



## Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham

November 18, 1952 - March 11, 2017

Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham, 64, of Salisbury, passed to his eternal glory on Saturday March 11, 2017 at 7:05 PM at the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House. He was born on November 18, 1952, to his beloved mother the late Sarah Grubb Graham and his father the late Walter A. Graham, Jr. Named in honor of his beloved grandfather Gaskell, Lane was educated in the Rowan County School System, graduating in the class of 1971 from North Rowan High School, where he was salutatorian of his class and president of the student council.

He attained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Catawba College, a Masters degree in Education from Appalachian State University (where he also worked at the Agape Center), and his PhD in Education from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Lane was a member of Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church where he had served as Lay Leader. He was also a former Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church of Spencer. Lane also was a past coordinator of the Spencer 8th Street park summer recreational program and the Rowan County Special Olympics. Lane was an active participant in the discipline of karate having attained the level of Master Fifth Degree Black Belt. He was associated for many years with teaching karate at Catawba Collage and for the past 17 plus years ran the Ellis Park Karate program as well as running the after school karate program at Cleveland Elementary.

Dr. Graham was an immensely respected and well loved educator with the

Rowan Salisbury Schools for 30 years, working at Landis Elementary, Hurley Elementary, and Cleveland Elementary. Upon retirement, he continued to teach as an Associate Professor at Pfeiffer University. His love for teaching and for all his students was boundless. "Doc", as he was fondly identified, was a person of integrity who always exhibited the highest moral character, positive attitude, genuine respect, and compassionate understanding for his colleagues and especially his many, many students. He received many accolades throughout his career (though he was not one to brag) and was widely recognized in his life work as a consummate teacher in both his chosen field and on a community level.

Lane can best be described as a servant leader. He always put others before himself in both his professional and personal life. To him, to be a true leader one must first always be a humble servant to the Lord and to others both in words and actions throughout one's life. Lane assuredly accomplished this goal as evidenced through the love he shared with family, friends, colleagues, and especially his many students. He touched so many lives and we were so blessed that he shared his life and immense capacity for love, compassion, and understanding with us all. He will be greatly missed but never forgotten by all who knew him and were the recipients of his special love and kindness.

Survivors include his beloved wife Carolyn Y. Graham and daughters Stacey M. Adams and husband Paul of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Melissa Mustard of Williamsburg, Virginia: grandchildren Evan, Will, and Clark Adams: brother Lex Graham and wife Betsy of Kannapolis: sisters Lynn G. Marsh and husband Donnie, Lu Graham, and Lark Martin all of Salisbury: nieces and nephews Donna M. Greene, Kelly G. Stewart, Matt Marsh, and Dane Martin all of Salisbury: grand nieces and nephews Peyton, Parker, Pressley, and Paxton Greene, Rylie and Landrey Stewart, Levi Marsh and Aubrey Martin all of Salisbury: close first cousins Chris Weant and wife Vickie, Cindy W. Fuller and husband Tracy, Frank Longest, Jr. and wife Lee, Barbara L. Raeford and husband R. J. He is also survived by lifelong friends Jack Moore and Monty Ryan as well as former karate student and assistant teacher Justin Davidson.

Visitation and Service will be held at the Omwake-Dearborn Chapel on the campus of Catawba College at 2300 West Innes St in Salisbury, NC 28144 on Wednesday with visitation from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM followed immediately by the service. Officiating will be the Reverend Scott Ryan and the Reverend Kris Mares.

Past and present karate students in attendance are asked to wear their uniforms if they desire in honor of Dr. Graham. Members from the NRHS class of 1971 may sit together if they choose.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church - 4520 Old Mocksville Rd. Salisbury, NC 28144 for the Lane G. Graham Scholarship Fund for the Teaching of Special Education.

# Tribute Wall

TS

“ While this post is many years after Lane entered the gates of heaven, I don't know why God put him in my thoughts today but he did. Lane and I worked together at Hurley Elementary School many years ago. He was simply an amazing person and colleague. God bless you and the entire Graham family.

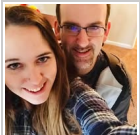
-----  
**Tonya Sloan** - December 02, 2024 at 04:58 PM

AP

“ I was fortunate enough to have Dr. Graham as a professor at Pfeiffer University. With his knowledge, guidance and kindness I was able to receive my Master's. He played a part in my life that got me to where I am today. I am humbled by reading about the man he was outside of those college walls. Heaven truly received an angel, and may the Lord comfort you during this difficult time.

*Amanda Passmore*

-----  
**Amanda Passmore** - March 15, 2017 at 05:49 PM



“ I went to Cleveland elementary school 3rd to 5th. He helped me with my reading and always encouraged me. I have kept in touch, as much as I could and 21 years of knowing him, his passing hurts as much as losing a family member. He was fun but firm when needed. And I still find it funny how he hated wearing socks. :p



-----  
**Lee Cameron** - March 15, 2017 at 06:17 AM

GM

“ Georgia Leonard Moore lit a candle in memory of Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham



Georgia Leonard Moore - March 14, 2017 at 05:01 PM

JB

“ Doc was a very special man as you all know. He was always so thoughtful and kind to everyone he met. He is the only person that I know of that is so thoughtful that he would send a thank you card for a thank you card. Thankful to know that we will meet again. Continuing to pray for all of the family.

Joy Barnette - March 14, 2017 at 03:44 PM

KF

“ My deepest condolences to the family of Dr. Lane Graham. I was so honored to have worked with Lane in the school system for many years. He touched so many lives and I know he is at peace in heaven with the angels. May God wrap his loving arms around your family in this most difficult time. May the many memories you shared bring you comfort and peace in the days ahead. Godspeed.

KENDRA FULBRIGHT - March 14, 2017 at 02:28 PM

RF

“ Robert (Bobby) Knott and family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham.



Robert (Bobby) Knott and family - March 14, 2017 at 12:11 PM

RK

“ God bless you Lane. May you rest in peace my old friend. I will deeply miss you. I am so grateful for the many years of friendship and karate practice we shared. The Knott family sends their love to your family and students. --- Thank you so much Carol for keeping me informed though I am so far away. Love and prayers from Japan.

Robert (Bobby) Knott - March 14, 2017 at 11:23 AM

JB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are will the entire family! Lane was such a special person!  
God Bless!  
Carolyn, Chip, and Jim Baker

Jim Baker - March 14, 2017 at 10:02 AM



“ Lark and family I am so sorry to hear about Lane. I know you are all heartbroken. I pray God wraps his arms around all of you to give you comfort and peace though this difficult time. Just remember he is pain free and with Jesus now. One day you will be with him again. I will be keeping you all in my prayers!  
I love you, Lark!

Cindy Harris - March 13, 2017 at 05:19 PM

JD

“ I remember how nice he and his wife were to bring extra tables and chairs plus pick them up to take them home from a Newcomer party at our home. They were a wonderful couple.



Jennifer Doering - March 13, 2017 at 04:43 PM

MI

“ He was an **AMAZING PROFESSOR!** I really enjoyed having him! He taught me a lot, & he was **CARING & VERY PATIENT** with me.



**Molly Secrest Isenhour** - March 13, 2017 at 02:30 PM

NF

“ Nola Everson and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham.



**Nola Everson and family** - March 13, 2017 at 12:03 PM

SG

“ I'm so sorry for your loss, my prayers are with your family. Sheliah Burnside's Gainer

**Sheliah Gainer** - March 13, 2017 at 11:16 AM

HC

“ Holly Corbin lit a candle in memory of Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham



**holly corbin** - March 12, 2017 at 10:24 PM

 April Brooks

“ *Dr. Graham will truly be missed. He helped my grandson Elijah throughout his beginning years at Cleveland Elementary. Elijah looked up to him and loved him very much. Such a gentle soul with a beautiful view of the world. He touched so many lives and I know he is enjoying be in Heaven with the angels. I am so honored to have known him and I thank you for sharing him with all of us. May God comfort you as only he can.*

---

**April Brooks** - March 12, 2017 at 09:41 PM

CH

“ *We will be praying for your family. So sorry for your loss.*  
*Tom and Carolyn Hess*

---

**Carolyn Hess** - March 12, 2017 at 09:26 PM

WG

“ *Lane was a childhood friend and schoolmate. Always a kind word for everyone and a wonderful role model all his life. He will always be fondly remembered as a very lovely person. Prayers for peace and love for his family during this time. May God wrap His loving arms around each of you and give you peace that passeth all understanding. Love to all.*

---

**Winona Gilbert** - March 12, 2017 at 09:12 PM



“ *Brenda Owens lit a candle in memory of Dr. Lane Gaskell Graham*



---

**Brenda Owens** - March 12, 2017 at 09:10 PM

BT

“ I had the privilege and honor to be one of Mr. Graham's students at Ellis Park and at Catawba as well over the period of several years. He was a very unique man with many talents. He had the discipline to attain a Master's level in Karate, yet he had a tender heart with compassion much like his Lord Jesus. He loved all his students and will truly be missed.

---

**Bill Toney** - March 12, 2017 at 08:58 PM

LM

“ To the family, Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can not heal, our earthly loss is Heaven's Gain, I will always remember the Graham Children from NRHS, loved all the "L" names and the love they showed all they met, Enjoy heaven until we get there. Lovetta Miller class of 77.

---

**Lovetta Miller** - March 12, 2017 at 08:08 PM

LW

“ Lane was a wonderful mentor to me. With his inspiration I chose to become a Special Education Teacher. So enjoyed working with him! Such great memories! Prayers for peace Carol & family.

---

**Leigh Anne Wetmore** - March 12, 2017 at 07:53 PM

RS

“ Sending prayers to the family.

---

**Roger, Roxanne and Chris Shrewsbury** - March 12, 2017 at 06:24 PM

DH

“ One of the best teachers to work with. Always thinking of others. Always in a happy mood, and I always looked forward to working with him every day. He gave his assistants Great instruction and remembered our birthdays every year. I still have cards from Lane. He was also a great karate instructor. The children loved him as well as the parents.

---

**Donna Hamilton** - March 12, 2017 at 05:17 PM

BM

“ Lane was an exceptional man who showed his love for his students and colleagues everyday. It was an honor and pleasure to work with him at Cleveland Elementary! My thoughts and prayers are with his family and all those that loved him.💔

---

**Betty Massey** - March 12, 2017 at 04:56 PM