



Dr. Terry David Bilhartz

January 13, 1950 - December 12, 2014

Terry Bilhartz, 64

Dr. Terry David Bilhartz, age 64, passed on to his Heavenly home on December 12, 2014. Born on January 13, 1950, to Joy Coleman Bilhartz and Harrell Lewis Bilhartz, Terry had a wonderful life well-lived and was beloved by all those who knew him. He graduated from Justin F. Kimball High School in 1968. He obtained degrees from Dallas Baptist College (BS), Emory University (MA), and George Washington University (PhD), and completed post-doctoral studies in history and religion at Vanderbilt University, Stanford University, the University of Connecticut, the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii, and the Australian National University.

Terry was a professor of history at Sam Houston State University where he taught and mentored more than 18,000 students during his career. He authored more than 50 articles and book chapters in the fields of history, religion, philosophy, psychology, and medicine. He is the author of *Urban Religion and the Second Great Awakening*, *Francis Asbury's America*, *Images of Texas in the Nation* (with Paul Ruffin), *Constructing the American Past* (with Elliot Gorn and Randy Roberts), *Sacred Words: A Source Book on the Great Religions of the World*, and *Currents in American History* with Alan Elliott). In the last year of his life, he founded Green Publishing House, a company dedicated to the production and global distribution of scholarly, peer-reviewed

books in both digital and print format (www.greenpublishinghouse.com).

He leaves a legacy of living each moment to the fullest and always giving of himself cheerfully and wholeheartedly both at Sam Houston State University and at First United Methodist Church in Huntsville. His wife, Patty Morell Bilhartz, and his two children, Rocky David Bilhartz and Teriann Noel Bilhartz Maxwell, could not have been more blessed to have Terry for their husband and father, respectively. He was an inspiration to his friends, family, colleagues, the students that he taught, the youth with whom he worked, the players that he coached, and the animals that he loved. Perhaps the greatest title he ever held was that of "Papa Terry," the name he was called by his three beloved grandsons, Preston Bilhartz (age 7), Peyton Bilhartz (age 4) and Carson Maxwell (age 14 months). There never was a more devout, loving, dedicated grandfather than Terry, and his grandsons knew the extent of his love for them.

His immediate family consisting of Patty Bilhartz; Rocky, Lindsey, Preston, and Peyton Bilhartz; and Teri, Scott, and Carson Maxwell will continue to honor and celebrate Terry's profound life by "relishing the remarkable ride," a philosophy that Terry embraced. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, December 16th, 2014, at 4:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, 1016 North Sam Houston Avenue in Huntsville, Texas.

Those that would like to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC 16. 4:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of Huntsville
1016 North Sam Houston Avenue
Huntsville, TX

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Terry David Bilhartz*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Just heard the news about Dr. Bilhartz. I am so incredibly saddened I did not know before now. He was such an inspiring professor, I loved going to his class and still talk about him to this day. He could truly light up the room with his love for History, I was just saying the other day I would go back to SHSU to take another class of his. On this Easter day the family are in my thoughts and prayers.*



Lauren Noelle - April 05, 2015 at 01:21 PM



“ *Patty and family, our prayers and thoughts are with you during this time. We have missed you and our friends from the College of Medicine. You've been on our hearts.*

Becky James, Matt Brown, and Maddox Brown - January 05, 2015 at 11:10 AM

AP

“ I'm saddened to hear this about Dr. Bilhartz. I had the honor of taking both of my core history classes from him as a freshman at SHSU, ten years ago. While I have forgotten the names of many of my past teachers, Dr. Bilhartz is one of the few teachers I remember, one of the professors who I felt made a difference in my college experience. He taught in such a way that I felt like the required class was worth the time, and I came out of it with an appreciation for a subject I didn't care to learn about before. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family!

Afifa Perkins - January 03, 2015 at 04:21 PM



“ I just found out that Dr. Bilhartz passed away. I was one of his students and I wanted to share that I enjoyed the classes that I took with him. He challenged me to think critically and he was a wonderful professor and person. I am so sorry for your loss.

Bonnie Ponce '05

Bonnie Ponce - January 03, 2015 at 12:48 PM

FJ

“ I am saddened to hear of Dr. Bilhartz's passing. I just completed his American Culture and Religious History class in my first semester at SHSU. I enjoyed his insights and comments on both my posts and papers. He was a great teacher and an even better human being. Heaven is a little brighter with him in it even though our lives are a bit dimmer without him. He has touched many lives, especially mine. May God be with you family during this trying time.

V/R
Fredrick H. Crosby Jr.
"Croz"

Fredrick H. Crosby Jr. - December 26, 2014 at 03:38 PM

PN

“ I have been away to law school and only just heard about Dr. Bilhartz passing from another former professor that I ran into only moments ago. I was deeply saddened by the news as I remembered Dr. Bilhartz fondly from my time at Sam. I was privileged enough to have worked closely with the History Department and know what an important part of it he was. He will be missed dearly both by his colleagues and by the countless students whose lives he touched. My prayers are with your family in this time of grief.

Plamen Novakov - December 23, 2014 at 04:11 PM

DH

“ Dennis Hudson Kimball '68
Terry was a good friend and classmate at Kimball High School. He could always cheer me up if I was having a bad day! He got me through Mr. Boyette's gym class! I will forever be grateful for that! I know I will see him again some day at the banquet table in heaven with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Dennis Hudson - December 20, 2014 at 12:52 PM

MS

“ Patty, when Terry led the youth at Tyler Street, I remember Brad saying he wanted to be like Terry. He had such a strong influence on so many people. It was a blessing to see Terry each time we had an opportunity. Our thoughts, love and prayers to all of your family!

Mary and Carl Schoonover - December 19, 2014 at 11:59 AM

SH

“ Terry taught me in Bible my junior and senior year at Tyler St. Christian Academy! He was so enthusiastic, making the Bible come alive! Terry would always offer lots of extra credit. If you studied, paid attention in class, did your homework and reading you could get an A. That inspired me to want to teach one day. He was our youth director at Tyler Street UMC and was my geometry tutor. I never would have passed without him! He married my sister! Through the years, I have been most impressed with how he was so great with babies and children. He was probably the most incredible with his grandchildren. As great a teacher as he was - he was that great a grandfather. The most special thing Terry ever did for me was to fly all the way to remote NC and sit with me during my husband's funeral. We sang the hymns together and his kindness gave me strength to sing and be strong. We will all miss him and remember.

Shana - December 18, 2014 at 11:49 PM

PB

“ If our friends and family who missed the service would like to read the message that Rocky gave, you may go to www.bilhartzmd.com; if you would like to read the message that I gave, you may go to www.lovetrumpsfear.com.

*Love to all,
Patty*

Patty Bilhartz - December 18, 2014 at 05:29 PM

TC

“Patty and family, I was contacted by my mother a few days ago informing me of Terry's death. I am sorry I waited for someone else to let me know when and where the service would be held for Terry, but it was not much different than the time I have let pass by without contacting you and/or Terry over the years. I remember us getting together a while back at Camp Forest Glen when we were there with our youth group from Katy Bible Church. Anyway, I have felt lonely the past few days knowing that he is gone from this world, but I am looking forward to seeing him in the future. Even though we have not communicated much over the years, I still consider him a dear friend, my first college room mate, a groomsman in my wedding, and I continue to go over great memories about times we had together. I will be praying for your family as, like me, they go through a time of mourning. Anyway, I miss him. May God bless you as you continue on in this life.

My mom asked that I include their names on this also, because she always considered him part of our family. So Emerson and Eleanor Connell are thinking of you also.

Tommy and Debi Connell - December 18, 2014 at 04:37 PM

PB

“Our family is honored and comforted by your kind words and remembrances. Each of you holds a special place in our hearts. Thank you taking your time to share with us such precious memories.

Fondly, Patty and family

Patty Bilhartz - December 18, 2014 at 04:09 PM

CJ

“ *My prayers are with you all. I only knew Dr. Bilhartz for a short time. I am sadden by your loss. My prayers are with you and your family.*
Carly Jordan

Carly Jordan - December 17, 2014 at 11:28 PM

VA

“ *It is sad to lose a loved one, but what a joy living in heaven must be - for Terry and all the others he has joined. My prayers to those who are burdened with his passing, and my hope that the days ahead bring you peace. I am simply one fellow Kimball Knight paying tribute to another fellow Kimball Knight - one who has had such kind words said about him. Our God is good.*

Vicki McCain Anderson - December 17, 2014 at 07:59 PM

FF

“ *When we were at the memorial service on Tuesday, we were very moved by the gratitude and the faith that you expressed. Gratitude for the life of such a fine man as Terry and faith that he is with the Lord. We thank you for sharing your thoughts with us, and please know that he will be missed. God bless you all.*

Frank and Janet Fair - December 17, 2014 at 07:15 PM

PO

“ My sincere condolences to patty and family. I was blessed to attend Terry classes at Methodist church,so enlightened and touched by his skills as an educator yet touched deeply by his faith lived in action and peaceful graces. Much graditude that God blessed so many by the far too short timeTerry was here ,may we all take the wisdom and examples he set forward and share the blessings. May you find comfort in the memories and peace knowing you were so loved ,so well. I pray you will be showered with the graces he taught and lived. Pat obrien

Pat Obrien - December 17, 2014 at 05:10 PM

AH

“ Professor Bilhartz lectured with so much enthusiasm and passion that I enjoyed immensely his classes. I never wanted to miss a class and he is one of the top professors from Sam Houston State. I recall his personal recount of where he was when JFK was killed. I remember his book, co-authored with two more professors, Constructing the American Past. I have so many fond memories of Professor Bilhartz. Please know that he has left a lasting impression on many lives including mine. God Bless. Averil Houston

Averil Houston - December 17, 2014 at 04:15 PM

VM

“ Terrienne and Rocky, caring thoughts sent your way.

Vicki Prentice (Arlana's mom) - December 17, 2014 at 12:59 PM

AF

“ I am so deeply saddened to hear about the death of Dr. Bilhartz. It was my honor to have him (albeit only once) as my history professor. I thought I knew a lot about history, until I took his class. He was a kind and knowledgeable man. His loss will be deeply felt.

Andrew Fraley - December 17, 2014 at 10:43 AM

CS

“ *Patty: God bless you and your very special family as you mourn the loss of Terry. You and Rocky were remarkable as you gave such amazing tributes to Terry at the service. At the SHSU Academic Awards dinner earlier this fall, I spent at least 45 minutes talking to Terry about the special lives that we both were blessed to have. We also spent some time recalling the amazing "gift" of purchasing your grand piano about the time you were preparing to attend medical school. The joy with which he spoke of that earlier time and the excitement of his "growing" family was a conversation I have recalled many times (with others, as well). His model for this life is one I will always admire and deeply cherish. Love to you, dear friend! Carol*

Carol Smith - December 17, 2014 at 10:12 AM

KT

“ *There is no one that gave of himself more than Terry. He was a precious soul on this earth. What a blessing to have known him. Please know that Mom and I will be praying for you all. Our time on this earth is short, but we, as believers, know what we have to look forward to. We love you and your family with all our heart.*

Kay Harding & Patsy Thompson - December 16, 2014 at 11:26 PM

SH

“ *Simply said? To be in his presence was to feel joy. What a gift he had for connecting with students. I feel blessed to have him as a professor. What a tremendous loss. Prayers for his family.*

S. Herrington - December 16, 2014 at 08:50 PM

DH

“ *Patty, Rocky, and Terriann, I have very fond memories of Terry and the family. He was a great scholar and will be missed at FUMC. God bless.*

David Henderson - December 16, 2014 at 07:42 PM

SM

“ *Terry was an amazing man with a heart for Jesus. He gave so much to the FUMC youth program and was a wonderful teacher and mentor to many. I will think fondly on him for his easy smile, heartfelt laugh, his patience, and his kindness. I am truly blessed to have been influenced by him during my time at FUMC. Dr. B leaves a strong legacy. My prayers and condolences to Patty, Rocky, Teriann, and their families.*

Susan Westbrook Maki - December 16, 2014 at 07:27 PM

SF

“ *What a beautiful tribute to your dad! We are grieving with you today! We love you you, Rocky & Lindsey.*

Summer Fillmore - December 16, 2014 at 07:25 PM

SV

“ *Sending all of our love and prayers to the Bilhartz family.*

- The Vasconcellos Family (Scott, Erin, Ryan, Katie, and Emma)

Scott Vasconcellos - December 16, 2014 at 04:11 PM

HE

“ Terry was such an inspiration in high school whether it was in baseball, football or in academics. He had an "upbeat" way that radiated to those around him and was quite witty with the way he described the Corvair he drove "it had Tradition". To his family I send my deepest sympathy and to his surviving siblings, my deepest empathy. We will all miss him.

Holly England - December 16, 2014 at 03:09 PM

RT

“ We will all dearly miss him. Somehow, I can still hear his distinct voice. He remains the perfect human and is always striving to do better not only for himself, but for others. He has taught us much about life and his legacy will remain for a long time. My deepest condolences to the Bilhartz family and we know that he is comforted by our Maker now.

Robert Tan - December 16, 2014 at 02:48 PM

BS

“ Bilhartz Family I'm so sorry for your loss. Professor Bilhartz was my honors professor and he helped me see that I can do anything that I wish to do with my life. An amazing educator that will be deeply missed. Sending prayers to you and yours

Barbi Stimac - December 16, 2014 at 01:20 PM

CM

“ My condolences to the family.
Have fond memories of Terry as I grew up in the neighborhood and play w/ Helen at their home.
May God bless you all and celebrate Terry's life.
Peace be w/ you, Candy Martella Myers

Candy Martella Myers - December 16, 2014 at 12:35 PM

CM

“ *My condolences to the family.
Have fond memories of Terry as I grew up in the
neighborhood and play w/ Helen at their home.
May God bless you all and celebrate Terry's life.
Peace be w/ you, Candy*

Candy Martella Myers - December 16, 2014 at 12:34 PM

AB

“ *Dear Bilhartz family,
Our thoughts and hearts are with you during this difficult time. Many
blessings and prayers for all.*

Alicia & Paul Bhabra - December 16, 2014 at 12:10 PM

PL

“ *I was one of Terry's Students my freshman year in 2009. I enjoyed
his class so much I took him again for History 2 in 2009! He was
ALWAYS full of energy and enthusiasm. I loved the way he taught.
You will me missed. God Bless you.*

Patrick Levantino - December 16, 2014 at 11:40 AM

RK

“ *Dr. Bilhartz dedicated a lot of his time to my education and care. He
was there for music recitals, soccer games, handbells and choir
performances, and all kinds of adventures involving long trips in
church vans. He was a great influence, and a great man. My
deepest condolences. You are each in my prayers.*

Ryan Kercher - December 16, 2014 at 10:45 AM

SP

“ Our hearts are saddened to hear the news of Terry passing on to his Heavenly Home. Terry was someone that we looked up to and had the up most respect for during our days at Tyler Street United Methodist Church. He and the entire Morell family were an extension to ours.

Although he will be greatly missed, I am sure his legacy will live on.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelations 21:4

Sharon Abston Pfeffer - December 16, 2014 at 10:24 AM

AW

“ *Patty and Family, I did not know until this morning about the service today. We had planned to come but had expected his service closer to his birthday. We send our love and sympathy. You and your children and grandchildren remain in our prayers and thoughts. I will always remember your wedding and classes at Carter. May God give all of you comfort, strength, and peace. Love, Anne Elizabeth and Ronnie Ward*

Anne Elizabeth Ward - December 16, 2014 at 09:43 AM

NF

“ Very simply, Dr. Bilhartz was the epitome of what all fathers should strive to be. He was a man of God, he was a man of education. He took his profession of teaching and utilized his gift to teach others about God and how to be kind to everyone. He created and raised together with Mrs. Bilhartz two fantastic kids, one of which I have had the privilege to call one of my best friends. He was able to balance church, family and teaching and then was able to wear the hat of a coach. I will never forget the fire and passion he brought to a ballfield. His famous saying I will always remember was, "Come on Rocky, hustle, hustle, hustle!" Mrs. Bilhartz, Rocky and Teriann, he was a great man, I'm glad I had the privilege of knowing him and to be one of those kids he had a massive influence on. May he rest in peace and may our prayers lift your spirits up. We love you.

Nate and Meredith Fountain - December 16, 2014 at 09:43 AM

MD

“ Patty, we just learned this morning of Terry's service today. We would have loved to have been there to support you and honor him. He was a precious man----so led by the Spirit. We have many fond memories of our "earlier" days at TSUMC. Please know that our thoughts & prayers are with you & your family.
Much love, Margaret Jo

Margaret Jo & Bill Duff - December 16, 2014 at 09:06 AM

HR

“ Patti and family--I am so very shocked and saddened about Terry. I was at my mother's memorial service Saturday and just found out today. Will certainly add prayers to so many more. Love to all-
Harriett

Harriett Reed - December 15, 2014 at 10:08 PM

SG

“ My deepest condolences to the Bilhartz families. I'm sorry to hear about the loss of someone who's touched as many lives as Dr. Bilhartz. Some Bible scriptures that have helped me during times of loss include Isaiah 26:19 and Palm 37:29 which state in part: "Your dead ones will rise up." And the Bible also says: "The righteous themselves will possess the earth, and they will reside forever upon it." Therefore the Bible promises that there will be a time when we may be reunited with our loved ones lost in death by means of an earthly resurrection. This is further confirmed by John 5:28,29 which says "Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and and come out." This is possible thanks to Jesus Christ's ransom sacrifice. Thus we have a genuine hope of everlasting life in a world without wickedness or suffering. I hope these scriptures will be of some comfort to you. For more encouraging thoughts on this subject, please visit www.jw.org

SHSU Graduate - December 15, 2014 at 09:53 PM

JY

“ My deepest condolences go out to Dr. Bilhartz's family. I only knew him briefly, but he left a lasting impression on me. He was my professor of history when I was a freshman at SHSU and he was by far the most knowledgeable and energetic instructor I've ever had. He had such a passion for what he did and it showed. In a class of more than 100 students, he was always available to help and answer questions. He made the subject exciting because he was excited about it. When our paths would cross out of class, he always had a smile and a friendly hello. The world lost an amazing man. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Joshua Yates - December 15, 2014 at 09:15 PM

CC

“ *Patty and family: John and I are away visiting our children for the holidays. But want you to know you and the children/grandchildren are in our thoughts and loving kindness meditations. Terry was truly a special guy and I'm privileged to have met and know him. We were shocked and saddened to hear the news of his death as I can only imagine you were. One just doesn't know whether the next moment may be our last. It is only to live as if this moment is our last. I believe Terry did that. Although family can not really be ready. I know you'll miss him terribly. Positive energies for strength and love are being sent to you to help you through this time of your life. I wish you health and happiness. Carolyn*

Caolyn Cash de Castro - December 15, 2014 at 09:07 PM

JC

“ *I'm so saddened by this terrible loss. Terry was my good friend, trusted advisor, and philosophical soul mate. The loss is also to SHSU. Terry was one of the best all around academics I've known. He did everything well from teacher to scholar to department chair to associate dean to colleague. I'm particularly saddened for his family, especially Patty. There will be a void in their lives that will never be filled with anything other than fond memories. But, I believe that Terry now has the answers to the ultimate questions that we often discussed. He will be remembered in our hearts until we join him with the answers. For the rest of my days I will treasure the memories of this wonderful soul.*

John de Castro - December 15, 2014 at 08:33 PM

HF

“ Though I only knew Dr. Bilhartz for one semester he always taught with enthusiasm and showed a genuine concern for the students leaning. I'm sorry for your loss.

Haley Fender - December 15, 2014 at 08:14 PM

PS

“ Terry was my professor, mentor, and friend. I first had an undergraduate class with him in 1998 and he later served as one of my advisors during Master's work. As I continued my graduate education, Terry never failed to ask how I was progressing and he always offered an encouraging word. Then upon finishing graduate school, he opened my first professorial door when I taught as a visiting professor in SHSU's history department. I will not soon forget the time I spent with Terry during those two years. Thanks to him, I grew both as a scholar and more importantly as a person. Up to the end, Terry mentored me; I received an email reply from him just a few hours before he passed. As usual, his message offered sage advice and deep encouragement in my professional pursuits. When I think of Terry words like excellence, erudition, kindness, compassion, and joy come to mind. I will miss him.

Phillip Luke Sinitiere - December 15, 2014 at 07:49 PM

BT

“ Prayers for comfort and peace to Patty, Rocky, Teriann and families. Terry was an amazing role model. All of you made such an impact on my life. Love and hugs.

Barbara Schneider Talley - December 15, 2014 at 06:22 PM

PR

“ *It was my pleasure to have known Terry for many years and an honor to co-edit a book with him.*

He was as sweet and gentle a soul as I've ever known, and I can say of him something I can say of few people: Within my hearing, he never said an unkind word of anyone.

We have lost a truly fine fellow.

Paul Ruffin - December 15, 2014 at 06:14 PM

CS

“ *I am so sorry and deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Dr. Bilhartz. I was a teaching assistant for Dr. Bilhartz for three semesters when I was a graduate student at SHSU. He was always so kindhearted and he had such a passion for teaching history. It was truly a joy to work for him. I will be praying for peace and comfort for your family during this difficult time.*

Christi Shafer - December 15, 2014 at 05:54 PM

DD

“ *There are no sufficient words. We love all of you, and vow to continue to relish the remarkable ride with you. The world not only WAS a better place because of Terry Bilhartz, but it IS a better place because of him...the mark of a truly great human being.*

David, Lori, J., and Ellie Dunaway - December 15, 2014 at 04:03 PM

MC

“ I too am saddened by the sudden, early loss of Terry. He was a wonderful man, a devout Christian who taught by not just in the classroom but by living. My sympathy goes to all of the family. We are all the poorer for his loss.

Marion Czaja

Marion Czaja - December 15, 2014 at 03:21 PM

KB

“ Patti, Rocky and Terriann- Please accept my condolences for your loss. Dr. Bilhartz was a wonderful man and I am sending you and your families prayers!

Kathy Brown - December 15, 2014 at 03:18 PM

JO

“ Jim and I, but mostly Jim, is missing Terry and will continue to feel a great loss. They were colleagues and friends for a long time in the department sharing stresses, research, and ideas. Jim will not be able to replace him as someone to share with. I also appreciate his teaching Bradley. May God bless you all in his absence.

Love, Jim & Judy Olson

judy Olson - December 15, 2014 at 02:41 PM

CB

“ Dr. Bilhartz was a kind and honest man. In the time that I knew him at SHSU he taught my friends and I many thought provoking ideas. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Cody Burris - December 15, 2014 at 02:37 PM

BM

“ Terry was my Christian Mentor, he was truly an Angel on earth and his light will be eternal from all the lives he touched. Patti and family, we are saddened by the loss of Terry and our prayers are with you and may GOD continue to bless and walk with you.

Bryan & Christina Matthys - December 15, 2014 at 12:24 PM

JR

“ I am so sad to hear about Terry. He was always so delightful to be around. Always smiling and happy. People who knew him were blessed by knowing him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Jerry and Pam Roberts - December 15, 2014 at 11:54 AM

KH

“ Thank You, Terry. Just Thank You so very much.

Ken Hendrickson - December 15, 2014 at 10:32 AM

EM

“ My heart goes out to you and my thoughts are with you at this time of loss. Take comfort in Terry's peace now. Deepest sympathy,

Evelyn McDaniel

Evelyn McDaniel - December 15, 2014 at 10:14 AM

JB

“ Few people at Sam Houston State University; at First United Methodist Church; in Huntsville, Texas; and indeed, in the wider world; are regard as highly as Terry Bilhartz. He was a gentle kind caring person, a brilliant scholar, an enthusiastic teacher, a devout Christian, a loyal friend, and so much more. He leaves behind a legacy that will not soon be forgotten, and yet he leaves behind a space that will be impossible to fill. Patty and family, we know that you are deeply grieving at this time. May it give you some comfort to know that the world around you is sharing in this grief. God bless you all.

Jerry & Betty Bruce - December 15, 2014 at 09:52 AM

KF

“ Patty, Rocky, & Teriann, I am sooo sorry for your loss. Terry was a truly good man that showed his caring and love for people. Patty, you and he have been an inspiration to many of us watching our kids grow up together. You produced two incredible human beings in Rocky and Teriann. Each of you through your sadness I pray will find peace in the blessing he was to you all and to his world. I love you all and am praying for each of you.

Kay Fountain - December 15, 2014 at 09:22 AM

SM

“ Patty and family ~ I was so saddened to hear of Terry's passing! As a graduate student, he provided invaluable advice to me, thus facilitating the completion of my graduate degree here at SHSU. His presence will truly be missed. I felt that I became a better person from knowing him. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Sharla Miles - December 15, 2014 at 09:11 AM

KT

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Terry's family. I worked with Terry in the CHSS Dean's Office. He was a good man who cared deeply for his students. I learned so much from him. He had a tremendous career and a life full of love. May you all find comfort.

Kandi Tayebi - December 15, 2014 at 09:09 AM

LW

“ I have fond memories of Terry from high school. My heart is saddened by his too-early passing. May God be ever present and hold you in His arms until you are able to stand alone again. My heart is especially hurting for his children as my two sons lost their father two years ago and I know how difficult that is. God bless and keep each of Terry's loved ones and friends safe and close as they travel to honor Terry and celebrate him in Huntsville.

Lynda Willis - December 14, 2014 at 08:13 PM

JS

“ Wonderful man. Beautiful life. We are richer for having known him.

Jim & Debbie Sprague - December 14, 2014 at 08:10 PM

KS

“ Terry's teachings were a blessing to be absorbed. He could help make you feel like we were all a part of the lessons learned. He never missed an opportunity to share great stories about those awesome grandsons. Patty, Rocky and Teriann...the Bilhartzs were all great neighbors. Prayers for healing and a lifetime full of fond memories!

Kathy Smith - December 14, 2014 at 04:18 PM

LG

“ *My deepest condolences to Terry's family. He was a good friend to my brother, me, and my family growing up.*

Larry Guzick - December 14, 2014 at 01:33 PM

BL

“ *A finer man I have never known. This world has lost a true Christian warrior and we are all poorer for it. My entire family has been so wonderfully blessed by the Bilhartz family and we are all so saddened by Terry's passing. Our hearts go out to you, Patty, Rocky, and Terriann. Terry was always a model for me to try to follow, though I could never match his goodness. Few can.*

Bobby Lane - December 14, 2014 at 12:13 PM

JM

“ *So sorry for your loss, Patty. When I heard y'all had married, years ago, I thought how perfect a couple. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Judy Cardarella Mullins - December 14, 2014 at 10:00 AM

BC

“ *To the entire Bilhartz Family, I send my deepest condolences. This is such a loss for you all, family and friends, SHSU and all those that Dr. Bilhartz encountered. I don't think I ever saw him when he wasn't smiling or just exuding that gentle, approachable soft nature of his. From meeting him in high school, to actually having him as a professor in History during my undergrad, to continuing to see him frequently across campus as a staff member, I always enjoyed our paths crossing, however brief or long they might be. I will truly miss him. My thoughts and prayers to Patty, Terriann and Rocky and the entire family.*

Brandon Cooper - December 14, 2014 at 09:11 AM

SV

“ Terry was such a special person to our family. He taught my daughters in Confirmation Class and I was blessed to be able to hear his lessons twice. He was a fine Christian man. Well done good and faithful servant. You will be missed. Our prayers for Terry's family are for comfort and peace and may God lift you up and carry you in your grief.

Susan Mott, Jennifer Mize and Kimberly Vanderheydt - December 14, 2014 at 08:56 AM

NL

“ Terry was a good, kind soul. His respect for all people during my career at Sam made me a fan. His gentle kindness to Tracy this past year made me a super fan. He will be sorely missed.

Nancy Leavell - December 14, 2014 at 08:25 AM

VS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Terry was such a fine colleague at the university and he will be missed. We will keep you in our prayers.

Vic and Judy Sower - December 13, 2014 at 11:12 PM

CB

“ Patty, Rocky, and Terriann, we are shocked and saddened by your loss. Terry was such a great neighbor, and he was so loved at SHSU. Sending prayers to the whole family.

Caroline and Greg Balke - December 13, 2014 at 05:35 PM

PK

“ Sending sympathies and prayers out for the Bilhartz family on your loss. We know he will be missed by you all.

Phyllus & Bob Kennedy - December 13, 2014 at 05:07 PM

MF

“ We are sorry for your loss. Praying for your family.

Mellicent Wiley & Family - December 13, 2014 at 03:49 PM

PL

“ *Patty and family,*

We are so saddened to hear the news.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*God bless,
Paul & Cindi*

Paul & Cindi Loeffler - December 13, 2014 at 03:05 PM

CW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to Terry's family and friends. He truly will be missed.*

Christopher and Nancy Wilson - December 13, 2014 at 12:32 PM