



David W. Laughery

February 19, 1945 - February 21, 2025

David W. Laughery passed from this life on February 21, 2025, at age 80. He is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 55 years: Jerri Anne Garmhausen Laughery; son Stephen (Gretel) Laughery of Fredericksburg, PA; daughter Jennifer Laughery of Baltimore, MD; son Christopher Laughery of Fredericksburg, PA; and sister Pam Venet of Naples, FL. He was predeceased by his grandson Adam Laughery. He was a member of Mt. Zion Road Church in Lebanon, PA.

Born in Philadelphia on February 19, 1945, he was the son of the late William J. and Elaine Bretz Laughery. He retired from the Derry Township School District, where he had taught for forty years as a classroom and substitute teacher. He also taught courses at Central Penn College and Temple University.

David had master's degrees from Penn State University in Education and American Studies and had a life-long interest in the history of technology, especially electric transportation. He was a member of the Hershey Derry Township Historical Society and was active in the Friends of the Hershey Trolley. His large-scale models of Hershey Trolleys are on display in the Society's collection and in private collections and were described in a national model trolley publication. David wrote numerous articles for an Australian model railroading magazine. He was a part-time employee of the Palmyra

Company Scale Model Railroads and worked on many model train layouts and museum displays throughout Eastern United States. He also loved music and was an avid banjo and guitar player and teacher.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2025, at Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home & Crematory, Jonestown. There will be a viewing from 12:00 p.m. till the start of the service. Interment will follow at Wolf's Union Meeting House Cemetery, Lebanon.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Mt. Zion Road Church, 2087 Mt. Zion Rd., Lebanon, PA 17046.

Cemetery Details

Wolf's Union Meeting House Cemetery

895 Greble Road
Lebanon, PA 17046

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAR 8. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home & Crematory
5 Campmeeting Road
Jonestown, PA 17038

Funeral Service

MAR 8. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Kreamer & Lum Funeral Home & Crematory
5 Campmeeting Road
Jonestown, PA 17038

Tribute Wall



“ *Kreamer Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of David W. Laughery*



Kreamer Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc. - March 04, 2025 at 04:10 PM

KE

A life well lived...till we meet again my friend

Karen Eckert - March 05, 2025 at 10:23 PM

BL

I knew Dave longer than almost anyone I am not related to. We met when I moved into his neighborhood and started 6th grade. We became good friends and shared our first (bad) beer together. I borrowed his camera once which started a career for me. We stayed in touch over the years and the magic of email made it possible to do so almost daily. Now he has a new email address and we will share our thoughts again soon. Will miss your humor and friendship, brother.

Bryson Leidich - March 07, 2025 at 03:01 PM



“ *1 file added to the album David Laughery Funeral Service*



Kreamer Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc. - March 10, 2025 at 11:15 AM

DM

“ Dave and I met our junior year in college. We remained friends ever since. We were roommates for one semester. We both liked folk songs and trains, so we got along well. Both of us worked at the Regional Film Library while at Millersville State College, and at Hershey Park during our summer breaks. Dave ran the Aero Jet ride, and I had various jobs on the Dry Gulch Railroad, eventually serving as relief engineer. I could not match Dave's skill at modeling railroad equipment, nor at playing guitar and banjo (had to content myself with the autoharp). Still cherish the memories of our trips together to York, PA for the East Coast Large Scale Train Show. Dave chided me that I had "Gone over to the Dark Side of the Force" after I got my first large scale live steam locomotive. I will miss Dave profoundly.

David Meashey

David Meashey - March 03, 2025 at 11:28 AM

TG

“ *The model railroad fraternity should be grateful for Dave's contribution to the hobby. I have been publishing Dave's writings for about 4 years and his work is in preparation for at least another 12 months. Not just a pen pal relationship as I had also spoken to him a number of times via Zoom along with his good friend Jon Winder.*

Dave never asked for anything in return for his contributions and was quite humble in the value of them to the rest of us. For his efforts, I will always be grateful. He was pleased that I was able to get my son-in-law Michael to make a 3D Printer file for a model ferry boat to fit one of his existing models. He was absolutely thrilled that our other "partner in crime" Jon Winder was able to 3D print. the Ferry boat cabin that he could use a new model railroad evoking memories of his childhood.

All the time he was in awe that we could organize this with about 11,000 miles separating us. He marvelled that we could be talking through Zoom as though we were all next door to each other. He shared many things with both myself and Jon in those all too few meetings we did have.

An appointment 100kms away on Feb 20 (US time- actually Feb 21 here) meant I could not "meet" with him over Zoom the day before he passed. He was quite cognisant of his health but never complained about it... just quietly accepted it.

Dave, we all wish that we had more time, but we are glad of the time we could share. Thanks for your support mate, Rest Well and may we meet again...

*Trevor Gibbs
Ocean Grove,
Victoria Australia*

Trevor Gibbs - March 01, 2025 at 05:56 AM