



## JB Denham

October 16, 1939 - August 27, 2021

Denham, Joseph Benjamin (JB), age 81, of Calera, passed away on August 27, 2021 after an almost three-year battle with lymphoma. The visitation will be Tuesday, August 31, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Bolton Funeral Home. The funeral service will follow at 2:00 p.m. at the funeral home with Barry Cotter officiating. Burial will follow at Salem Cemetery. Bolton Funeral Home is directing.

JB was born on October 16, 1939 in Montgomery. JB attended Calera High School, earned his Bachelors of Arts degree in Business Administration from the University of Montevallo, followed by a Masters of Arts degree in History and Education, also from the University of Montevallo. For the next thirty years, JB taught at McElroy High, Thompson High, Alabaster High, and Thompson Middle. At Thompson Middle, JB also coached basketball and sponsored the Student Council.

JB was a member of the Montevallo Church of Christ. In his younger years, JB performed with various local music artists including Country Boy Eddie. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, and watching sports. He could be seen at numerous flea markets throughout central Alabama.

JB was preceded in death by his parents: Louila Wood Denham and Benjamin Denham of Calera; uncle: Kavanaugh Wood of Tuscaloosa; aunt: Launa Conway of Bessemer; and first cousins: EK Wood of Tuscaloosa and Joann Wood Cotter of Milledgeville, Georgia. He is survived by first cousins: Unaking Conway Currier of Decatur and Dwight Conway of Hartselle.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.  
Please sign online condolences at [www.boltonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boltonfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Salem Cemetery

173-189 County Road 63  
Calera, AL 35040

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 31. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Bolton Funeral Home  
207 Hwy 47 South  
PO Box 4  
Columbiana, AL 35051  
(205) 669-3179

## Funeral Service

AUG 31. 2:00 PM (CT)

Bolton Funeral Home  
207 Hwy 47 South  
PO Box 4  
Columbiana, AL 35051  
(205) 669-3179

# Tribute Wall

AS

“ Mr. Denham was my basketball coach in 8th grade. He saw me playing basketball in the gym on day and offered me a spot on the team without even trying out! I think some folks weren't too happy with that but I was pretty stoked he thought I was good enough. He was a great teacher and coach.

AI Smitherman - October 06, 2022 at 12:14 PM

AB

“ Mr. Denham was my 7th grade history teacher. He made learning the Greek alphabet so easy. He was one of many great teachers I had throughout my school years at Thompson.



April Butler - September 18, 2021 at 11:33 AM

TB

“ I came to know Mr. Denham at Thompson Middle School, where he was my 7th grade history teacher and Student Council Sponsor. I will never forget his passion for teaching or the love he had for his students, who became his very own children. Mr. Denham was a true Warrior, fighting valiantly to the very end! Praise God that he is no longer in pain and celebrating with his loved ones in Heaven. Thanks for the memories Mr. D., from one of your kids! ✨💖✨

Teri Bolin - September 07, 2021 at 12:12 PM

JW

“ Mr. D was an extraordinarily good person caring for so many without getting much back in return. He was an amazing history teacher with a true gift of teaching. I enjoyed our talks as adults and his stories were never ending.

The world is worse without him but I know he is rejoicing in heaven and probably sinking a line with his old buddies. He will be missed greatly.



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**JoAnn Weldon** - August 31, 2021 at 08:14 PM

HM

“ Mr. Denham had a profound impact on my life! He was my 7th grade SS teacher and student council sponsor. As an adult we had long phone conversations about life! I'm happy he is pain free now



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**Holly Moody** - August 31, 2021 at 11:57 AM

ML

“ Godspeed, Mr. D.  
One of “your kids” who loved you.  
Melissa

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**melissa lochamy** - August 31, 2021 at 10:33 AM

KW

“ JB was one of my teachers in middle school. He was one of a kind. He was a great teacher and wonderful person. I will always remember him laughing and his smile. He will be missed. Prayers for him and his family!

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**Kathy Perry Wallace** - August 31, 2021 at 06:43 AM

RM

“ Fly high JB! You will always be remembered as a good friend and a Great teacher!

Rhonda Massey - August 31, 2021 at 02:45 AM



“ Mr. Denham was a History teacher who altered the Future of those who knew him. He not only inspired generations of young people to become students of history, but he inspired in others a spirit of excellence and a pride of ownership. Life changer!

Jimmy Cook - August 30, 2021 at 07:26 PM

GB

“ I was a student of MR Denhams and I know I drove him crazy but he taught me a lot. He really cared for his student. May he RIP 🙏🙏  
🙏

Gwen Bearen - August 30, 2021 at 06:37 PM

PH

“ Mr Jb Denham was a Special Teacher and so many loved him. He was a really good Friend to me. I enjoyed his Text Messages & Phone calls this Year. He had a great sense of humor.. He was a Fighter & loved Oyster Soup lol. He will truly be missed by so many. Love you Friend. We will meet up in Heaven one day. 💙



Pamm Hughes - August 30, 2021 at 05:10 PM

BH

“ I had Mr. Denham for home room one year in middle school. I had never had a paddling before. I wouldn't strip talking in his class so he sent me to the office for a paddling!!! I definitely didn't talk anymore! I loved him so much as a teacher!

Beckie Horrell - August 30, 2021 at 04:53 PM

SH

“ Mr. Denham was a great teacher and will be missed by many. So sorry for your loss, praying for family 🙏

Susan Hill - August 30, 2021 at 04:52 PM

KA

“ Prayers for Mr. Denham and his family. He made an impact on many students! May God Bless. 🙏🙏🙏

Kathy Palmer Akers - August 30, 2021 at 03:02 PM

WU

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. He was actually my teacher at Thompson Middle School he was a great teacher and a very nice person my prayers are with you.

Wanda (Sorrells) Upton - August 30, 2021 at 02:48 PM

MB

i also had Mr. Denham in 7th and 8th grade for History. I Enjoyed his Classes, and he always encouraged me to learn.

Mary Jo Buff - August 31, 2021 at 08:42 AM

JS

JB faced many challenges. He always looked for ways to get students involved in class activities. He was dedicated to history and sharing his ideas and knowledge. RIP you earned it.

Judy Smitherman - September 12, 2021 at 03:27 PM