high school basketball wins, and numerous awards and honors, and 38 of those years as

head coach. His teams made eight state tournament appearances, championships in 1971 and 1994, where the team went undefeated 24-0, being the only team ever in Davenport history to achieve this recognition. Following his retirement he served as head coach of North Scott High School for one season, and then began coaching at Rivermont Collegiate where he coached up until January of this year.

He was named the State of Iowa coach of the year in 1989, was inducted into Coe College Hall of Fame 1995, the Iowa High School Athletics Association Hall of Fame 2005, and the Quad Cities Sports Hall of Fame in 2009. Coach Wessel has mentored and taught hundreds of athletes and students and his legacy will forever remain a part of Davenport West High School history. He was honored in January 2016 to have the basketball court officially named the "Dave Wessel Court". In the fall of 2017 he will be inducted into the Davenport Schools Ring of Honor. His coaching career often overshadowed his teaching career, but he was just as dedicated in the classroom.

He was generous with his time and enjoyed volunteering for Meals on Wheels. His greatest joy came from the time he spent with his wife, kids and grandchildren. He especially cherished time spent together at the cabin on Twin Lakes. Coach Wessel always did things the right way and taught everyone to work hard and to never give up.

His love of sports was a constant in the Wessel home. He was a Cub fan, and Sunday during football season was the day to watch the Chicago Bears. He also was a loyal fan of all the college sports programs throughout the state of Iowa.

Memorials may be made to the Dave Wessel Memorial. In honor of Coach Wessel the family will use these funds to send underprivileged student athletes to basketball camps.

Those left to honor his memory include children and their spouses; James (Maria del Castillo) Wessel, Lynda (Todd) Kitzmann, and Karen (Craig) Ford, all of Bettendorf, and Teri (Jason) Rexroth, Cedar Rapids; his ten beloved grandchildren, Kyle del Castillo, Eric, Jordan (Ali) and Alex Kitzmann, Ben and Ryan Hillebrand, and Luke Ford, Jaxon, Jevin, and Taylor Rose Rexroth; his brothers and sister, Dan (Janice) Wessel, Moline, John (Carol) Wessel, Grays Lake, IL, Dennis (Sandy) Wessel, Cedar Rapids, Mary (Bill) Keel, Hiawatha, IA, and Jeff (Marla) Wessel, Cedar Rapids; as well as numerous loving nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and his little white dog, Maggie.

In addition to his wife Kathy he was also preceded in death by his parents, and his best friend, Ken Buckles. May they rest in peace.

Dave's family would like to thank Dr. Costantino and the office staff, the Genesis Infusion Center staff, Genesis Hospice, and all the Quad City blood donors for their generous donation of life saving blood.