



Barry Edward Humphreys

April 21, 1948 - May 26, 2026

Barry Edward Humphreys passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at the age of 78, with his beloved wife, Susan, by his side and surrounded by family, following a brief battle with pancreatic cancer.

A native of North Andover, Massachusetts. Barry was a beloved teacher, coach, and mentor throughout his 30-year career at North Andover High School. A gifted athlete, Barry excelled at basketball which he played at Merrimack College after graduating from North Andover High School in 1966. A graduate of both Merrimack College and Salem State University, Barry returned to teach history at North Andover High School in 1980 where he also coached football, basketball, and baseball. His enduring legacy, as both an educator and coach, can be found in the indelible impression he made on countless students throughout his career.

Barry moved to Virginia following his retirement in 2010 where he enjoyed spending time with his three stepchildren and eight grandchildren. An avid swimmer, he could be counted on to start the day at the pool and could always be found with a book in hand along with his ever-present highlighters. An animal lover later in life, Barry enjoyed long walks and longer naps on the couch with his dogs and was a fixture in his neighborhood as a paternal presence who always had insightful comments on history, politics, and sports.

Barry was predeceased by his parents, Gardner and Nettie Humphreys of North Andover; his sister, Linda Farnham; and his grandchildren, Noah and Olivia Grainger.

He is survived by his loving wife, Susan Humphreys of Bristow, Virginia; his stepchildren and their spouses, Dan and Cassie Grainger, Joe and Lindsay Grainger, and Mary and Mike Yergey; and his sister, Lee Teckenbrock of Charlotte, North Carolina.

A celebration of life will be held on Thursday, July 23rd from 1-5 pm at VFW Post 2104 32 Park Street, North Andover MA 01845

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the North Andover High School Barry Humphreys Memorial Scholarship Fund: <https://gofund.me/54763e825>

Tribute Wall

MW

“ Dear Susan,
We were deeply saddened to learn of Barry’s passing. For nearly ten years, the Humphreys family has been such a meaningful part of our neighborhood, and Barry’s kindness was always evident. He never missed a chance to greet us, and I could practically set my watch by the times he walked the dogs. He always stopped to visit with our own dog when Sandy was alive, which meant more to us than he ever knew.
My husband also has many fond memories of swimming with Barry at the Freedom Aquatic Center. His warmth and steady presence will be missed by all of us.
Please accept our heartfelt condolences. We are keeping you in our thoughts during this difficult time.
With sympathy, Jason, Michelle and Max

Michelle West - Yesterday at 06:45 PM

PR

“ I first met Barry at the Freedom Center in Manassas he was the only guy in the pool at 8am sharp every Sunday, id try to keep up with him but that was a losing battle he was, one fit guy there's times in our lifes we get to meet special people Barry was one of those although I only knew him from the pool & Hot tube its memories i will never forget he will definitely be missed by all who knew him at the Freedom center
Condolences to his wife & family Rest in peace my friend.



Paul Richardson - June 14 at 02:41 PM

JB

“ I did not have the privilege of personally knowing Barry, but I was at the GMU Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center yesterday when I overheard two men speaking about their friendship with him and how deeply he will be missed. The way they spoke of him truly struck me. It was clear that Barry must have been a wonderful human being, a loyal friend, and someone who made a lasting impression on those fortunate enough to know him.

Please accept my sincere condolences. I hope it brings some comfort to his family and friends to know that even a brief conversation overheard by a stranger reflected the love, respect, and admiration others had for Barry.

James Burke - June 11 at 07:38 AM

JG

“ I met Barry many, many years ago at the Freedom Center, and we enjoyed swimming together. We also shared a love of baseball, and would often go to see the Washington Nationals together. His love of history and trivia always added to any conversation. I am at a loss for words knowing that he is gone. He will be missed! My prayers and condolences to Susan and his family.

Janice Irene Chu Gallagher - June 07 at 02:26 PM

KP

“ Kevin Peyton lit a candle in memory of Barry Edward Humphreys



Kevin Peyton - June 07 at 01:38 PM

KP

Barry, your presence will be missed at the Freedom Center in Manassas. The swim and whirlpool crew will miss your. Your Red Sox team and Patriots conversations were comforting. You were a part of our weekly hot tub group and you will remain with us in spirit. Fairwell from all us us.. Dave, Bill, J. Spaid, Mike, Richard, Mo, myself, and the whole gym staff...God Bless.

Kevin Peyton - June 07 at 01:47 PM

KP

Sorry for the spelling errors.

Kevin Peyton - June 07 at 01:48 PM

DK

“*Dear Susan and family,
Our sincere condolences on the sudden death of your dear husband. We met Barry at the Freedom Center about two years ago he was so welcoming , easy to talk to. Whether we were at Smart Moves or doing water exercises he always greeted us and made us feel part of the program. We will miss his quiet gentle presence. May he rest in peace.
May all the fond memories you have of him be a comfort and support during this difficult time of great loss
Sincerely
Shantha and Darina*

Darina Karanth - June 03 at 02:18 PM

RO

“*Every student at NAHS would rearrange their schedules to get into Mr. Humphrey's class. He taught us to follow our passions and be the best versions of ourselves. He will be truly missed.*

Rosie - June 01 at 05:39 AM

MF

“ I’ve always remembered Barry as genuinely kind, intelligent, funny with a touch of sarcasm. It’s been decades, but he’s an unforgettable guy. Sorry for your loss.

Mary Fisher - May 30 at 12:08 AM

PW

“ Barry was a classmate of mine. He was regarded as a great athlete and scholar. Everyone spoke so highly of Barry. My condolences to you and your family Susan.

Phylis Watson - May 29 at 05:41 PM

LD

“ The greatest classmate, a genuine nice, happy person to be around. We all will miss him.

*Linda Darveau
Class of 1966*

Linda Darveau - May 28 at 01:00 PM



“ ****Mr. Humphreys saved my life. Full stop.**** ”

He was the first teacher — and probably the first adult — who truly held me accountable. And I needed that. He was never mean or vindictive, though he could be a bit sarcastic. Today we might call it tough love, but whatever the label, it made a real difference. It made me want to live up to the expectations he had for me.

Mr. Humphreys taught me that effort matters more than ability, and that ability without effort is wasted. I've carried that lesson with me throughout my life, and I've done my best to pass it on to my own children.

Thank you for everything, Mr. Humphreys. Rest in peace.

John MacDonald - May 28 at 12:36 PM

CB

“ *Dearest Susan, I am sending you and your beloved family my deepest sympathy. Please know that I care for you, and want to offer my comfort during this difficult time. I am so sorry that he suffered from one of the most difficult diagnoses., but I am at peace with the fact that he went so quickly. It is so difficult to say goodbye to our beloved partners, but may all the wonderful memories sustain you in the days ahead. Much love, Connie* ”

Connie Bodiker - May 28 at 12:16 PM

SR

“ I have always cherished every visit with Uncle Barry, he would practice tossing the softball and football, shoot hoops with me. We would walk over to Merrimack College gymnasium in the summer and watch the Boston Celtics practice to discuss the drills and plays.
Our deepest condolences to Susan and the family.

Sheri Roy - May 28 at 11:12 AM



“ Rest in peace Mr. Humphries. One of the most intelligent and well read people I ever met. He was a great role model, mentor and teacher. He was quiet, humble and kind. I will always treasure memories of college bowl, walking Jack and just talking with him about life. Truly a great man that left a profound impact on my life - thank you sir.

Jonathan Carmine - May 28 at 07:27 AM

DM

“ I will always remember my cousin for his warm smile, sharp mind, shared childhood memories, and wonderful conversations. Grateful for the chance to reminisce over old photos last summer with him and Susan. My sincere condolences to Susan and his family during this difficult time.

Donna Richardson Mercier - May 28 at 07:10 AM