



## Jean Ann (Elias) Pharr

September 14, 1954 - January 3, 2016

Jean Ann (Elias) Pharr, 61, of Springdale passed away at Circle of Life in Springdale, AR on January 3, 2016. Jean was born September 14, 1954, in Streator, Illinois to William J. Elias and Laura H. (Schenk) Elias.

Jean graduated from Streator High School where she was President of her senior class. After graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1977, she began a 31-year mathematics teaching career at Fayetteville High School. She passed on to her students her deep knowledge and love of AP Calculus and they, in turn, consistently received the highest scores possible in this college level course. Her students felt both challenged and safe in her classroom. One former student remarked, "She is one of those teachers who cares and makes a difference in the lives of her students." Besides her academic skills, her students also admired her ride – her treasured Harley Davidson. After retiring from Fayetteville High School in 2008, Jean worked as the Math Content Director for the Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science, where she continued to share her love and expertise of AP Calculus in high schools throughout the state. Jean and her husband, Chuck, were also teachers and leaders in the youth ministry of their church for over 20 years. Jean had a passion for sharing the love of Christ, and for connecting and building relationships.

Jean is survived by her husband, Chuck Pharr of 41 years, two daughters,

Alexis Necessary and husband Marcus of Cave Springs, Camille Pharr of Charlotte, North Carolina; two grandchildren, Walker and William Necessary

Jean and Chuck raised their daughters on Beaver Lake where, on most summer days, you could find Jean happily driving her boat or water skiing. Many of her high school students and Sunday School classes have fond memories of their first water skiing lesson with Jean.

Since March, Jean felt privileged to have so many friends and family visit her. She was humbled by the outpouring of love and compassion she received. She especially appreciated all those who remembered her and her family in their prayers. It was her faith in Christ that was her rock, her hope, and strength during these many trying months. This strong faith leaves us with hope of being with her again.

A gathering of friends and family will be held on Friday, January 8 from 6 to 8pm at The First United Methodist Church in Springdale.

A memorial service will be held at The First United Methodist Church of Springdale on Saturday, January 9 at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Andrew Thompson officiating. With Jean's passing we are reminded that life is to be celebrated. Please join us in honoring her life.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Jean Pharr Memorial Endowment at the Fayetteville Public Education Foundation, 877 W. Clinton Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72701.

To view the online blog for Jean Pharr <https://www.mylifeline.org/JeanPharr/updates>

To sign the online guestbook please visit  
[www.siscofuneral.com](http://www.siscofuneral.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 9. 10:30 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
206 W. Johnson Ave.  
Springdale, AR 72764  
[info@firstchurchspringdale.org](mailto:info@firstchurchspringdale.org)  
<http://www.firstchurchspringdale.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jean Ann (Elias) Pharr*

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January 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *Jean was a wonderful woman, so full of life and fun. We will all miss her so much. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends. Sara and Hal Brown*

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**Sara Brown** - January 12, 2016 at 08:30 AM



“ *I had Ms. Pharr for Finite Math my Senior year and although I sat in the front row, was always sleepy, and even flunked the class, she saw that I was trying and was always very patient. She was one of the coolest teachers I had at FHS. Sorry for your loss.*

*Tammy Perry, Class of 1985*

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**Tammy Perry** - January 10, 2016 at 07:46 PM



 Marc  
Reif

“ Jean Pharr was a great teacher and a wonderful person. The memorial service was a fitting tribute to her as a family member, a teacher, and a friend. I was a student at Fayetteville High School when Jean was a very young teacher. I was never in her class, but I know several of my friends were in love with her. Years later I became a teacher myself, and Jean helped me brush up on my rusty calculus skills when I started teaching AP Physics C. I used to drop in on her class to try to learn her secrets: how she could be so popular, yet demanding. There was no secret, other than she knew her subject inside and out, she treated each student as an individual, she truly cared that each student understood the material, and she expected excellence. I don't think anybody could do better. I eventually left Fayetteville for a few years, and when she heard that I was coming back to FHS, right before her retirement, she paid me a compliment I will never forget. She told a bunch of her best students to sign up for my class. Thanks, Jean, for all of your help. I won't forget.

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**Marc Reif** - January 09, 2016 at 03:53 PM

VE

“ Our sincere prayers and deepest sympathy for the Pharr Family. Jean was such a special person who touched a lot of people's lives in such a positive way. She will always be remembered in the lives of many people. Praying that our Lord, who loves you so dearly, will bring blessings and comfort to your heart in the coming days. With Deepest Sympathy and Prayers. Ron & Virginia Van Es

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**Virginia Van Es** - January 09, 2016 at 08:02 AM

 Robin Buff

“ I worked at Fayetteville High School with Jean for 23 years and we shared many students. I know her students respected her greatly. She also was my daughter's softball coach for one year. I can come up with all kinds of adjectives to describe her - beautiful, athletic, intelligent, funny, determined, honest. I was sorry to see her leave Fayetteville High School - sorry for all of the future students that wouldn't be able to have her as a teacher. My thoughts are with Jean's family and friends.

-Robin Buff (former FHS Science teacher)

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**Robin Buff** - January 08, 2016 at 11:51 PM

AS

“ Mrs. Pharr was the only teacher who ever challenged me in school. Not only with Calculus, but with hearts and spades too! She was a wonderful, caring, and dedicated teacher. My thoughts go out to you.

-Adam Schaffer

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**Adam Schaffer** - January 08, 2016 at 03:24 PM

SP

“ Mrs. Pharr taught me Algebra II at FHS in 1983-84. She made it simple and enjoyable. I loved her kind spirit and approach with students. She was one of my favorites. Blessings to her family.  
Sean Pitman, Fayetteville

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**Sean Pitman** - January 08, 2016 at 10:15 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jean Ann (Elias) Pharr.*



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January 08, 2016 at 09:55 AM



Christine Morledge

“ *Chuck,*

*I am very sorry for your loss. Jean made an impact in my life in so many ways. The love and passion she had for everything and everyone in her life radiated to everyone around her. You are in my thoughts.*

*Christine Stith Morledge*

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**Christine Morledge** - January 07, 2016 at 09:03 PM



*Your family are in my thoughts and prayers rhonda leslie*

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**rhonda leslie** - January 07, 2016 at 09:43 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Tricia Necessary and Mickey Hawkins.*

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**Tricia Necessary** - January 07, 2016 at 09:01 PM



“ So sorry for your loss, Camille and family. Your mother was a great woman! One of the best teachers ever to grace FHS's halls, and a wonderful friend.

-Martha Williams, Class of '05

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**martha williams** - January 07, 2016 at 05:49 PM



“ We will remember all the great times with Jean at the lake with the youth group, Sunday School or other church events. Jean had such a great heart and gave so much of herself to others especially young people. We will always remember her, Kellye McElroy Smith and family

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**Kellye Smith** - January 07, 2016 at 05:40 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jean Ann (Elias) Pharr.



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January 07, 2016 at 05:23 PM

EB

“ Dear Chuck, Alexis, and Camille,

*I am so sorry to learn this news. Jean was an especially bright spot in my wonderful education at Fayetteville High School. I know all that she has taught and brought to your lives, and God's faithful presence, will give you comfort and courage in the days to come.*

*With deepest sympathy and thanks for her life,  
Elizabeth Brill, FHS c/o 1997*

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**EB** - January 07, 2016 at 03:26 PM

JM

“ *She's my favorite teacher!!! Wish I had her patience with my own children.*

*Jim Manry*

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**Jim Manry** - January 07, 2016 at 11:32 AM

PA

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with the family during this time.*

*Pat Arnold*

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**Pat Arnold** - January 07, 2016 at 06:53 AM