



Michael R. Payton

January 2, 1942 - February 13, 2016

Michael Ralph Payton, 74, of Lubbock passed away Saturday, February 13, 2016. Born January 2, 1942, Michael lived a life of education. He graduated from Deming High School then earned an undergraduate degree from McMurry College. Michael also earned a master's degree in Education with certifications in Administration and Counselling. Having proudly served LISD for 45 years, he touched many lives and valued each of his co-workers, students, and their families. Michael enjoyed serving on the LISD Student Support team, teaching Disciple Bible Study at FUMC, and sharing stories of his time as a member of KIVA Men's Social Club.

Michael is survived by his wife of 48 years, Bonnie Teeter Payton; his son Ross Payton (Cheryl) of Richardson, TX; his daughter Amanda Dempsey (Kenneth) of Highlands Ranch, CO; and his five grandchildren Hannah, Michael, Harrison, Matthew, and Austin. His family was the light of his life. The family will hold a celebration of life memorial service at Sanders Funeral Home on Saturday, February 20, at 2:00. Visitation will be held Friday from 5:00 – 7:00 also at Sanders. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in his memory to the American Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 19. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Sanders Funeral Home
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401
(806) 763-6433
director@sandersfuneralhome.com
<https://www.sandersfuneralhome.com>

Memorial Service

FEB 20. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sanders Funeral Home
1420 Main Street
Lubbock, TX 79401
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Tribute Wall



“ Sanders Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael R. Payton



Sanders Funeral Home - February 18, 2016 at 11:32 AM



*R.I.P. Mr. Payton
Dunbar Struggs Class of '87*

Lisa Hays - February 18, 2016 at 07:48 PM

TP

“ Mike's football picture brings back memories of our time at Deming High School, Mike had a game where he scored four or five touchdowns, from then on he was "Palimino" . Tom Pearson

Tom Pearson - February 20, 2016 at 12:46 PM

JW

“ *Mr. Payton was a true testament of what it is to be a hard working and understanding man. Especially with the students he helped guide to further their education. For me, he became a strong force and helped push me to meet my goals and further my dreams. For that, I am a successful, working man with courage that allows me to wanna go further. I am sure that many other students of his would attest to. Thank you, Mr. Payton, for all you've done to help the students you came in contact with. You will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the family through this moment of loss. God bless!*

Jerome Whitmore

Class of 1993- the last graduating class of Dunbar- Struggs High School

jerome c whitmore - February 18, 2016 at 10:15 PM

RG

“ *Words seem inadequate to express the sadness we feel about Mr. Payton's death. Our Dad, Roy Roberts enjoyed working with him at Dunbar and had the utmost respect for his quiet, calm nature. Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.*

Sincerely,

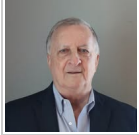
Joey Roberts

Royla Roberts Gossett

Harvey E. Roberts

(The Roy Roberts Family)

Royla Roberts Gossett - February 18, 2016 at 10:10 PM



“ Mike was "rock solid" as they come when I entered McMurry in 1962 and was a treasured KIVA brother. My first thought of Mike is one of compassion, and not just because he went easy on me as a pledge. He always had a gentle sweet spirit which obviously carried over to his career in education. I wish I had been able to see him more often.

Keith Lightfoot - February 18, 2016 at 02:58 PM

BC

“ A great guy. He is one of the guys that inspired to pledge KIVA. I admired his maturity. He will be richly rewarded in heaven.

Bob Collins

Bob Collins - February 18, 2016 at 01:02 PM



“ 46 files added to the album Life Tributes



Sanders Funeral Home - February 18, 2016 at 11:05 AM

CH

“ He was a wonderful co-worker, I work with him from 1983 - until Dunbar change to a middle school. This man would look at a student and there was no problem. RIP Michael.

Catherine Henderson - February 18, 2016 at 10:21 AM

RR

“ Truly a great man! I remember him when I was a student at O.L. Slaton and a student at Dunbar. Always had a calm and easy demeanor with a smile that invited communication. I ran into him 20 years after graduation but this time as colleagues because we worked with the same troubled young men and women in the LISD system. From talking to these students, they respected him as did I and many of my own classmates. He remembered my family and would ask me about their well-being. His light was bright here on earth and now it shines in Heaven. May the Lord welcome you into His kingdom and comfort your loved ones. The Lord Blessed us through you.

This is not a goodbye, but merely a "See you later"

God Bless!

Deacon Ralph Rosiles

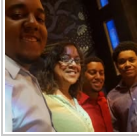
Class of 84

Ralph Rosiles - February 18, 2016 at 09:28 AM

TW

“ Remembering Mr. Payton from O.L. Slaton and what a joy it was to come in each day and have that smiling face greet you! Later on, running into him from time to time, he was always the same. Always a smile, always kind.

Tania Weir - February 18, 2016 at 08:52 AM



“ Remember Mr Payton at Dunbar as knowing all the students by name, and standing in the halls and the cafeteria talking with us and always had the kindest smile. The world has lost a great man and heaven has gained an angel.

Dana Marie Johnson-Manley - February 18, 2016 at 08:12 AM

RM

“ I have many fond memories of "Albie" and I am happy to see that he lead such a successful life.
Ralph Mccleskey KIVA '62

Ralph Mccleskey - February 17, 2016 at 07:56 PM

TW

“ So many memories from 8th grade Social studies, awesome teacher. Such great church teachers Coach and Bonnie were at First church, and thank you for allowing me to keep your children when they were young. You both have always been in my heart and mind. Prayers to you and your family.

Toya Ward Windsor - February 17, 2016 at 07:50 PM

JH

“ I phoned Mike numerous times over the years to ask "What do you do in Lubbock when this situation arises?" He always had an answer. As an administrator in Abilene ISD I appreciated his willingness to share and help. What a good guy. He will be missed.

Joe Humphrey

Joe Humphrey - February 17, 2016 at 06:35 PM

SC

“ Rod and I have many good memories of Mike...from our time in Deming and at McMurry and send our love to his family and many friends!

Suzie Appleton Clark - February 17, 2016 at 06:23 PM

RJ

“ A good role model for many of us. Always greeted us with that great smile. I was fortunate to meet him at O.L.Slaton and delighted he joined the staff at Dunbar.

Prayers for the family. Good bless you all!

Robbie Johnson - February 17, 2016 at 06:11 PM

BC

“ Bonnie, I'm so sorry to hear about Mike's passing. I enjoyed working with him for years and truly appreciated his fairness with anyone that came to his office.

I pray that the Lord's grace, mercy, peace, and comfort be with you now and in the days to come.

*God bless,
Belinda Coats*

Belinda Coats - February 17, 2016 at 02:23 PM

LA

“ Bonnie: I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Mike. He is a man that I have deeply admired for so many years. My prayers and thoughts have and will continue to be with you. Lynn Akin

Lynn Akin - February 17, 2016 at 12:08 PM

SS

“ Bonnie: So sorry to learn of Mr. Payton's death. Prayers for comfort and peace for you and your family. Am thinking of all the times I shared a " good morning" with Mr. Payton as we crossed paths in the J ay Gordon room. My love Sandy Sumners

Sandy Sumners - February 17, 2016 at 08:24 AM

MR

“ Mr. Payton was a man of few words. He was fair. He listened to parents as well as school officials. He was a very thoughtful, kind man. Condolences to the family.

*Margaret Randle
Retired LISD principal*

Margaret Randle - February 16, 2016 at 10:54 PM

LC

I first met Mr. Payton in 1976 when he came to Dunbar as our new vice-principal. He immediately came across to me as a kind, caring person who would be a perfect fit for our students and faculty. I loved working and knowing Mike the following years at Dunbar. Looking forward to meeting him again someday. Much love to all of his loved ones.

Lowell cole - February 20, 2016 at 02:31 PM