



## Mr. James Hilliard DeHart

January 9, 1937 - June 23, 2013

James “Jim” Hilliard DeHart, 76, of Salisbury died peacefully on June 23, 2013, surrounded by loving family and friends. A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, June 29, 2013, at Milford Hills Baptist Church, the visitation to commence at 10:00 am, and the service at 12:00 pm with Rev. Dr. Jim Harris, officiating with remarks by Howard Platt, and Gary York of Mt. Airy. At 2:30 pm, the family will be at Newman Park, Catawba College’s baseball stadium and encourages anyone who wishes to attend to please join them in this celebration. The family will be at 212 Sheridan Dr. at other times.

Jim was born on January 9, 1937, in Wilmington, North Carolina, to the late Harry Everett DeHart and Margaret Allen DeHart. Jim graduated from New Hanover High School in 1956, where he was a three sport athlete, competing on the baseball diamond, basketball court, and football field. He later pursued a career as a District Manager with The Life Insurance Company of Virginia, the predecessor company of Genworth Financial, which ultimately relocated Jim and his family to Salisbury in 1972, from Tampa Bay, Florida. Upon retiring, Jim followed his passion to coach baseball, which included coaching stints at various levels— little league, Salisbury High School, Catawba College, and finally the Rowan American Legion team, where he retired from coaching in 2000 after 11 seasons. Jim was a player’s coach, and his love for the game was only succeeded by his love for his players.

Jim is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 56 years, Betty DeHart; two sisters, Betty Anderson and Barbara Young (Herbert); two brothers, Harry DeHart (Jean) and Freddie DeHart (Julie); three daughters, Debbie Haynes, Lori Dusenberry (Ken), and Kim Pryor (Jay); ten grandchildren, Jimmy Haynes (Kristen), Adam Haynes, Lindsey Haynes, Michael Dusenberry (Sara), Brandon Dusenberry, Jon Dusenberry, Brett Dagenhart, Jamie Dagenhart, Jake Pryor, and Katie Pryor; and one great-granddaughter, Olivia Haynes.

In lieu of flowers, Jim wishes for all memorial contributions to be made to his grandson, Adam Haynes’, Hope Fund. Charitable tax-deductible donations should be made payable

to "Haynes Hope Fund" and mailed to the following: Haynes Hope Fund, c/o Milford Hills Baptist Church, 1238 E. Colonial Drive, Salisbury, NC 28144

The family wishes to thank the wonderful staff of Summersett Funeral Home, Milford Hills Baptist Church, Catawba College, Dr. William Downey of the Sanger Heart Institute at CMC, Charlotte and many, many others for their warm care and unfailing support during this time.

# Tribute Wall

PK

“ Betty, I just heard the news of Jim's passing. For the brief time that we were neighbors, I adored the many conversations that we had with you and Jim. He always had a smile on his face no matter what was going on.. Much love and many prayers to you and your family...With deepest condolences..the Kirk Family, JD,Patty,David,Chelsey & Joe

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**Patty Kirk** - June 29, 2013 at 03:56 PM

KS

“ Dear Mrs. DeHart, Debbie, Lori, Kim and family members, I was so sorry to hear the sad news about Mr. DeHart. He was such a wonderful man and I remember his amazing smile and warm personality fondly! I know how much you will miss him and I pray that God will bring each of you comfort and peace in the days ahead. I hope that the many amazing memories of the times you spent together will help to keep him close to your hearts. Sending my love and deepest sympathy! Psalm 16:5-11

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**Kim Burge Schoeffler** - June 26, 2013 at 07:43 PM

MT

“ Dear Kim and the entire family,

*With deepest sympathy to the entire family... It's been many years since my time at Salisbury High School, but I have fond memories of you (Kim) and the fine person you were. I was able to get to meet and know Jim a little and he always treated me with kindness. My hope is that the many great memories of Jim will help everyone get through this difficult time.*

*Sincerely,*

*Monte Taylor  
Mocksville, NC*

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**Monte Taylor** - June 26, 2013 at 08:18 AM

DT

“ I've always considered Coach Dehart a friend, mentor, and coach who inspired his players on and off the field. He will be truly missed, and I feel honored that he was an inspirational part of my life.

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**David Trexler** - June 25, 2013 at 10:36 AM

MY

“ *When i was young, Uncle Jim and Aunt Betty would always bring Cheerwine with them when they came to Wilmington. They didn't sell it here then. Wasn't sure if he was bringing it for me but that's how I remember it. Will miss him.*

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**Mike Young** - June 25, 2013 at 09:34 AM

TP

“ *My name is Tommy Price and I played college baseball at a Lenoir Rhyne and for Eastern Randolph baseball in the mid 80's. Mr. Dehart always called me by my first name and always had a kind word to say to me before and after our games. I always felt like the players and young men in the Salisbury area were very lucky to play for such a fine man. I just wanted his family and long list of people who had the privelege to know him to realize how lucky they all were to meet Mr. Dehart . May you rest in peace coach and thanks for taking the time out to say hello!!*

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**tommy Price** - June 24, 2013 at 09:13 PM

PP

“ *Please accept my most sincere condolences on the passing of Coach DeHart. I only spent 5 years in the Carawba community but it didn't take long to realize what a legend coach was. I will remember his great sense of humor the most. Rest in peace Coach! Phil Pacelli Trumbull ,CT ( Catawba baseball 1995-1999)*

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**Phil Pacelli** - June 24, 2013 at 07:55 PM