



## Daniel Edward Liles

November 18, 1943 - September 5, 2015

Liles, Daniel E., age 71, of Columbiana, died on September 5, 2015. The funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at Bolton Funeral Home with Rev. Ted Leach and Rev. Milton Smith officiating. Burial will follow in Elmwood Cemetery. Visitation will be from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at Bolton Funeral Home.

Mr. Liles is survived by friends Mary Armento, Gail Nolen (Dr. Thomas Nolen) and Alesha Smith (Jeff) and numerous cousins and other friends. He was an educator at Marion Military Institute and the Shelby County Board of Education. He loved playing the organ at his churches of Good Hope United Methodist Church in Columbiana, AL and Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Sylacauga, AL. He was also a Lay speaker for the United Methodist Conference.

Please sign online condolences at [www.boltonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boltonfuneralhome.com).

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# Tribute Wall

MD

“ I so enjoyed Dan Liles friendship for the years I have known him. We were both graduates of Robert E. Lee Elementary School and West End High School. He taught my daughter at Valley Elementary, and the next time we met after many years, he was working at The Alabama Theatre. We were so excited to meet up with him again in a place he loved dearly. He was a real tribute to the Alabama Theatre and The Lyric. He knew the history of these two historic theatres and could relate and answer any question about them. I know he would have served a great part as historian when The Lyric opens. He had been joining us at our monthly West End High School dinners, which he delighted in, and I was delighted he came to spend the time with us. I am stunned to hear of his passing as he had been with us in July and did not appear to be ill. We will truly miss him, his stories and all the knowledge he could share on almost any subject. He was a good man, who knew how to make a friend, and a great teacher. I extend my sympathy to his family and regret I did not know about his illness until today.

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**Marian Dinan** - September 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ We just heard today about the passing of our beloved cousin Dan. He is now in the arms of Jesus. He was a wonderful cousin and a great man. He will be very much missed. We talked with him after the surgery and he was so hopeful of going home. His passing is a shock. I feared something was wrong when my telephone messages to him went unanswered this past week. We are so sorry about his passing. He was a man of great dignity. We had a wonderful time when he visited California a few years back. He enjoyed the soda fountain at the Disney theatre in Los Angeles and we had a great time laughing and talking while at Sunday brunch at the Queen Mary ship restaurant. Afterwards we went to the old town movie theatre in El Segundo to listen to the Wurlitzer and watch Marx Brother film Monkey Business. I drove him to the train Union Station the next evening so he could get on the train to New Orleans and eventually back to Alabama. I never thought that would be the last time I would see him. His mother Margaret was my Dad's beloved sister. I am very saddened by Dan's passing as is all of us here in California. Robert Stucken Felicia Stucken Larry Lippencott Joseph Stucken

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**Robert Stucken** - September 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ September 10, 2015 I was so saddened to learn of Dan's passing. Never has a kinder, more loyal friend walked this earth. I met Dan in 1969, as an organ student. He had motor disabilities in playing the organ, but he worked hard to overcome this. I had a lot of admiration for his determination to play the organ well. As a loyal friend, he always met me late at night, as the Alabama Theatre movie ended, so that he could help me restore the organ, which could only be done at night, when the theatre was empty of patrons. He stayed many long nights with me, and the restoration crew, doing his part as one of the faithful members of the crew. Dan loved the Alabama Theatre, and got a lot of fun out of playing the organ, and being of devoted service to the house, which included everything from playing the organ, pulling the main curtain at movie time, and even sweeping up a mess here and there. He was never "too good" to do whatever was asked of him to do. I celebrate Dan's life, and his kind friendship. I am a better person for having known him. What little knowledge I gave him was returned in his friendship and loyalty to me, many, many times greater. I shall remember him with a lot of brotherly love for the rest of my life.

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**Jay Mitchell** - September 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ My dear, loyal, devoted, loving Big Brother, Dan, it is a very hard and sad time for me but such a joyous time and amazing time for you at Home with Jesus and those you love. You were always there for me in the good times and bad times and all the times in between. We have laughed, played duets - you on the organ and me on the piano, we have joked around and played tricks on each other, and we have cried together. You loved my two children, Alesha and Jonathan, and watched them grow and taught them so much about kindness and love. You loved them and always called them you niece and nephew and they were so blessed to have Uncle Dan. As I watched you last Friday and Saturday morning, it hurt me to know how much and what you had gone through health wise. I was so blessed to be by your side and was able to tell you what you had truly meant to me and my family. To thank you for all you had been and done for me and to tell you how much others loved you. But, most of all, I was able to tell you that I loved you very much for allowing me to be your Little Sister. I will keep my promise that I made many many years ago that I would take care of everything if anything happened to you before me. You had it in writing and as I read it, I told you that I would go before you and you had to make a joke of it as always. You could always catch me saying something and made a joke and never let me forget it. So many wonderful memories our families have shared through all these 40+ years and for that I feel so honored and blessed to call you my wonderful Big Brother. You will never be forgotten for my memories are special treasures I will keep in my heart. I miss you so much and always will. It will never be goodbye for we will meet again someday in that Heavenly Home kneeling at Jesus feet. Love you always, Big Brother.

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Tom - September 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ I am very sorry to hear of Mr. Liles' passing. He always had a kind word for me, always had a smile. SCHS will miss him.

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**Jim Adams** - September 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Dan Liles was a man of dignity and truly a gentleman. I should have known he was ill when I stopped receiving jokes via email. The last phone call I had with him, he was doing what he loved to do...teaching. He told me he was no longer at The Alabama Theatre taking up tickets and I couldn't imagine not seeing him there. He loved the theatre so much. I will always be grateful for his assistance with tours and for making my day a little happier when I spent time with him. He will truly be missed by many people, including me.

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September 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ To friends of Dan Liles. I was so sorry to read of Dan's death in the paper tonight. He was my cousin and friend, and I would have been there to say my goodbyes until we meet again if I had known. I had talked to him while he was in the hospital after his surgery and another cousin that I called went to visit him at rehab. None of us in Birmingham knew of his death and we are so sorry we were not present to pay our respects. Dan was a very intelligent person and very caring to his family until they passed away. He will be greatly missed by me and my family. Just know you were loved Dan, and will be missed. Gail Brown Massey, Bessemer, AL.

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**Gail Brown Massey** - September 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RK

“*"Cousin Dan from Alabama" is how we referred to him. He has been in my life for as long as I can remember. Fond memories of trips to AL when Uncle Phillip and Aunt Margaret were still here. Dan entertained me and Deborah....playing the piano for us and taking us around town. He took us to see Gold Finger, our first Bond movie. We have spent many Christmases with Dan, and he will be forever missed. Dan was a kind, thoughtful, Christian man. I know he received a very warm welcome from family members who have gone before...and because of belief in Jesus Christ as our Lord, I know we will be together again. love you Dan....Cousin Ronda*

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**Ronda Kersey** - September 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JD

“*In loving memory of a wonderful person. We will love you and miss you always.*

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**Jimmy Davis** - September 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Master Daniel E. Liles is loved and will be missed. Dan as i called him was a mentor, father, and teacher to me. He taught me to love US history. We traveled together with my mother to many of southeast's capitals. Where I learned in person about the civil war. He taught me about many great southern leaders, and the Great Alabama theatre. He took me on the special ride on the Alabama's organ. I saw Cats, Phantom of the opera, and many other life changing plays and movies at the Fox Theatre with Dan. Dan was the closest thing I had to a Dad. Dan, you always my Mighty Wurlitzer. I will you love forever and I will never forget all of the life lessons you have taught me. Your were so loved. My brother and I were so blessed to have you in our lives. You made us into the Men we are today. The Alabama will never be the same without Master Dan Liles playing the organ. Dan E. Liles was the best Mighty Wurlizter player in the state if not the best organ player in the entire southeast. Dan E. Liles I love you like a son, and will cherish you as so. May you play your organ till we are re-United again at the pearly gates one day. I love you Dan no one could have asked for a better Dad.

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**Charles Ronald** - September 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

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**Charles Ronald** - September 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ I will always have fond memories of my Problems of Democracy class at MMI, and the occasions seeing you greeting and taking tickets for the shows I attended at The Alabama Theater. Rest easy, "POD God".

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**Adam Hill** - September 08, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I will truly miss my cousin Dan, he was a wonderful person. I'll say goodbye if I can come..

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**Martha Strickland** - September 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ Dan was like a father I never had. He spent most of my early childhood taking care of me and my brother in the absence of my father. I will never forget the love he had for my mother and for me and Ronnie. Dan, you are missed here by those left behind and we long to meet you again in the presence of Jesus.

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**Andy and Sarah Armento** - September 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ Mr. Lyle's I am writing for my daughter Ashley Jones, she prayed for you during your time of illness and was devastated when I told her about your passing on to heaven to be with our heavenly Father. She loves you and could never say thank you enough for all that you have done for her and for all the times you prayed for her. You will truly be missed for you were the best friend she ever had. You are loved and will be truly missed. Love Ashley Jones.

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**Cindy Price** - September 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ I'll sure miss Dan. I have many fond memories of Dan's visits throughout the years.

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**Cousin Lillie Mae Green** - September 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ I'll really miss cousin Dan. Always enjoyed reminiscing with Dan about the good old days when his family came to Agnes'. His family stories were the best.

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**Steve Thompson** - September 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Dan was a good friend. We were like brother and sister. I will cherish the memories from all the years that I knew him.

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**Marilyn Jackson Lovett** - September 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Deepest sympathies and heartfelt prayers to all Dan's family and friends. He touched so many lives including my life and that of my children. It was a privilege to know him and share so many years of this journey. I hope to make it to the funeral. An accident and pending knee replacement may not allow me to do that, but I will do my best to be there.

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**Mary Armento** - September 06, 2015 at 12:00 AM