



David Aaron Banko

May 1, 1950 - April 7, 2022

Dave Banko, 71, of Peoria passed away on Thursday, April 7, 2022.

“Banko wants to gain weight” ran the headline in the Canton Daily Ledger’s sports page on August 5, 1971. The article detailed the efforts of Dave Banko, local sports legend, to put on an extra twenty pounds to impress those scouts looking to draft him for a post-collegiate baseball career. He did eventually gain those twenty pounds—not during his what-seemed-inevitable-at-that-point professional baseball career—but instead during what turned out to be his true calling in life: raising three sons, Christopher, David and Ryan, of whom he was immensely proud, golfing often with his many friends, collecting trophies from amateur golf tournaments across the country, remotely coaching the Yankees (mostly unsuccessfully) and teaching (Springlake Elementary and Illini Bluffs Schools).

Dave always knew that the Earth would not be his final home and, in later years, looked forward to being reunited with his parents, Henry and Lida, whom he missed greatly. Those he left behind also look forward to seeing him again one day, including his three sons, Christopher (and Christine) Quick of Gilbert, David Banko of Phoenix and Ryan Banko of Peoria; three grandchildren, Malyk, Hadley and Harper; Darren (and Angie) Banko of Muscatine; Jack (and Kay) Myers of Davenport, Florida; Mary Preece of Peoria; and many others.

A graveside service for former teammates and rivals, golf buddies, close friends and all family will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at Greenwood Cemetery.

Schmidt-Haller Burial and Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR **30**. 11:30 AM (CT)

Greenwood Cemetery
Canton, IL 61520

Tribute Wall

JA

“ You died on my birthday. I miss your sweet voice- did not see this coming. jackieaggen@gmail.com

Jackie Aggen - April 02, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ DAVE WAS A STELLAR GUY, I AM SO SAD TO JUST FIND OUT OF HIS PASSING
LOVE AND PRAYERS ARE WITH HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS
HE WILL BE TRULY MISSED BY THOSE LIVES HE HAS TOUCHED

Myra Wohl Haas - July 01, 2022 at 04:34 PM



“ Mr Banko was a great teacher to Charlee at Spring Lake! I loved chatting with him about her with him being her biggest fan! We kept in touch when he ordered cake balls from my neighbor through me! He was an outstanding teacher and will be missed. ❤️

Amber Darrow - April 15, 2022 at 06:16 PM

RF

“ Dave Banko was an outstanding baseball player for me at Canton High School.
He was a fierce competitor who wanted to win and always gave his best. He was a two time team captain, led his team in hitting for two years and was a coach on the field. He is in my Hall of Fame! Ron and Joan Fahnestock

Ron and Joan Fahnestock - April 11, 2022 at 07:24 PM

SP

“ *Mr. Banko was an amazing teacher and person who as well became a dear friend to our family. We are all devastated to hear of his sudden passing and our hearts go out to his two sons and loved ones. He will forever be missed and remembered as a very special person with remarkable wit and a teacher who made a positive impact on kids.*



Sara Pullium - April 11, 2022 at 02:08 PM

CP


“ *Dave and I started our teaching careers together many years ago. Some many years later, we crossed paths again at Spring Lake School. I always appreciated Dave’s friendship and words of encouragement. He was a good friend to bounce ideas off of and a good friend to our staff and students. He was proud of his boys and always shared positive thoughts of both of them.*

Cindy Pardieck - April 10, 2022 at 07:41 PM

LS

“ *A longtime friend. Played alot of softball with Dave back in the day. I will miss him. Rest easy, Banks.*

Larry Steach - April 09, 2022 at 06:54 AM

 Nicole
Lettow

“ *I am heartbroken with the news of Dave’s passing. Ryan and David, our entire class sends our condolences and sympathies for the loss of your father. He loved you very much and cherished your time together. He shared memories fondly and encouraged me to never miss an opportunity to be with my kids for being a dad was the single best part of his life. I am so terribly sorry for your loss. Dave was so generous with his time and care for his students and me. His commitment to his students will forever be remembered.*

Nicole Lettow - April 09, 2022 at 06:47 AM