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Richard Thomas "Lefty" Marr(1936 - 2016)

March 11, 1936 - November 11, 2016

Pittsboro

Richard Thomas Marr, 80, widely known as "Lefty," died unexpectedly on November 11, 2016 in Pittsboro, North Carolina. Dick dedicated his life to teaching, coaching, and mentoring at Milton Academy (1957-1980) and Tabor Academy (1984-2003) in Massachusetts, and in between as Headmaster of Aspen Country Day School in Colorado.

Lefty was generously dedicated to opening educational opportunities to motivated students from diverse backgrounds through his love of language, athletics, and justice. He valued the inherent worth of every individual and sought ways to motivate each to develop their latent talents as thinkers, writers, speakers, and competitors.

Sports were integral to his vision of a fully embodied life of learning. At Milton he coached baseball and hockey, establishing the Flood-Marr Holiday Hockey Tournament that celebrated its 50th anniversary last year. At Tabor he started women's varsity teams in ice hockey and softball. He was inducted into the Massachusetts High School Hockey Coaches Hall of Fame in 1995 and was supervisor of ice hockey officials for the ECAC and Hockey East. In North Carolina, he helped coach men's ice hockey teams at Duke and UNC, including a game for the Tar Heels the night before his death. He served as Commissioner of the Cape Cod Summer Collegiate Baseball League and on the Board of Directors for the US Hockey Hall of Fame.

He was a graduate of The Governor's Academy, Williams College, and Middlebury College's Bread Loaf School of English. While in his 60s, Marr earned a JD from Roger Williams School of Law, believing that "Law, after all, is coaching at heart." As a lawyer, he applied his level-headed reason as a court Investigator, mediator, and guardian ad litem for District Courts in eastern Massachusetts and Chapel Hill.

He is survived by Ginny, his wife of fifty-eight years; his sister Susan Maguire of Clearwater, FL; and four children and eight grandchildren: Tim and Paula of Chapel Hill, NC and Dylan, Carey, Lucy, and Ginya; Jerry and Karen of Newton, MA and Tucker and Dixie; Lisa and Hal Lescinsky of Galena, OH and Haley and Erin; and Amy of Mill Valley, CA.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory can be made to the John D. Marr Educational Fund in honor of his late brother, also an educator, to provide college tuition assistance for talented high-school scholar-athletes. The mailing address is 2325 Honeysuckle Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

A memorial will be held at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow on Monday, November 21 at the Gathering Place at Fearrington Village in Pittsboro. A memorial will be held in Massachusetts in the Spring of 2017. For details, please contact RememberingLefty@gmail.com

Funeral Home
Clements Funeral Service
1105 Broad Street Durham, NC 27705
919-286-1224

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