



## David W. Ferdon, Ph.D

September 5, 1951 - October 26, 2007

David W. Ferdon, Ph.D, of New Hartford, New York, died unexpectedly at home on October 25, 2007. He was 56.

He was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, son of the late Wilbur and Margaret n e Metting Ferdon. He was raised in Norwalk, Connecticut, graduating from Norwalk High School, in 1969. He earned a B.S., Physics from Wilkes College, an M.S., Physics from University of South Carolina, and a Ph.D., Physics from University of South Carolina.

He was a Professor of Physics and Engineering Science at Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, New York at the time of his death. He previously was an Instructor of Astronomy at University of South Carolina, a Professor of Physics at Wofford College, an Instructor of Physics at Greenville Technical College and a Professor of Physics at the Naval Academy Preparatory School.

David was very committed to his students, working tirelessly to impart his considerable knowledge to them. He took great pride in his work, and though he demanded achievement from his students, he was loved by them for his kind, gentle manner, and wry sense of humor.

He owned a consulting firm, Miletus Services, working with attorneys to determine the physical cause of tragic events. His last consulting job was done for his brother's law firm from 2005-2006 and involved reading, interpreting and indexing thousands of technical documents in a products liability action involving a chemical explosion, and working with chemistry

experts worldwide to attempt to discern the cause of the explosion.

David was a lifelong bachelor, and marched to the beat of his own drum. He always expressed his opinion, without concern for the political ramifications of doing so. Frugal to a fault, he saved everything and fixed anything that broke, rather than buying a new one. He enjoyed telescopically photographing celestial objects, building furniture and restoring old automobiles.

He is survived by a brother, Dennis, a sister-in-law, Pamela Najarian and two nieces, Valerie and Olivia, all of East Lyme, Connecticut.

Burial will be private. A memorial service will be held at a time and place yet to be determined.

Donations in David's memory may be made to the MVCC Foundation to establish a scholarship for Engineering Science students.

# Tribute Wall



“ I was fortunate to be a colleague of David's at Greenville Technical College while I was a graduate student working on my Ph.D. at Clemson. He helped me learn the physics and astronomy labs at Greenville Tech, and I always admired how much he cared about his students truly understanding the material. David really knew what he was doing, and his kindness and dedication left a lasting impression on me. I am very sorry to hear of his passing. Rick McDaniel

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Rickey McDaniel - August 22, 2025 at 06:29 PM



“ I knew David from Greenville Tech. college since 1988. He was the sweetest man I have ever met, so caring and gentle. I couldn't believe that he is gone. I often wonder what he has been up to and found this. The world lost a great man at a young age and he will be missed. David was an important man in my life to help me become who I am today. Rest in peace David. You are with the angels now.##imported-begin##Jamie##imported-end##

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July 22, 2009 at 11:45 AM



“ Hello. And Bye.##imported-begin##XRumerTest##imported-end##

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July 19, 2009 at 10:17 AM



“ Please accept my most humble regrets for your loss.  
While I new Dr. Ferdon only from the three physics cousres I took at Greenville Technical College, he was an inspiration to me. I often wondered where he was and this is why I looked for him on the internet.

The obituary was precise and exactly as how I remembered him. I never had a better professor anywhere. He was uniqe and cared that you learned and understood.  
I was hoping to meet him again.

Richard Hanks  
110 Traynum Place  
Belton, SC 29627##imported-begin##Richard Hanks##imported-end##

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March 29, 2009 at 11:42 PM



“ Dennis so sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##bill schendlinger##imported-end##

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January 30, 2008 at 05:28 PM



“ Dear Dennis and Pam,  
I am so very sorry for your loss. David sounded like an enormously successful professor and I am sure he will be remembered by his students as having made a difference in their lives.  
Please know that I am thinking of you.  
Warmest regards,  
Carmel Fabian##imported-begin##Carmel Fabian##imported-end##

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November 09, 2007 at 07:56 PM



“ My wife and I were shocked to hear of David's passing. We had just traveled to NY to visit him this past Fourth of July. "Dave" was one of my best friends and a respected colleague. We will miss him dearly and send our condolences to his family.##imported-begin##John and Karen Isbell##imported-end##

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November 02, 2007 at 10:15 AM



“ Dennis, I am very sorry to read of David's passing in our local paper. My deepest sympathy to you and your family.##imported-begin##Susan Spitzer Callahan##imported-end##

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October 31, 2007 at 10:09 AM



“ David was my friend. I will miss his conversation.##imported-begin##Wayne Hayes##imported-end##

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October 31, 2007 at 09:26 AM



“ Dennis:

*Even though I didn't know David well or for very long, I know you were very close to him. I am deeply sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Michelle Impellitteri##imported-end##*

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October 30, 2007 at 09:05 PM



“ As the Physics lab assistant at MVCC, I've had the wonderful privilege of working daily with Dr. Ferdon. Calm, easygoing man that he was, easy to be around and work with. I will miss him. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends who must also go on without him. I hope you take comfort in the knowing that he is in a place of joy and peace and even higher learning. He will like that.##imported-begin##Barbara Wilson##imported-end##

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October 30, 2007 at 10:10 AM