



## Ward Brown English Jr.

March 31, 1947 - October 10, 2018

Ward Brown English, Jr., 71, died Wednesday, October 10, 2018 in Dallas, Texas. He is survived by his sister Mildred English Mayfield of Fort Worth, Texas; niece Marilyn Mayfield and nephew James Mayfield of Fort Worth, Texas; niece Suzanne Mayfield Harrigan and her husband Mickey of Hitchcock, Texas; great-nephew David Mayfield, his wife Amanda, their children Annystin, Devynn, and Micah of Sandy, Utah; great-nephew Ward Mayfield of Taylorsville, Utah; and great niece Danielle Fredine of West Jordan, Utah.

Ward was born March 31, 1947. In his own words...

I was born in Springhill, Louisiana a million years ago, but my parents moved me to Texas before I was old enough to crawl, so I claim to ALMOST be a native Texan. I grew up in Arp, a little bitty town in East Texas that had one stop light down by the railroad tracks. I early on developed a passion for trains--and would run down to the depot each night when I heard the whistle blowing and "help" the man put outgoing mail on the train and collect incoming bags of mail into his cart to lock up in the depot until morning. I did this countless times, setting my sights on becoming a railroad conductor one day.

As I grew into adolescence, that passion gave way to math--I was born into a family of teachers, and was sure that I would become the next great math teacher of the day--until I had a Geometry teacher that I absolutely despised. My next passion was English language and literature.

I graduated from Arp High School, and then attended Tyler (TX) Junior College before getting my BA in English from Oklahoma Christian University. I got my MS in Human Relations/Management from Abilene Christian University and my mid-management certification from Texas Woman's University.

I taught all levels of high school English, speech, journalism, and a smattering of theatre arts for 22 years. As rewarding as that was, I got antsy for something new.

A Goldilocks wig and a passion for storytelling landed me a job as the staff development specialist for secondary English, language arts, and world languages with the Dallas ISD. I went on to become the executive director of staff development for the Dallas ISD before going into local building administration. I served as the Dean of Instruction at Hood Middle School, Hillcrest High School, and Skyline High School, retiring in 2008 as the Associate

Principal for Teaching and Learning at Skyline High School, the largest single-campus high school in Texas. I have served as an adjunct instructor at Eastfield College and El Centro College, both with the Dallas County Community College District, and at the University of Dallas. I served for several years as a national trainer for USA Today, teaching teachers across the nation how to use the newspaper as a teaching tool in the classroom. One of my fondest memories is working with some fantastic teachers at Hood Middle School in Dallas to move that campus from Academically Unacceptable to Academically Acceptable in one year, and receiving a banner to fly high in front of our building proclaiming that we were the most improved school in the district. It wasn't easy--but kids are worth it--and I'm thankful to have had that opportunity and to be able to share with others strategies for success in the classroom.

Ward enjoyed working Early Voting for Dallas County, and loved “dropping names” of who came by that day to vote.

One of the real blessings in his life was teaching Sunday School at Highland Oaks for over 40 years. He loved his 3rd graders. He hated having to miss, and would always try to be back from his travels in time for Sunday school. He delighted in telling stories about his kids and what they were learning in class.

Memorials may be made to the Ward English Memorial Skyline High School Scholarship fund or the charity of your choice.

Until the scholarship is fully set up send donations to:

Candace McAfee, 1010 Signal Ridge Place, Rockwall, TX 75032-5424.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **13**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Highland Oaks Church of Christ  
10805 Walnut Hill Lane  
Dallas, TX 75238

## Celebration of Life

OCT **13**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Highland Oaks Church of Christ  
10805 Walnut Hill Lane  
Dallas, TX 75238

# Tribute Wall

VM

“ I was very sad today to find out about the passing of Ward English. When he moved positions to Hillcrest High School, I replaced him at John B Hood Middle School. I had known Ward through staff development but quickly (probably 1 day) he became my "go to guy" about any insight I needed as Dean of Instruction. His speed dial number got worn out that first year. His direct humorous common sense advice was greatly appreciated. To me he was the Dean of Deans. The education community has suffered a loss. Thank you for all of your advice and support.

*Veronika Mancuso-Davis*

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**Veronika Mancuso-Davis** - December 07, 2018 at 04:04 AM

ST

“ I am so sad to hear of Wards passing. I went to school with him in first grade and again in 9th. He was such a sweet and funny guy. He also was the first freshman to get to drive his moms car to school and I remember lots of girls in that car, just driving to the drug store. Thank you for being a friend to a lonely little girl, way back when. I have enjoyed your jokes, quips, and memories of your vacations. Sleep well my friend. My prayers go to his family.

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**Shirley Wessel Thompson** - November 11, 2018 at 09:38 AM



“ My fondest memory of Mr. English is his poking fun of my name and telling the class that "Ward and June are here, now where is Wally and the Beaver"? English was a great teacher, he could reach kids like no other teacher could. The world lost a fine human being, and heaven gained a marvelous man. God bless and rest in peace.

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**Elaine Fondren** - November 01, 2018 at 03:30 PM

CL

“ He left too soon but the world is a better place for his having been here. He taught us a lot about how to serve God. Thank you, Ward. We shared a hometown, CDR, & OCC. lots of good memories. RIP.

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**connie lynch** - October 17, 2018 at 12:13 PM

EB

“ I met Ward through the professional development office of Dallas ISD and worked with him on a national professional development conference. He was always so much fun, and so truthful. I will always remember him laughing, making funny remarks, and keeping the work moving forward. He loved students and teachers — his true passion. He will be sorely missed. Ellen Bell

Ellen Bell - October 15, 2018 at 09:05 AM

KD

“ Kimberly DeRossett lit a candle in memory of Ward Brown English Jr.



Kimberly DeRossett - October 14, 2018 at 08:33 PM

KD

“ Mr. English was my yearbook teacher at Spruce. Through him, I learned to appreciate the English language, journalism, and an excellent ability to proofread. I loved his amazing sense of humor, his stories, how he genuinely treated everyone with respect as long as they respected others. I hadn't seen him for many years, but I am thankful that I could follow his wonderful life on Facebook. One of my favorite memories of him was the time we needed to sell more yearbook ads. I took off in a car riding on someone's lap because we all needed to go, and there was no other car to take. Every bump in the road my head hit the ceiling of the car. Sounds painful, but it was a fun, amazing time of my life that happened because I knew Mr. English. God bless you sweet man, and your loving family. I know you are entertaining all of the other angels up in Heaven with your excellent story-telling capabilities. I will never forget you and always be grateful for knowing you. Prayers for your family sir. Rest in peace, whole and healthy once again.

Kimberly DeRossett - October 14, 2018 at 08:32 PM

B'

Ward English was Our Teacher, Mentor, Brother & Friend for a Lifetime. Whenever there was a get-together, reunion, lunch, brunch, meeting, Church, class & more, He would Make Ever Pissible Effort to be there with us. He Adored His Friends, Brothers & Sisters and He Worshipped Every Moment of Every Day with God. He was Devoted to Us All. He was The Finest of God's Children & Left Us with a Multitude of Love, Honor & Encouragement. We are All Blessed Abundantly By Ward English, Our Favorite Teacher/Mentor/ Friend/ Brother & Child of The Most High. ❤️🙏🌟

BeckyJane Romine (Freeman)Class of '71 - October 17, 2018 at 08:27 AM

B'

*Sorry Ward, I know I mispelled Possible & Use too many capital letters. What else is new? Opps*

**BeckyJane Romine (Freeman)Class of '71** - October 17, 2018 at 09:30 AM

KA

“ **Kubby Avance**

*Ward came into my life when I was around 12 years old. As Bubba said at his Celebration, “Ward liked the bad boys “ so I seemingly fit right in. My life is greatly blessed by*

*WBEJ, as I called him. For all that did not get the opportunity to know him (in his younger days) he too was quite the instigator! Always in for a good joke, poke or aggravation of the chosen one...*

*I thought I was cool when WBEJ*

*would include me, at age 13, on road trips. Little did I know, he was partly doing it to get Bubba’s goat!!*

*I remember his yellow Torino . I remember Bubba and Leatherwood arguing over whom was driving on a road trip. His response was neither of you are , Lil Chubs (me @ 13) is driving.... I drove to Tyler to see his Mom, then to Arkansas to Aunt Velma’s home, and back to Dallas! I remember him beefing me up for a birthday present. Upon receipt, I opened it to find a huge book that said Lil Cuddles.*

*Cuddles was lined out with Chubs scrolled in. Worst yet, it was a girls paper doll, punch out book!*

*He soon became Bubba’s and my “big brother “.*

*I remember that yellow Torino full of kids from church going to Churches chicken, going to movies, and Jamie’s Hamburgers... fun, fun, fun as he always said.*

*I owe WBEJ greatly for much more than fun memories. He was a mentor and a gatherer at the Cross of Jesus. I remember him always being inclusive rather than exclusive. I remember him so profoundly proving, that by asking/including the girl in Military Parkway’s C of C, youth group that had no eye site, to come go to Churches chicken and go watch a movie with the other kids. ( It was that sweet girl’s first, but definitely not last, included outing.)*

*I remember him taking me to CDR, where I met Schenkel and Timmons 49 years ago. We are still hanging out. I made many other lifelong Christian friends there also. Some of the neatest ones, I got to see at his Celebration.*

*I could go on and on...*

*I know the Avance Family was most fortunately blessed by this Wonderful man. I also know that he is now hanging out with the ultimate, long haired, cool guy that loves all the little children, and his name is Jesus.*

*Much love Ward Brown English Jr. I thank our God for you. Until then....*

*One Love*

**Kubby Avance** - October 14, 2018 at 07:31 PM



“ Teena Crow lit a candle in memory of Ward Brown English Jr.



Teena Crow - October 14, 2018 at 06:18 PM



“ He will always be known as Mr. English to me. He always made learning fun. When I became an educator he was so encouraging to me. I hope that I can make the impact on my students that he has made on so many of us.

Teena Crow - October 14, 2018 at 06:17 PM



“ I, as many others did, come to know Ward at Camp Deer Run. My thoughts of him then and to this day are of a gentle loving man. A fine Christian man whose faith was an example to me. Returning to camp many years, he was always a sight for sore eyes. He was someone I always felt I could confide while away from mom and dad! He made me feel safe. I was blessed to know him!

patricia coleman - October 14, 2018 at 05:26 PM



“ Heaven's gained another good one! You were loved Ward by so many, and you will be missed! Thankful for the many years of great memories with you at Camp Deer Run! ❤️🙏

Lisa Anderson - October 14, 2018 at 04:10 PM



“ Brian Reeves lit a candle in memory of Ward Brown English Jr.



Brian Reeves - October 14, 2018 at 02:58 PM

DR

“ I knew Ward during his earlier years in education when he taught at Pleasant Grove Christian School in Dallas. Our Face Book friends lists are filled with the names of students we both taught. I taught Language Arts to my fifth and sixth grade students who progressed on to his high school classes. Once you knew Ward, you never forgot him. Rest in the arms of Jesus, Ward, until we all get there.

Dorothy Walker Rice - October 14, 2018 at 01:39 PM

KK

“ I was shocked to hear that he has travelled to his ultimate destination but just last Saturday he came and ate at my new restaurant and I had promised him that I will have his favorite Italian cream cake and he was delighted I was surprised when he said I want to give a hug, did not knew it would be my last one from a great man I ever known. He will be dearly missed.

Karim Karamali - October 14, 2018 at 11:47 AM

JP

“ So many but working on the year book was special! Ward had gotten behind meeting dead lines. A group of us stayed up pretty much all night at his apartment putting the yearbook together. A “few” times we had to match pictures and names to students none of us knew. It was an interesting night, but the students got a yearbook He also invited a group to dinner on Cedar Run, it was the holidays and he had several trees,we were given sacks with decorations. Only after decorating the trees did we get dinner!! I don't play cards or go on cruise but he was still my friend. An amazing man,one of a kind

Judy Porter - October 13, 2018 at 08:13 PM

MS

“ Misti Schuler lit a candle in memory of Ward Brown English Jr.



Misti Schuler - October 13, 2018 at 10:45 AM

MS

“ There are so many great memories but I will say the best was when Ward told me I was not just his "old Spruce kid" but that I was his friend!! Love him beyond words. He was certainly a bright light and touched so many lives and will be missed every day.

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**Misti Schuler** - October 13, 2018 at 10:44 AM