



Theodore James Rachofsky

September 16, 1944 - July 24, 2020

Theodore James Rachofsky, known as Ted by family and friends, died on July 24, 2020. He was 75 years old, born the oldest of four children to Albert and Annette Rachofsky on September 16, 1944 in Chicago, Illinois.

Ted was preceded in death by his daughter, Rachel, and both his parents. He is survived by his son Aaron; sisters Alana, Susan and Mindy; and by his wife of 51 years, Marcia. Ted also has many cousins and too many friends to count.

He was a musician since high school, playing trumpet, then string bass. He later studied trombone and became the first chair trombone in the Guadalajara Symphony Orchestra in Mexico for 8 years. Ted taught high school math before, during and after trombone practice and gigs. In Austin, Ted taught math at ACC for 18 years, and with the Capital Idea College Prep Academy for 14 years. After retirement, Ted began math tutoring at Sunset Valley Elementary School until he was too sick to continue.

Ted will be cremated and buried next to his daughter as he requested. There will be a virtual memorial service at a later time in August.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation in his name to the Southern Poverty Law Center, Ted's favorite charity, or a charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall

DE

“ I failed math every year until I met this man. He taught in a way that made me feel like I could finally achieve something. He was so down to earth and with the confidence I gained I was able to complete my bachelors of science degree. You were a good man & Im saddened to hear your no longer with us

dev - August 20, 2024 at 10:25 PM



“ Theodore James Rachofsky

October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM

LC

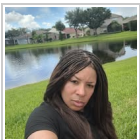
Ted, for some reason you came to mind. I looked you up and found this.
You were always so down to earth. You were the best math teacher I ever had. You actually helped me learn to love math! You are missed and fondly remembered.

Leticia Castillo - May 18, 2023 at 12:40 AM



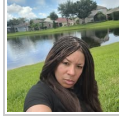
“ Thinking of you Ted. Looking through the pictures here, your smile, your lovely smile...peace to your family and to you, Ted. Love you!

Lori Bowman - January 15, 2022 at 05:59 PM



“ Ted you was an amazing Teacher and always made me feel like I could learn Math he was amazing and the coolest teacher I have ever had and his laugh was always so Hilarious and made his class enjoyable.

Crystallyn Bell - October 31, 2020 at 08:03 PM



Correction Ted you were an amazing Teacher, autospell is terrible, I'm sure Ted would of understood these gadgets were something else...lol

Crystallyn Bell - November 02, 2020 at 05:08 PM

MK

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Michelle Koffman - August 30, 2020 at 04:41 PM

MK

“ *Ted was one of the coolest people i have ever met! Ted was a genuine, loving, caring man, father, professional, musician, and friend! Thank you for being in my life, but most importantly, thank you for being such a wonderful friend to my father, Marvin! Love you forever! Michelle Joy Koffman.*



Michelle Koffman - August 30, 2020 at 03:31 PM

MA

“ *Margarita De Antuñano lit a candle in memory of Theodore James Rachofsky*



margarita de antuñano - August 24, 2020 at 06:09 PM

MA

“ My dear teacher Mr. Rachofsky, one of my most beloved teachers ever. He taught math at the ASFG, and I was one of the lucky students to have him. He was one of those teachers that teach beyond their subject. He taught us about believing in the goodness of people, trust, joy and patience. He was one of a kind, practicing his trombone during breaks, accidentally spitting his chewing gum when laughing, sitting on the floor during a lesson to think how he could make us understand. His memory and legacy will forever live. Aaron and Marcia big hugs to you both. Thank you Mr. Rachofsky for all you gave us.

Margarita De Antuñano
ASFG 87 Grad

margarita de antuñano - August 24, 2020 at 06:08 PM

HK

“ I remember his creative ways to teach Calculus to our small class when he first started teaching in ASFG in Guadalajara. I remember his uplifting spirit and inspirational words "Everybody is beautiful because we are all different". His classes were more about life than Math. My condolences for your family and your loving wife.

Heju Kim

Heju Kim - August 14, 2020 at 11:21 PM

CH

“ *The best math teacher. I loved his classes, every single and i really appreciated his early spanish tryouts.*

I still remember his trombone practices in the afternoon at the ASFG.

Sorry some in spanish:

A ti mi maestro gringo favorito, que me enseñaste que las matemáticas también podían ser muy divertidas. Te mando un abrazo y una despedida. Te doy un apretón de manos, aunque se que mis manos van a quedar diminutas entre aquellas grandes manos tuyas.

Te doy las gracias por hacerme reír y aprender. Goce cada una de tus clases.

Siempre quise la oportunidad de encontrarte otra vez y decirte personalmente cuánto disfrute tus clases y como te respete como persona y como maestro.

Goodbye Mr. Rachofsky.

Carlos D. Hinojosa A.



Carlos Hinojosa - August 01, 2020 at 07:11 PM



“ *Mr Rachofsky, too many memories indeed! The most significant for me was of him teaching us Algebra at the ASFG, he was just amazing, creative, witty and of course very smart!*

Mr Rachofsky would stay after school certain days to help us in case we had questions... well I really did not understand that $x + y =$ who knows what?! Poor Mr Rachofsky he explained to me one too many times and I was just lost! Honestly I thought he was getting frustrated with me, then he put his pencil down, scratched his forehead, closed his eyes, took a nice inhale, exhaled and told me..., "Think of circles and squares" and then it was like magic; Algebra became one of my favorite subjects !

Years have passed since that Algebra afternoon, my lesson was not of Algebra, my biggest lesson was of patience, of stopping to take a deep breath in moments of uncertainty and the answer would come to you!!

Thank you so much Ted, for being my teacher, thank you for the fond memories of my High School days, Thank you for just being there for us! My condolences to Marcia and the rest of the family!

Dora Sanchez - August 01, 2020 at 03:04 PM

DP

“ My heart is saddened by the passing of Mr. Rachofsky. He was an important influence in the formative years of my life as a young high school student who was fortunate to have known him as a mentor, life coach and instructor in the 1980's when I attended the American School Foundation of Guadalajara, Mexico.

Mr. Rachofsky, who preferred to be addressed as Ted, was a wonderful man who's presence here will be sorely missed. My heart and prayers go out to his family, Dios te bendigan, שאלוהים יברך אותך

-Darren Poole
Winston-Salem, NC

Darren Poole - July 31, 2020 at 10:37 AM

AA

“ Mr. Rachofsky was a great math teacher of mine in Guadalajara Mexico. A funny story is when he he introduced the class to Cinco de Mayo (May 5th). It's ironic because we were in Mexico with a room full of affluent Mexican kids and some rabble rousing Americans like me. He asked the class, “ Does anyone know what today is?” After the usual replies of “Tuesday” or “Pop quiz day” Finally the 5th of May was confirmed. Then Mr. Rachofsky asked if anyone knew the significance. I don't believe hardly anyone did. Then it was discussed about the Mexican army's defeat of the French at the battle of Puebla. I thought it was the funniest thing for our math professor to teach a room full of Mexican kids in Mexico about this significant day in their history. Later I think Corona confused the rest of the world into thinking it's Mexico's Independence Day. All kidding aside, he would capture our attention with his personality, he was patient with a lot of us smart ass kids and was a great professor. My deepest condolences to his family.

Alberto Alcalá - July 30, 2020 at 11:42 PM



“ *What a hole in the universe Ted's death has caused. . . Ted was an outstanding educator, loving husband and father, humanist, mathematician, accomplished writer, musician, philosopher, and a sweet friend to many - a true renaissance man. You will be greatly missed, Sweet Ted.*

Love, Priscilla

Priscilla Ramirez - July 29, 2020 at 06:29 PM

MB

“ *6 files added to the album Memories Album*



Mike Bell - July 29, 2020 at 12:53 PM

KD

“ *Just a happy man with a horn and family. To a musician, that's as good as it gets. It makes us all family, too. He will be missed.*

Kent Dugan - July 29, 2020 at 12:50 PM

MB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Mike Bell - July 29, 2020 at 11:39 AM

DW

“ *Ted was one of the most genuinely warm and compassionate people I ever met. I, and lots of band members, will miss him greatly. Dan Wilson*

dan wilson - July 28, 2020 at 05:25 PM