



Mr. Lee S. Cornelius

May 5, 1942 - October 22, 2020

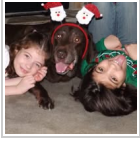
Lee S. Cornelius, 78, of Plant City, Florida, born on May 5, 1942 in Tampa, entered into eternal rest on October 22, 2020. He was a member of First United Methodist Church of Plant City, and a retired social studies teacher with Plant City High School. He loved his family dearly, and enjoyed woodworking. He is survived by wife of 36 years, Eleanor T. Cornelius; sons, Benjamin Cornelius (Tonya) of Hawaii, Justin Cornelius (Andrea) of Indialantic, Daniel Cornelius (Ellisa) of Plant City, and James Cornelius (Eleanor) of Brandon; grandchildren, Kyle, Harrison, and Ryan; and siblings, Theodore Cornelius (Ila) of Thomasville, Alabama, Lew Cornelius (Shirley) of Columbus, Mississippi, and Louise Stokes of Crestview, Florida. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Elizabeth Cornelius. A memorial service at First United Methodist Church Plant City is planned at a later date. Interment at Springhead Cemetery, Lakeland. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church Plant City at firstchurchplantcity.com/giving/, and/or John Hopkins All Children's Hospital at hopkinsallchildrens.org/Giving/Ways-to-Give. Expressions of condolence at HopewellFuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Springhead Cemetery

County Line Road
Lakeland, FL

Tribute Wall



“ *Such an amazing, caring man. One of the few teachers I remember from high school. I was sad to see that he has passed as I really wanted him to know how much he meant to me. His compassion and understanding went beyond just teaching American History. My condolences to the family.*

Cheri (Noel) Barmore, Class of '77

Cheri Barmore - January 17, 2022 at 05:27 AM

JW

“ *Jill Wilson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lee S. Cornelius*



Jill Wilson - January 04, 2021 at 12:22 AM

JW

Mr. Cornelius, you made an expression on so many young minds. I was inspired to become a high-school teacher & a classmate, Ken Wolfe, is so passionate about Problems in American Democracy. Over 40 yrs later, I am so grateful I paid attention. You taught us the vital documents of the constitution, the amendments, and so much more. I will never watch silently as injustice & b.s. goes on around my world. YOU are a Great American.

Jill Wilson - January 04, 2021 at 12:35 AM

IR

“ *Only thing one thing to say is , "What a Great Teacher". It was very obvious to me that it was not a job to him, it was his Passion.*

Irvin C. Rupp - November 21, 2020 at 10:22 AM

LB

“ Linda Bridges lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lee S. Cornelius



Linda Bridges - November 13, 2020 at 08:32 PM

S7

“ Mr. Cornelius was one of my favorite teachers, he really cared about his students as people. Love and prayers for peace and comfort only God can give. RIP💜🙏

Sue Fortner Fowler, class of 72 - November 05, 2020 at 05:13 PM

DS

“ Lee was a great teacher and a great friend when i returned to PCHS to teach. He accepted people openly and with a big heart. I will miss him.
Dr. Kirk R. Smith

Dr. Kirk R. Smith - November 05, 2020 at 01:19 PM

BH

“ My deepest sympathy's to Lee's family. Back in the bad old days we spent some great moments out at the smokers table. Lee was gregarious and outgoing. He had a great sense of humor and an unmistakable laugh. By all accounts a great teacher. He had a large impact on his students and will be missed.
Bob Horan

Bob Horan - October 28, 2020 at 06:34 AM

AG

“ For some time Lee Cornelius, others, and I shared duties as teacher's union representatives at PCHS. Lee could find humor in every task we had to address and then he would find a very practical solution reflecting fairness for all. In my classes I was lucky enough to have some of the same students that attended his classes. They all held Mr. Cornelius in high regard. He was a wonderful person and will be missed by many.

My condolences to Eleanor and family.

Art Guzzetta

Art Guzzetta - October 27, 2020 at 06:52 PM

CJ

“ Daniel and family, so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Gary and Carolyn Jenkins

Carolyn Jenkins - October 27, 2020 at 12:40 PM

BH

“I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIS LAUGH...IT FILLED THE ROOM...A GOOD MAN..A VERY GOOD MAN.....BOB HAGE.

BOB HAGE - October 27, 2020 at 10:08 AM

DD

“ Pleasant memories of the years of teaching together at PCHS and the more recent breakfasts of PCHS retired men teachers. We will miss you. Donnell Dudley

Donnell Dudley - October 27, 2020 at 10:05 AM

RA

“ Our deepest condolences to the family. We shared many happy moments at PCHS. He was a friend and always cheerful. Peace, my brother. *Ralph Aversa*



Ralph Aversa - October 27, 2020 at 09:03 AM

GB

“ *he and I butted heads for three years just for fun we enjoyed each other , he was a great inspiration for me and a great teachers*

GARY C BASS - October 27, 2020 at 03:50 AM

MA

“ *Mr. Cornelius was definitely one of my favorites! He will be missed.. RIP*

Marsha Miller Kevitch

Marsha - October 26, 2020 at 10:01 PM

TN

“ *RIP You were a very important part of my high school years. One of my favorite teachers. You will be missed by so many.*



Tina Kulisz Nelson - October 26, 2020 at 09:51 PM

GH

“ I spent wonderful times with Lee we camp together a together set by far together even one time we climb to top of he was a friend and will be missed.

george hayes - October 26, 2020 at 09:19 PM

DE

“ Mr. Cornelius was my history teacher all 3 years of high school. He instilled my love of history .
I've thought of him many times over the years and told many a story about him and his impact on me.
I only wish I had of known he lived in Plant City and I would've love to reach out when I was in town on leave from the Army.
May he Rest In Peace, another Angel has been called home to his Savior.
Prayers for his family and friends 🙏

Donna English - October 26, 2020 at 08:17 PM

GJ

“ My Wife, Janet and I looked forward to our small group Bible Study time, often hosted by Lee and Ellen. When studying or simply visiting with Lee, we always leaned in close, listening for Words of Wisdom, usually from a historical perspective. Lee had a very impressive wealth of knowledge. I enjoyed talking with Lee and reminiscing how things are ever so different in the city, we both were born and raised. Farewell...Lee.

Gerald (Jerry) W Jackson - October 26, 2020 at 07:39 PM

JB

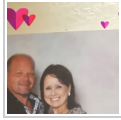
“ All thoughts of Lee were always accompanied by his chuckles. Joe

Joe Bodenmiller - October 26, 2020 at 07:11 PM

DF

“ He was a wonderful teacher... great man and I knew he loved his job.. because I knew he loved us... ive thought about my teachers thru the years and he's at the top of the list for best..hugs folks

Dixie Forbes-Gorby - October 26, 2020 at 06:54 PM



Mr Cornelius is the reason i chose law enforcement in the Army and also the motivator for my BS in Criminal Justice...so much so i thought of him as I waited with my peers to accept my diploma! He was a wonderful man and we knew he loved us. May ge rest in peace, as we are praying for his wife and family 🙏

Terry Watson - October 26, 2020 at 07:35 PM



Tammy (Long)Watson

Terry Watson - October 26, 2020 at 07:36 PM

WW

“ Sorry for your Loss
He was a great teacher and role model
He had a great sense of humor
Prayers



Wanda Willis - October 26, 2020 at 05:47 PM

Tina
Jenkins
Maloney

“ Mr. Cornelius you were one of the best teachers EVER!! Prayers for your family.

Tina Jenkins Maloney - October 26, 2020 at 04:54 PM



My thoughts and prayers are with his family. Mr Cornelius was one of my favorite teachers as he was with so many. He had so many wonderful characteristics such as his sense of humor, dedication, friendliness, respect for others and you could see the joy he received from teaching. All of this and more made it an enjoyable and memorable experience as one of his students (Class of 1977). I am honored to have known him.

Jack Tillman - October 27, 2020 at 04:13 PM