



Howard M. Hill

March 13, 1926 - February 10, 2022

Howard M. Hill was born in Embarrass, MN on March 13, 1926. Later his family moved to Norway, MI where he graduated from Norway High School in 1944. He enlisted in the Navy after graduation and served in the Pacific during WW2. He was a long time member of the American Legion post #322 in Saline, MI. After the war, Howard attended Cleary College, where he met his future wife, Catherine. They celebrated 60 years of marriage before her passing in 2008. He earned an Associate's Degree there and then transferred to Eastern Michigan University where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education. He later earned his Master's Degree in School Administration from the University of Michigan. Mr. Hill joined the Saline High School staff in 1951 as a Business Education teacher. Over the next few years he also took on duties as the Varsity Basketball and Baseball coach. He was the class advisor for the class of 1954. By 1959, Howard had taken on the role of Assistant Principal and Athletic Director in addition to his teaching responsibilities. In the early 1960s he was promoted to High School Principal, a position he held for three years before once again being promoted, this time to Assistant Superintendent for Business, Finance, and Transportation. He held this position until his retirement in 1988. Howard, always a behind the scenes guy, could be found in the press box during football and basketball games, and taking care of the little details at graduation ceremonies over the years. He was also known for many years as "the guy in charge of the busses." Every afternoon you could find Howard outside the high school making sure all the

kids got on the right busses, and in bad weather, checking the roads to help determine if school needed to be cancelled. In 2016 he was installed into the Foundation for Saline Area Schools Hall of Fame. Howard joins his wife Catherine and son James in heaven as well as his parents Toivo and Mamie and brother Donald. He will be missed by his daughter Christine (Paul Michaud) and grandson Aaron (Kimberly Mertz) Pohl. Howard passed away during his much loved winter trip to Florida. Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Friday, April 1, 2022 from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. A graveside committal service will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2022 at 11:00 A.M. at Oakwood Cemetery in Saline, with Pastor William Natsis officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Howard's name may be made to the Foundation for Saline Area Schools, P.O. Box 5, Saline, MI 48176 or online at <https://supportfsas.org/donate/direct-giving/> or to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Saline, 195 E. Michigan Ave., Saline, MI 48176. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. To leave a memory you have of Howard, to sign his guestbook or for more information, please visit www.rbfhsaline.com

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Graveside Service

APR 2. 11:00 AM - 11:20 AM (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery
227 West Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Tribute Wall



“ *Howard M. Hill*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Howard M. Hill.*



April 01, 2022 at 09:02 AM



“ *Christine & Family,*

Your Dad and Mom were great friends of my parents and our family, Corky & Jane Schneider. We always enjoyed their visits to the UP and the regular rivalry banter involving U of M and Notre Dame. Your Dad's laugh and kindness is something I will always remember and we are so sorry for his passing. I'm sure my Mom is glad to see Howard in Heaven and they are talking Wolverine and Irish Football.

All our best to you and your family during this difficult time.

Jack "Spike" & Gail Schneider and Corky too.

Jack "Spike" & Gail Schneider - February 21, 2022 at 08:05 PM

CH

Spike - thank you so much for your kind words...I also remember many special times with you all in Crystal Falls. I keep finding great pictures and such from the UP and it brings a smile to my face. Send my love to Corky too!

Christine

christine hill - April 01, 2022 at 01:49 PM

SS

“ *Mr. Hill was always there to support the students and all the extra school activities. I played ball with his son and always enjoyed seeing him in the stands with the rest of the parents.*

Howard Hill was a pillar of Saline and created a great environment for Mom and Dads to move to Saline to watch their kids grow up with a safe and educated upbringing.

RIP Mr. Hill.

Scott A. Skinner (class of 1973)



Scott A. Skinner - February 13, 2022 at 07:49 AM

CH

Scott, Thank you so much for your kind words. I like to think that dad and Jim are up there in heaven discussing basketball.

christine hill - April 01, 2022 at 01:52 PM



“ *Christine, I am truly sorry for your loss. You Dad gave so much to the schools. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Laurel Layher - February 12, 2022 at 07:16 PM

CH

Thank you so much Laurel. I appreciate your kind words and hope you are well too.

christine hill - April 01, 2022 at 01:53 PM

MN

“ *Dear Christine,
So sorry for your great loss. Your dad was truly a mans man, always a tough, but fair principal. In 12 years, the best I ever had. He will always be fondly remembered! Know he is looking down upon you from above, appreciative of all the love & care you provided him. I will miss asking you when we saw you monthly, how your dad was doing!
Your friends, Michael , JoAnn Nowlan & Chewy (your garden tenders).*

Michael Nowlan - February 12, 2022 at 10:00 AM

ML

*Dear Christine
Just heard this news from a cousin of mine. I think of your folks as one of many sets of caring “parents” who helped us navigate our way through high school. Missing your brother too. Sending love and hugs your way.*

Marilyn (Feldkamp) and Mark Lowell

Marilyn Feldkamp Lowell - March 04, 2022 at 12:15 PM

CH

Thanks so much for your kind words... and we will see you in the spring...Hi Chewy too!

christine hill - April 01, 2022 at 01:54 PM



“ Dear Christine,

I did not know your father but he clearly was a good man who did great things and left a positive mark on earth. I remember your brother Jim, what a nice guy he was and a great basketball player in high school. Sorry for your loss.

Carter Bishop - February 12, 2022 at 06:04 AM

CH

Thanks Carter... I am hoping dad and Jim are having good basketball talks.. I'm sure this years March Madness was driving them crazy.

christine hill - April 01, 2022 at 01:55 PM

BB

“ *I moved to saline in 1955. Howard was my basketball and baseball coach. My memories of Howard I will never forget. What a great man and teacher he was. God bless you Howard.*

bill bracey - February 11, 2022 at 04:00 PM

CH

Thanks Bill... I actually forgot that he coached baseball for a while too! He loved all sports, almost as much as he loved teaching kids.

christine hill - April 01, 2022 at 01:56 PM

MD

I have not seen your father since 1985, when I tried to help him in the election for sheriff that was taken from him. I really liked him a lot. I called him about a year ago to catch up. He was a really really great guy,

Mark Davidson - December 01, 2024 at 10:28 AM