



Terrill Alan Cover

April 8, 1947 - June 5, 2025

“God be with you till we meet again.” – John 16:33

With heavy hearts, we share that Terrill (Terry) A. Cover, beloved husband, father, coach, principal, and friend, went to be with the Lord.

Known lovingly as “Coach Cover” or “Principal Cover,” Terry touched countless lives with his kindness, humility, and dedication. He believed in the worth of every person, often saying, “Never forget, the General will be buried next to the Private.”

He is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Maria Elena (Mary Helen) Reyes-Cover, daughter Larissa Cover (Leslie Childs and daughters Abby & Lily), son Ryan Cover (wife Alexis), sisters Brenda Karam (Paul) and Krista Cover (Joe Castillo), and many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family from the Cover, Reyes, Briseño-Robalin, Rodriguez, Miranda, Torres, Hewitt, Glaze and Sultenfuss families.

Terry’s early years took him to Germany and later Eastwood Village and eventually resided in Windcrest, in San Antonio, where he made lifelong friends and memories with his childhood dog, Penny.

He graduated from Sam Houston High School, San Antonio College, and Texas State University, later earning his Master’s and Superintendent certification. His career in education spanned decades—from coaching at Horace Mann, Alamo Heights, and Northside ISD to serving as Principal at Leon Valley Elementary, and later as Athletic Director at Mount Sacred Heart Catholic School. Throughout his years devoted to education, he earned

recognition as an honorary lifetime member of the Texas PTA, and was a NEPSA, and TEPSA member. His school, Leon Valley, was also a State recognized school in '95, '96, '98', '00 and boasted the State's Teacher of the Year. He had many more honors, memberships, presentations, and certifications, which are too long to mention, but all of these accomplishments helped to mold the man we came to respect and love.

Terry was the kind of leader who made people feel seen and appreciated. He often left yellow sticky notes with words of encouragement for his teachers—some of whom kept them in their wallets or pockets for years. He mentored many teachers and assistant principals who went on to serve in higher administrative roles, and the students he taught and coached grew into servant-hearted leaders—giving back to their communities, families, and faith. He ran marathons, painted nature scenes, read about history, built model ships, and always made time for road trips, especially to Disney World and the beach. He loved fishing, family, football, and faith.

Terry was deeply devoted to his Catholic faith—serving as a Eucharistic Minister, leading RCIA classes, and praying the Rosary daily. He never missed an opportunity to give thanks, give back, and uplift others.

His greatest joy was being a husband and father. He coached and cheered on his children, always drawing up game strategies and life lessons along the way.

His generous heart, gentle spirit, and warm smile will be missed by all who knew him. We are forever grateful for his love and example—and we hope to live a life as full of purpose and heart as he did.

“God be with you till we meet again.”

We are deeply grateful to the many caregivers, health workers, family members, and friends who offered their support over the years. A special thank you to Dr. Mitch Finnie, Father Eric Ritter, and all of the Priests and Nuns who touched his life over the years.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to:

Cover Cemetery (c/o Roberta Cover DeWaal) 1118 Airport Rd, Rockport, TX

78382

- or -

American Red Cross, The Humane Society, The Sister's of the Sacred Heart of Jesus: 11939 Radium St, San Antonio, TX 78216; Attn: Sister Ernestine
SERVICES

Visitation will be held on Thursday June 19, 2025 from 5:00pm-8:00pm, with a Rosary at 6:00pm at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 20, 2025 at 10:00am at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, with interment to follow at the Cover Cemetery, 7709 New Sulpher Springs Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78263.

Cemetery Details

Cover Cemetery

7709 New Sulphur Springs Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78263

Previous Events

Public Visitation

JUN 19. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Rosary

JUN 19. 6:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Dr
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 349-1414
<https://www.missionparks.com/>

Funeral Mass

JUN **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Matthew Catholic Church
10703 Wurzbach Rd
San Antonio, TX 78230-2431
(210) 478-5000

Interment

JUN **20** (CT)

Cover Cemetery
7709 New Sulphur Springs Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78263

Tribute Wall

SW

“ Terry and my first husband coached together at Alamo Heights Jr. School. To say that Terry was a joy to be around would be an understatement. I've never known a more sincere or kind individual. He made a positive impact on all who were blessed to be in his sphere. Mary Helen and all the family, my love and prayers go out to you. May all the sweet memories bring you peace.
Stanna Welch

Stanna Welch - June 20, 2025 at 08:32 AM

SP

“ Dear Mary Helen and family,
I can't believe that the world has lost such a kind and honest man that was your husband and father. Even after all these years memories of his kindness, caring and compassion for his teachers and students remains a fond memory of the years we all were happy to work for Terry.
So sorry for your loss.
Sandy Preininger

Sandra Preininger - June 19, 2025 at 10:41 PM

MM

“ My dear Mary Helen, we offer our sincere condolences and prayers during this difficult time for you and your family. Terry was obviously well respected and loved by his many friends, colleagues and former students. His legacy lives on forever. He is with God now and watching over us. God bless you and your family. Marco and Roula Marin.

Marco Marin - June 18, 2025 at 06:59 PM

MM

“ Marco and Roula Marin purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.



Marco and Roula Marin - June 18, 2025 at 06:43 PM

BS

“ Bobby Santos purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.



Bobby Santos - June 18, 2025 at 02:55 PM

DM

“ Mary Helen, Larissa, & Ryan,

We are so thankful we got to know Terry as our family's grew up together. His kind and gentle spirit was always a joy to be around. He made the world a better place!!!

*We deeply share in your loss.
Darryl & Kristin Meyer*

Darryl Meyer - June 18, 2025 at 10:41 AM

LB

“ Love, Adrienne, Betsy & Bo purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.



Love, Adrienne, Betsy & Bo - June 18, 2025 at 02:18 AM

AR

“ Art & Deborah Ramirez purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.



Art & Deborah Ramirez - June 17, 2025 at 10:07 PM

DR

“ Mrs. Cover - I will always remember Mr. Cover as a very kind and fair man. I was grateful to him for always supporting teachers and wanting the best for the students.

Art & I are thinking of you and the family during this difficult time.

Art & Deborah Ramirez

Deborah Ramirez - June 17, 2025 at 10:01 PM

BM

A great athlete and better man. The lord could not have chosen a better example of the way a person should live. RIP Terry

Bob Moore - June 20, 2025 at 10:50 PM

TR

“ Mary Helen, I am just so sorry to read about Coach Cover's passing. He was such a kind man and always smiling. He had such a warmth about him. God bless you always. ~~ Traci Hatchett Schaap (Holmes High School, 1980's)

Traci - June 15, 2025 at 09:05 PM

DL

“ Dear Mary Helen, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. You know how much I thought of Terry. He was an excellent role model in so many ways. Don LeBlanc

Don LeBlanc - June 15, 2025 at 12:13 PM

JF

Dear Mary Helen and Cover Family
I had the opportunity and privilege to work with Terry at Cody Elementary and was Blessed to follow him as Vice-Principal. What a wonderful role model. He was a practicing Example of the Fruits of The Spirit in all and to all in his daily walk: Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness Faithfulness Gentleness and Self -Control

Janette Felder - June 19, 2025 at 09:45 AM

JF

Galatians 5:22-23

Janette Felder - June 19, 2025 at 09:55 AM

JW

“ Remembering you, Terry, throughout our school days as the kindest gentleman ever! Mary Helen, my prayers are with you and your family. Much love, Janice Koltermann Williams

Janice Williams - June 13, 2025 at 11:35 AM

Y<

“ Your TLU softball fam <3 purchased the Treasure d Lilies Spray for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.



Your TLU softball fam <3 - June 12, 2025 at 11:17 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.*



June 12, 2025 at 10:11 PM



“ *Raquel and Ben Hubbert purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.*



Raquel and Ben Hubbert - June 12, 2025 at 01:49 PM



“ *Liz Benitez Hicks purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.*



Liz Benitez Hicks - June 12, 2025 at 12:28 PM



“ *Velentzas purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Terrill Alan Cover.*



Velentzas - June 11, 2025 at 07:19 PM

KF

“ I will forever be touched by our sweet Mr. Cover. He was an amazing principal, but more than that, an amazing man. Along with his sticky notes, acknowledging every good deed his teachers did, he would leave us an Andies Candy! May God grant peace to his family at this time.

Kimberly Friend

Kimberly Friend - June 11, 2025 at 10:14 AM

DD

Mary Helen, I am so sorry for your loss and will keep you and your family in my prayers. You are loved my dear friend. Dolores (Dee) Duderstadt

Dolores Duderstadt - June 11, 2025 at 02:25 PM

SL

Mary Helen, I am so sorry for your loss! I feel like I know Terry from reading this beautiful dedication of his life, his accomplishments and his love of family and faith! I'm keeping you and your family in my prayers and I pray for strength and comfort in these difficult days! I love you and miss you! Sylvia Raab Loe

Sylvia E Loe - June 11, 2025 at 06:37 PM

CP

Mary Helen ,I am sorry for your loss. Terry will be forever in your heart and in your memories. Christy Rakowitz Padalecki

Christy Padalecki - June 11, 2025 at 09:13 PM

PL

*Mary Helen and Krista,
Mr. Cover will always have a special place in my heart. He was my first vice principal at Ed Cody Elementary School 37 years ago. He inspired me to pursue my dream of becoming a school administrator. He was a wonderful man. He was genuine and he taught me to never ask someone to do something that I wouldn't do myself. Over the years I have thought of him especially during tough "school" times and often reflected on how he would deal with a situation. I was also one of those that carried one of his positive notes in my purse for a long time. My prayers are with all of you.
Pricelda (Prissy) Landry*

Pricelda Landry - June 12, 2025 at 01:30 PM

BA

*Mary Helen and Family, I too am saddened to learn of your husband's passing. You and your family are in my prayers for comfort for you at this time. Take care sweet friend and I hope to see you sometime.
Birdie Morgan Archer*

Birdie Archer - June 12, 2025 at 07:28 PM

BS

Mary Helen, I'm so thankful that Terry had such a remarkable and marvelous wife. You are so special to all of us. We love you, Bev Still

Beverly Still - June 14, 2025 at 12:08 PM

JK

Terry was truly a wonderful, honest, kind man! I had the privilege of serving as his vice principal for one year at Leon Valley when he was first appointed principal! Sending prayers for strength and peace as you celebrate a life well lived!

Jeannine Keairnes - June 15, 2025 at 05:34 PM

GH

Dear Mary Helen, from reading these comments your husband was quite beloved. Though I didn't know him it grieves my heart to know of your loss. I am so glad you had such a wonderful partner in life & especially glad & rejoicing that Terry is in heaven. May God be close to you during this time & as you move forward in life. Bless you & your family, dear lady.

Gaye Lynn (Henneke) Hough - June 19, 2025 at 05:52 PM

PL

Mary Helen, Ryan and Larissa, thank you for sharing Terry with all of us. He leaves behind many beautiful blessings.

Patsy Lozano - June 19, 2025 at 05:59 PM