



## Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr.

June 17, 1941 - January 20, 2017

New Durham - Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr., of New Durham, formerly of North Hampton, died on Friday, January 20, 2017, at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital following a courageous battle with cancer.

Tom was born in Amesbury, Mass. on June 17, 1941, the son of the late T. Leo and Irene Haggerty, residents of Hampton at the time. From his earliest school years until his marriage in 1971 to Emily Nichols -- the girl next door since 1968 -- he resided in Marblehead, Mass. They lived in Salem and Salisbury, Mass. before settling in North Hampton in 1979 and retiring to New Durham in 2001. Tom graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1963 and received his Master's Degree in Education from Cambridge College in 1993.

Tom's career as an English teacher began at the St. James School in Berlin, CT, followed by ten years at Newman Preparatory School in Boston, 25 years at Winnacunnet High School in Hampton, and finishing with additional terms at Traip Academy in Kittery. From 1985 to 1998 he was an active member and head usher at South Church in Portsmouth. Although considered retired, Tom spent the past 15 years working part-time at The Book Outlet in North Hampton. He also enjoyed gardening, tutoring, and writing; most recently for a local weekly, *The Baysider*.

Tom's legacy will be that of a cherished friend and colleague; beloved father, husband and uncle; and inspiring educator and mentor. He was an entertaining, witty, gentle, and generous man whose warmth and enthusiasm made those in his presence feel valued and respected.

He is survived by his beloved wife Emily, and their daughter, Susanna, and her husband Robert Murphy of Mountville, PA. Tom also leaves his sister-in-law, brother-in-law and their spouses; many adored and adoring friends; and an extended family of treasured cousins, nieces, nephews, and their spouses and children. He was predeceased by his parents and his sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Gilbert Dempsey.

Visiting hours will be held on Friday, January 27, 2017 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Remick and Gendron Funeral Home 811 Lafayette Rd., Hampton. A 'Celebration of Life' memorial service will be held Saturday, February 4, 2017 at 2 pm at South Church, 292 State Street, Portsmouth, NH. All are welcome. Memorial donations may be made to the charity of one's choice or to any of the scholarships within the Winnacunnet Dollars for Scholars, Inc., P.O. Box 1593, North Hampton, NH 03862-1593. (Please note in the check memo that funds be directed to the Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr. Memorial Scholarship fund.)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory  
811 Lafayette Road ·  
Hampton, NH 03842  
(603) 926-6500  
info@remickgendron.com  
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

## Celebration of Life

FEB 4. 2:00 PM (ET)

South Church  
292 State Street  
Portsmouth, NH

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr.*

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September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *I am sorry I am late ... BUT Mr. Haggerty was a wonderful teacher... Full of inspiration - I will never forget the story of the presidential parade through Exeter when he was so proud to have been there and could have almost touched him! Rest in peace Mr H!!*

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**Donna Meyer-Miller** - February 11, 2017 at 05:15 PM



“ *I am saddened by the loss of an amazing teacher, who fueled for me, a deep appreciation for literature.*

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**Karen Blomquist** - February 01, 2017 at 12:26 PM



“ *Dear Emily & Sukey:  
How saddened we were to hear of Tom's passing. We loved being around him at South Church - he had the knack of making one feel happy no matter what was going on in their lives. His sense of humor was unsurpassed! I loved seeing at the bookstore as well.  
Our hearts are with you,  
Jean & Henry Altenberg*

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**jean Altenberg** - January 29, 2017 at 10:02 PM

HH

“ *Emily and Sukey  
Derrick and I were saddened to hear of Tom's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We'll miss his annual Christmas message and seeing him at the bookstore. We were fortunate to have you all as neighbors for 18 years.*

*Derrick & Heidi Hill*

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**Heidi Hill** - January 29, 2017 at 07:28 PM

BP

“ *Tom Haggerty was one of the best teachers at WHS in 1976. He had a great sense of humor and loved his job. His dedication to education inspired me to become a teacher*

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**Barbara Preston** - January 27, 2017 at 05:38 PM

DF

“ *Dear Emily, Sukey, and family,  
I will miss seeing Tom. Although we saw one another occasionally, I'll never forget how his smile and gentle and kind manner made our visits so enjoyable. He was a wonderful person, an outstanding educator, and friend to many. I hope that your fond memories of times shared will sustain you during this most difficult time. Although I will not be there today, please know that I plan to be there for the special ceremony to be held around the time of his birthday. Love,  
Dave Fiedler*

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**David Fiedler** - January 27, 2017 at 07:50 AM

JK

“ Dearest Emily and family...  
Bruce and I are very sad to learn of Tom's passing. He was a wonderful neighbor... no matter how much lawn he had left to mow, if I can over, he would stop to visit! He was always very nice. May the comfort of loved ones keep you surrounded in love at this time. We are thinking of you all.

Jane + Bruce Kirk  
Pittsburg, NH

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**Jane Kirk** - January 26, 2017 at 11:30 AM



“ Mr. Haggerty was one of my favorite teachers at Winnacunnet High School. He was a gentle soul. My condolences to his family.

Jodie Bray Strickland

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**Jodie Strickland** - January 26, 2017 at 09:45 AM



“ California Healthy was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr..



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January 26, 2017 at 09:34 AM

RG

“ Prayers and Hugs from Amber and Russ Gofus

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**Russell J. Gofus** - January 26, 2017 at 08:29 AM

DF

“ Tom was a great teacher at Winnacunnet for many years. Very glad to have known him for so long. The kids loved him, his peers loved him, and the people who saw the Christmas show put on by the faculty loved him. He was so creative. He will be missed by all of us. RIP Tom. Don Foote

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**Don Foote** - January 26, 2017 at 08:01 AM

NH

“ To Emily and Sukey;

*Please accept our heartfelt condolences on Tom's passing. We will cherish many fond memories of "Nancy's Little Brother". He was a Good Man, and his life was well-lived.*

*May he now enjoy his Eternal Reward, and be reunited with family members that have gone before him. What a reunion it must have been!*

*We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Much Love,*

*Nancy Hanson and Family  
Braintree, MA*

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**Nancy Hanson** - January 26, 2017 at 07:50 AM

ED

“ One of my very favorite teachers at Winnacunnet!!! Very kind caring gentleman! So sorry, he was taken so soon!!



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**Ellen Wilbur DeCosta** - January 26, 2017 at 07:18 AM

Glenn  
T. Raitt

“ Sorry to hear of Mr. Haggerty's passing. I remember him from WHS my senior year English class Satire and Humor. Taught me how to find humor in all walks of life. No matter how dark it may become, humor is there to bring light. Rest peacefully you lessons have been taught.

*Glenn T. Raitt WHS Class of 1978*

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**Glenn T. Raitt** - January 25, 2017 at 11:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr..



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January 25, 2017 at 10:20 PM



“ What a beautiful man. I met him at a Shakespeare class at Winnacunnet - and was smitten from the start. So smart - so full of life. He would always play the leading male in any play that we read - so fun and a wealth of information. I will miss his smile at the bookstore! Rest well Tom - Heaven is going to love you!

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**Paula Munch** - January 25, 2017 at 08:58 PM



“ *Mr Haggerty, I never got to thank you for introducing me to Shakespeare, for giving me the opportunity to 'act out' during class. Some of my fondest high school memories were standing at the front of your class exchanging lines with classmates and laughing as we tried so hard to stay in character. Almost 40 years later I still draw on those memories as a source of comfort and joy. Thank you for the gift of literature.*

*Mike Ewing  
Class of 1980*

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**Mike Ewing** - January 25, 2017 at 08:29 PM

MM

“ *My favorite teacher. Very sorry to hear.*

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**Michael Manning** - January 25, 2017 at 05:09 PM

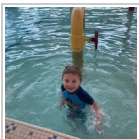
J'

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of this loss. Mr Haggerty was my teacher at WHS and I enjoyed being in his class so much. He was one of the BEST! RIP God Bless*



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**JoEllen Pike WHS class of '89** - January 25, 2017 at 04:38 PM



“ *Mr. Haggerty, I was blessed to have you as my English teacher all 4 years in high school. I could never have been so lucky - not sure you felt the same way!! I will forever remember all of the back and forths on books and watching A Christmas Story every year. I will miss you and never forget all that you did for me. Rest in Peace.*

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**Jon Butler** - January 25, 2017 at 02:47 PM

LA

“ Love Danielle and Amy purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Thomas L. Haggerty, Jr..



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**Love Danielle and Amy** - January 25, 2017 at 02:05 PM

CE

“ Such a sad thing to see he was a teacher of mine at Winnacunnet hs he was such a great guy may he gain his golden wings he so deserves Rest In Peace mr haggerty

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**corri eaton** - January 25, 2017 at 01:35 PM

ST

“ Dearest Emily and Susanna, oh my, what to say; love, love, love. So glad to have known Tom and spent many happy hours together laughing and laughing and laughing ! Remember the Presidential Dinner, Mrs Nixon ? Many more cherished memories, thank you, Tom. We will always hold you dear. Wishing you all peace, strength and many, many, many happy memories.

*All our very best-Susan Treleaven and Stephen Blakney*

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**Susan Treleaven** - January 25, 2017 at 01:32 PM

GB

“ I him and his wife for encouraging me to want to learn. He was an great English teacher! Test in peace Mr. Haggerty. My sincere condolences to Mrs. Haggerty and family.

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**Glynn Bowley** - January 25, 2017 at 12:36 PM

JL

“ So sorry to hear we lost Tom. Dear friend, wonderful teacher and gentle soul. JLynch

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**Jane Lynch** - January 25, 2017 at 11:29 AM

DC

“ I cherish al the time Mr. Haggerty gave to those of us in the drama club. He was humorous, enlightening and generous. He helped shape me into the person and teacher I am today. His influence continues in each of my students. Break a leg on the Big Stage. You are loved and will be missed.

*Deb Leach Craig*

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**deb craig** - January 25, 2017 at 10:08 AM

SD

“ Mr. Haggerty was a wonderful teacher and I am honored that I had the privlage of being in his class. Thoughts are with his family and friends. He will be missed.

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**Samantha Dlott** - January 25, 2017 at 09:45 AM

BH

“ *Haggerty Family,*

*I lovingly called him 'Tommyyyyyy' and he would call me 'Bridgieeee'...(a name only a few use)...it was our pleasure to work with him at WHS. I personally, learned a great deal watching him work the room, with his 'kids' at WHS. He was the colleague everyone loved..and the friend we all treasured. It was pure joy seeing him at the Bookstore all these years.*

*Cancer may have taken him, but we all hold the best of him in our hearts and minds.*

*How fortunate for us that he was in our universe..which will never be the same..and aren't we all glad that he came.*

*May the road rise up to meet him..and the angels welcome him with open arms...as he has a story or two to share with them.*

*Thank you to his family for sharing him with us. May his loving smile, quick wit and kindness stay close in your hearts forever and carry you through this tough time.*

*Peace to our friend.*

*Love,*

*Tom Sheridan  
Bridget Hughes*

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**Bridget Hughes** - January 25, 2017 at 09:36 AM

 Mariel  
Matero  
Donnelly

“ My deepest condolences to Mr. Haggerty's family and friends.

*Mr. Haggerty was the kindest soul and I am so grateful I had him as my English teacher. He made me fall in love with Shakespeare and the English language. I always made a point to see him at the bookshop when I would return home to visit. The last book he recommended to me was *The Goldfinch* and I'll always remember him when I think of that book, and it's 800 pages. :) He was right - I loved it. Thank you, Mr. Haggerty. The gift you've given to me and all of your students, will never be forgotten.*

*“...and at some point, deep in the night, when we were winging on the jungle gym and showers of sparks were flying out of our mouths, I had the epiphany that laughter was light, and light was laughter, and that this was the secret of the universe.”*

*-Donna Tartt, *The Goldfinch**

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**Mariel Matero Donnelly** - January 24, 2017 at 09:23 PM

JG

“ Mr. Haggerty was passionate about English and literature. Always patient & kind, he helped improve my writing and encouraged my development as a student.. I'm very thankful to have had him as a teacher. It was always nice seeing him years later at the Book Outlet after high school. I remember many great conversations in the shop. RIP, Mr. Haggerty. You will be missed.

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**Josh Goodrich** - January 24, 2017 at 07:40 PM



Shannon  
Tremblay

“ *My deepest sympathies to Mr. Haggerty's family and friends. He was an amazing teacher who truly cared for each and every one of his students. I will always remember the special friendship that he had with Mrs. Becky T. the two of them made English class fun! After high school I would drop in the bookstore every now and then to say hi and he always had a smile and great recommendations for books!*

*You will be missed, but not forgotten.*

*Shannon Hollingworth*

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**Shannon Tremblay** - January 24, 2017 at 06:53 PM

SM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**S Murphy** - January 24, 2017 at 05:33 PM