



Donald James Growley

December 15, 1941 - February 5, 2021

Myrtle Beach...

Donald James Growley, age 79, passed away Friday, February 5, 2021 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Donald was born in Newark, New Jersey a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Growley. He was a loving and dedicated father, husband and grandfather.

Donald was a dedicated teacher and professor at Horry Georgetown Technical College, he was a track coach, and a avid Coastal Carolina Chanticleers fan. He and his wife traveled extensively around the country touring lighthouses and minor league baseball stadiums.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years Judith Ann Growley, children; Michael Growley (Patricia Welton), Sean Growley (Miriam Wilson), Kelleen Growley and Christine Growley; grandson, Danny Growley.

He was predeceased by a brother, Chris Growley.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM at Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel.

Memorials may be mad in his honor to St, Jude's, 501 St, Jude Place, Memphis TN. 38105, Shriners Hospital, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, Fl 33607 or Tunnell to Towers Foundation, 23651 Hylan Blvd. Staten Island, NY, 10306.

Due to Covid 19 and CDC regulation social distancing and masks are required.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is assisting the family with

arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery

1000 Hwy 544
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 347-4909
<https://www.hillcrestcemetery.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 10. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel
606-610 Beaty Street
Conway, SC 29526

Tribute Wall

TD

“ Just loved Mr. Growley, he was the best. Judy I am so sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you.

Theresa Deo - September 26, 2021 at 01:27 PM

KN

“ I knew Coach Growley for probably a decade or longer. He was an official in the town track league which I started in around 8 years old. Then, he coached me in High School for Cross-Country, Winter and Spring Track. I would see him later around track and field events, as well. Besides being a fixture at the track scene, he was dependable and fair. I have super fond memories of him and Coach Balderson at MHS High School track and field. I thought about him often over the years. I'm saddened by this passing, but know he left a wonderful legacy during his lifetime. RIP, Coach!

Kathryn Nguyen - February 23, 2021 at 07:26 AM

KB

“ So very sorry to hear of the passing of the beloved and great Madison HS Track Coach. He was the best coach. He pushed you, but he pushed you because he knew you could get it done. I was on Coach Growley's track team for 4 years, 1979- 1983 and loved every minute! We had an awesome team and he looked after all of us. Miss you Coach! Rest in Peace. Sending condolences to all the family.

Karen Russell Brisbon - February 18, 2021 at 09:01 PM



“ Coach Growley was more than a presence at Madison High; he is a legend. His influence on young athletes and students cannot be understated. He coached cross-country, winter track, and spring track for as long as I can remember. I daresay he was the reason for Madison's golden age of hurdling (cerca 1988-1993) where many records were broken, conference titles won, and we competed with the best (and, by far, larger) schools in the county. Beyond teaching me how to count steps my for the 400 intermediates and how to surge on the top third of a cross-country hill, he taught all of us patience, perseverance, and how to infuse humor into some of the toughest challenges.

These qualities extended to the classroom where I was fortunate to be a student of his in grade 11. And who could forget his corny jokes--I still tell them to my kids! He somehow managed to strike that tricky balance between teacher and friend. As a current high school principal, Don's example continues to influence me and my practice. So long to a great coach and great educator.

Patrick O'Kane, Class of 1991

Patrick O'Kane - February 15, 2021 at 07:53 AM



“ *Coach Growley helped develop in me the perseverance, confidence, and discipline that helped me succeed, not only on the track and in the classroom, but in life.*

I remember one day we were on the bus going home from a meet, and somehow Coach got wind of the fact that I occasionally smoked with friends.

He really scolded me for that. He said he'd heard of dumb stuff, but this takes the cake. "Do you want to ruin your lungs?" That motivated me to stand up to peer pressure, which was one of many life lessons that he taught me. He knew that a good teacher and coach had to know when to be tough, and that was the right time for it.

These are lessons that can't be learned in the classroom. Besides my father, he was the greatest male influence of my youth.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

MHS Class of '79

Joe Robinson - February 12, 2021 at 05:03 PM

KW

“ It is with great sorrow that I reflect on the passing of Don Growley. Don’s service to the Madison School District and staff was enormous. Don had an engineering degree from Lehigh University. His heart told him teaching was his mission. He loved teaching and coaching track. His students loved him. That love was reflected in the success of his students and athletes. He practiced what he preached, running in many road races. He also worked beyond call for our fellow staff members. His expertise and dedication to the needs of our staff was reflected in his service on the MEA contract negotiating team. Don also served area school districts through his decades of work as a loan officer at Tri-co Federal Credit Union. Service was his mantra. I will miss him always. – Keith Willoughby

Keith Willoughby - February 11, 2021 at 02:10 PM

BC

Donald & I started off as youngsters together in Bloomfield, NJ. We were neighbors & the same age. The last I saw him we were 9-10 yrs old when we both moved away. I went to Myrtle Bch quite a few times over my life but didn’t know he was there. Best Wishes to his family. Brad Cash, El Paso, TX

brad cash - September 17, 2022 at 03:53 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald James Growley.



February 09, 2021 at 12:29 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Donald James Growley.*



February 09, 2021 at 12:08 PM



“ *Deepest condolences to Judy and all the Growley children, family, friends, former colleagues and students. Don was such a lovely man and had deep love for his family. Very sorry to hear..*

Marianne Muha - February 09, 2021 at 11:33 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald James Growley.*



February 08, 2021 at 07:03 PM

RT

“ Don was a delightful man. I am so very sad to hear of his passing. I got to know Don and Judy just as soon as I moved to Myrtle Beach back in 2002 as we were neighbors separated by one house. We all became best of friends and got together many times. Sometimes an impromptu cul-de-sac party and sometimes a passing by good morning. The best and most fun memories that none of us will forget are the many Super Bowl parties, Kentucky Derby and Cinco de Mayo parties. Judy would plan and plan and plan and Don would say, “She’s the boss!” The parties grew and grew and were some of the best times I can remember. Don and Judy opened their home to so many! We love you Don and you will truly be missed by all. I pray for your peace and rest and for the comfort of His loved ones that remain. May his memory be eternal. With much love, Risa and Tony

Risa and Tony - February 08, 2021 at 06:57 PM

WF

“ Mr Growley was my favorite Math/Algebra teacher at Madison HS. Such a kind, funny and pleasant man. My condolences to his family!

Wendy Fruehling - February 08, 2021 at 04:17 PM

RG

“ I'll never forget learning Mr. Growley's corny jokes for learning the Trigonometric Functions at MHS: "What does your uncle do when he can't find his wife? Cosecant" (go-see-aunt ;-D). Outside the classroom I have many fond memories being on the Winter/Spring Track teams where Coach spent countless hours, evenings and weekends encouraging kids and leading them into meets. Grateful to be one of so many impacted by his dedication and care. My condolences to you all.

Rolf Geyling - February 08, 2021 at 03:02 PM

YL

“ *Your Colleagues at Green Brook and Orange Lawn purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Donald James Growley.*



Your Colleagues at Green Brook and Orange Lawn - February 08, 2021 at 01:48 PM

JF

“ *My sincere condolences go out to the Growley family. I had the pleasure of having Mr. Growley as my geometry teacher at Madison High School. My friends and I look back at many great memories of that class. May Mr. Growley Rest In Peace and may his family know what a profound impact he had on so many students at Madison High School.*

John Forte - February 08, 2021 at 10:21 AM

KC

“ *Thoughts and prayers at this time to the Growley Family. I taught and coached track with Don at Madison High School for 16 years. We had many laughs and good times on bus rides and at all day track meets.*

We host a relay meet every year and the Girls Shuttle Hurdle Relays is named in his honor.

A great man, compassionate coach and innovative teacher.

RIP Don.

Madison High School Track and Field Program

Kevin Carroll - February 08, 2021 at 09:45 AM

KB

“ Please accept my condolences on the loss of Mr. Growley.

I first got to know Mr. Growley when he was one of my Coaches for track. Later, I had had him in CP Math at Madison High School. It was one of my favorite classes and most memorable, not because of the material necessarily, but because of how much fun it was to be in Mr. Growley's class.

He had a great sense of humor and he truly cared about us. Not just our progress in Math, but us.

Our class was populated with some of the biggest knuckleheads in MHS. I was a year younger than everyone else, but Mr. Growley made me feel comfortable. He also had a nickname for some of the students in my class: "The Masked Marauders." I can't go into too much detail here, but it was one of the funniest nicknames I've ever heard given to a group of people.

I'm in my 17th year of being a High School teacher, and I owe my career choice to people like Mr. Growley. I was blessed and fortunate enough to grow up in Madison and I carry so many fond memories of my my teachers there from 1990-1994.

God rest your soul Mr. Growley. And thank you.

Kevin Blair - February 08, 2021 at 08:58 AM

MG

“ I have known Judy and Don for many, many years. When I moved to Myrtle Beach, they couldn't have been helpful and generous to a fault. I had many good times and memories of both of them. Don is at peace now as he should be. A wonderful person. My sympathies to Judy and her family.

Love, Marie

Marie Galdieri - February 08, 2021 at 08:42 AM

RR

“ My condolences on your loss. Mr. Growley was my Math tutor at Madison High School. I have fond memories of going to the house on Hamilton and him helping me make sense of the numbers. I could not have passed Math without him! He was a wonderful/dedicated teacher that impacted the lives of many. Rest easy...

Rachel Elias Reed - February 08, 2021 at 12:35 AM



“ Don was a great friend and fellow teacher and he helped the Rose City Runners Club to be one of the most popular organizations.

Dennis Maloney - February 07, 2021 at 11:49 PM

SS

“ Don Growley made my teenage years better, as I'm sure he did for many other students and runners. Thanks, coach.

Sean Stromsten - February 07, 2021 at 11:37 PM

ED

“ *Mr. Growley was a wonderful man and coach to me in high school. Always had some encouragement and words of wisdom. Sorry to hear this. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Eric Drake - February 07, 2021 at 11:32 PM

BB

“ *I'm so very saddened to get this news. Don was a wonderful colleague and friend during my years teaching at Madison High. He exemplified what a teacher should be - dedicated to raising all his students to be their best selves. My sympathy to all the family.*
Betsy Bottone

Betsy Bottone - February 07, 2021 at 10:59 PM

SN

“ *Mr. Growley was a wonderful teacher at Madison High School and I will remember him fondly! My condolences to his family. Godspeed.*

Sharyn Matyus Newbill - February 07, 2021 at 10:58 PM

WC

“ *So sad to hear of Don's passing. He was a wonderful colleague during my twenty-nine years at MHS. Rest in peace, Don.*

William R. Chemerka - February 07, 2021 at 10:56 PM

BW

“ I am, oh, so heartbroken to hear this news... You don't mention his years at Madison High in his obituary, but he make a real mark there, as you can see if you follow as this news rolls out on Facebook. He was my teacher, my track coach, and a man who consistently demonstrated qualities I want to see in all men in my life to this day - he genuinely cared for his students and his runners, he had real integrity, I imagine that it wasn't easy for him to coach us, but looking back, I never would have known it. In the classroom and on the track, he was always boosting my confidence, and really helped me to build my self esteem. Best of all, he cultivated my love of math.

A lovely man, and I know he will be missed.

I reach out to to his family with love and much respect.

*Betty Newsam Wring
MHS Class of 1979*

Betty Newsam Wring - February 07, 2021 at 10:10 PM

LG

“ Always words of encouragement during track practice. Always a smile and a "you can do it!" Fond memories of him.
Lisa Kramm Gambino MHS clas of 1977.

Lisa Kramm Gambino - February 07, 2021 at 09:30 PM