



David Merle Koonce

July 28, 1951 - July 31, 2011

David M. Koonce who was born in Rocky Mount, NC on July 28, 1951, passed away July 31, 2011, at the age of 60 after a brief struggle with cancer. He graduated from the University of Maryland, and was a former Washington D.C. Metropolitan Policeman. He was employed by State Farm Insurance Company with over 27 years of dedicated service. He is preceded in death by his father Thomas R. Koonce, Jr. David is survived by his beloved wife Deborah Heath Koonce, mother Idolene S. Koonce of Tarboro, NC, son Robert Thomas Koonce and wife Courtney, son Lyle Austin Pace Koonce and wife Mary, brothers Thomas Ricaud Koonce III of Mechanicsville, VA, and Brian Earl Koonce of Bell Air, MD, father and mother-in-law Robert G. and Elsy Heath of San Antonio, sister-in-law Barbara Coker and husband Don of San Antonio, and nephew Troy Coker of San Antonio, TX.

Tribute Wall

DO

“ I met Dave at First United Methodist in Hyattsville. Together we operated a coffee house at the church to give youths in the area a place to go on Friday nights.

Dave and I became close friends and he served as my Best Man when I married my wife in 1973. My son is named David after him.

We lost touch after my wife and I had our daughter, and I have often wished I could be in touch. I am saddened to here of his loss and wish I had known at the time.

Don Oliver - May 25, 2022 at 07:31 PM

R(

“ Sorry, it's Len Bias. We attended NWHS from 1966-69.

Robert Koenig (Lewis) - April 14, 2020 at 04:35 PM

R(

“ I just learned of David's passing from information at a Northwestern High School reunion. I lost touch with him after my first marriage as I pursued music in New England (my demos on youtube are under "elfstone8402")

I attended Hyattsville Jr. High and Northwestern Senior High with David. HJH was a horrible school, with rampant bullies forcing quiet students to hand over their homework, etc. At Northwestern, David and I ran track together. He sprinted, I ran the 2-mile. David was Editor-in-Chief of our "Compass" yearbook, while I was Sports Editor. We won 2 state basketball championships during our NWHS year (from 2966-69). College star Len Boas later led NWHS to more high school championships. He graduated from Northwestern. It was the time of the Beatles, British Invasion music and Motown. Northwestern was a school full of very bizarre groups. One hung out with their noses in the air on B Wing and were the "Cool Cats". David and I were not in this category. No, I'm not in the NWHS records as I changed my legal name to my mother;s maiden name after my minister-father ran off with a younger church woman. Now I am Robert Koenig, no more Robert Lewis.

After NWHS, David entered the Air National Guard and in training was awarded "Rope" status for his diligence. He hounded the Washington, D.C. police (Metropolitan) and then did security for Giant Food. Then he lived in Frederick, Maryland.

In Junior High I walked past the Koonce house on my way home and was always welcome by David's gracious Mom.

As I retired to North Carolina from Asia with my Chinese wife in 2017, I always thought I'd run into David. I knew his family was originally from Rocky Mount, North Carolina. We are in New Bern, down toward Morehead City and o the way to Cape Lookout. Part of my family is from Marshallberg, Davis, Smyrna, what they call "Down East" FYI I named my second son David, mostly due to my strong feelings for David Koonce.

I wish the family well I am at otg.rob@gmail.com. I will try to add a few 1960s vintage photos here. David is the one with the wonderful smile.

Robert Koenig (Lewis) - April 14, 2020 at 04:32 PM

LV

“ *I hope you get this. I had the pleasure of meeting Dave in the chemo lab. He was so sweet even though I only saw him a couple times I was always thinking and praying for him. We always encouraged each other in our battle. I am so very sorry for your loss an*

Lori Vanta - August 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *I wish to offer condolence from my self and on behalf of The Baltimore Claims Association we very much enjoyed working with Dave and will remember him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.*

Bob Murphy - August 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ *We are sorry for your loss. Dave was a great person and friend. Our prayers are with you and your family.*

Ron & Jodie Tate - August 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *So sorry for your loss. I used to work with Dave at State Farm.*

Tammy Szlachetka - August 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ My deepest sympathy to the Koonce family for the loss of Dave. I worked with him many years ago at State Farm in Carney. He was always an upbeat guy and we had many laughs when he was around. I know he will be missed. RIP Dave.

Cathy Vogel - August 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ I enjoyed working with Dave on catastrophe operations. He was always willing to do whatever to keep the operation running. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Donna Tucker - August 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Dave was a good person and we feel blessed to have known him and worked with him.

Ross & Glenda White - August 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. I enjoyed working with Dave. He will be missed.

Neil Mayfarth - August 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ Debbie, I was so sorry to hear about Dave. You and your family are in my thoughts & prayers.
With love & hugs, Elaine

Elaine Sachey - August 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM