



## David Disterhaft

December 23, 1939 - February 16, 2023

David “Dave” Joseph Disterhaft, 83, died on Thursday, February 16, 2023. He was born on the family farm in the town of Seneca (near Berlin) on December 23, 1939, a son of Edward and Isabelle (Strebelinski) Disterhaft. David graduated from Berlin High School and UW-Oshkosh. On August 13, 1966, he married Patricia Trochinski at St. Michael’s Catholic Church in Berlin.

David grew up on the farm milking cows and raising geese. He worked at a pickle factory, where he was introduced to the Spanish language by his migrant co-workers. To earn money for college, he worked at the leather tannery in Berlin, which is also where he met his future wife. David was a high school Spanish and English teacher for most of his life, spending his entire 43-year career teaching in the Rosendale-Brandon School District. Mr. D thoroughly enjoyed teaching his students and connecting with them in light-hearted humorous ways that made learning fun. He enjoyed taking students and chaperones on biannual trips to Mexico, Costa Rica, and Spain and annual trips to the Holiday Folk Fair in Milwaukee. Mr. D also directed many plays and was the forensics coach at Laconia High School.

David had many hobbies: gardening, running, spending time with his family, refinishing furniture and caning chairs, telling stories, and playing accordion in the polka band The Four Aces. He had a love of animals, notably his childhood dog Lassie and cat Damian. David and his wife sustained their growing family with the garden harvests and also shared it with friends and neighbors. When they bought their house unfinished, David created all of the

landscaping. For most of his adult life he was a parishioner at St. Wenceslaus in Ripon, and for many years he was the church picnic chairman.

David is survived by his wife Patricia, 5 children, Dimitria (Matt) Van Straten, Darleen (Jason) Duel, Derrick (Michelle), Dominick, and Doreen (Joe) Persha; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sister Mary Jane, sisters-in-law Doria and Marie, and many other relatives and friends. Mr. D is also survived by his many students. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Florian and Michael, sister Elaine, brothers-in-law Vilas and Tony, and mother-in-law Lucile.

Visitation will be Thursday, February 23, 2023, from 4-7 pm with a Rosary at 6:45 pm and Friday, February 24, 2023, from 9-10:30 am at Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home in Berlin.

A Mass of Christian burial will be Friday, February 24, 2023 at 11 am, at All Saints Catholic Church in Berlin with Fr. John Silva officiating. Interment will follow at St. Michael's Cemetery.

Please make any donations to All Saints School in Berlin.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery

Berlin, WI 54923

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **23**. 4:00 PM - 6:45 PM (CT)

Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home  
116 S Adams Ave  
Berlin, WI 54923  
(920) 361-2050

## Rosary

FEB **23**. 6:45 PM (CT)

Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home  
116 S Adams Ave  
Berlin, WI 54923  
(920) 361-2050

## Visitation

FEB **24**. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home  
116 S Adams Ave  
Berlin, WI 54923  
(920) 361-2050

## Funeral Service

FEB **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

All Saints Catholic Parish  
N8566 WI-49  
Berlin, WI 54923  
(920) 361-5252

# Tribute Wall



“ *Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of David Disterhaft*



**Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home** - February 22, 2023 at 06:21 PM



*Very nice*

**wally miller** - February 23, 2023 at 04:00 PM



*Pat I am so sorry for the loss of your David! Want you to know I have been thinking of you. Heard of David's death after the funeral. I am praying for you and your family. Lots of memories! Alice Fuhremann/Moldenhauer*

**Alice Moldenhauer** - March 01, 2023 at 09:08 AM

C2

“ *Mr. Disterhaft was a devoted and fantastic teacher. His love of all things Spanish always shone through. Condolences to his family and the community. The Laconia Class of 2000.*

**Class of 2000** - February 26, 2023 at 08:06 AM

DD

“ *Pat and family , my deepest sympathies. Donna Detloff*

**Donna Detloff** - February 25, 2023 at 06:49 PM



“ *David Disterhaft was a fabulous teacher at Laconia High School and his students loved him. He loved his wife and kids so much. Deepest sympathy to his family. Jeff Lange*

Jeff Lange - February 24, 2023 at 01:08 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of David Disterhaft.*



February 23, 2023 at 12:20 PM



“ *198 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Wiecki-Skipchak Funeral Home - February 22, 2023 at 06:03 PM

PA

“ *My Deepest Sympathies to you, Pat and family . Pat Abbs*



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**Pat Abbs** - February 22, 2023 at 03:22 PM



“ *Enjoyed having Mr.D in my freshmen year of English at Laconia High some 36 years ago. He always told the story of the day Berlin was hit by the tornado, as he was on the 3rd floor of the old high school and saw the F-5 tornado coming towards the high school. Students would sit in awe as he explained how grandmother and her grandson were wrapped in barbwire from this devastating event, we never took tornado safety for granted after his account on that hot sticky day in Berlin.*

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**Russell Beier** - February 22, 2023 at 03:36 AM

LM

“ *Mr. D was an awesome teacher. I remember I sneezed in class one day and he said Bless You. Then told us if someone didn't say that after a sneeze little bit more of the devil got into you. Funny how that is something you always remembered and have told the story many many times thru the years since graduating in 1979. Rest in Peace Mr.D*

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**Linda Broderick Monroe** - February 21, 2023 at 07:03 PM

TM

“ *So sorry to hear about Dave's passing. Dave was a wonderful person and a dedicated teacher. Our deepest sympathy to his family. Terry and Andy Milfred, Beth, Scott and Jason.*

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**Terry Milfred** - February 21, 2023 at 11:33 AM

MM

“ *Our prayers go out to the family*

Michael & Susan Moore - February 21, 2023 at 08:30 AM

PK

“ *So sorry to hear of the passing of "Mr D". He was an excellent and dedicated teacher. He touched many lives. Sympathies to Pat and your family at this difficult time. May your memories keep him close.*  
*Peggy Vossekuil Klapperich*

Peggy Klapperich - February 21, 2023 at 07:56 AM

CD

“ *David was devoted to his wife, his children and his students.*

Carolyn J Dolata - February 20, 2023 at 10:24 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of David Disterhaft.*



February 20, 2023 at 06:46 PM

TB

“ *Pat & family, so sorry to hear of David passing. Praying for you all as you go through this difficult time. Tammy Briskie*

Tammy Briskie - February 20, 2023 at 05:06 PM

CD

“ *Cindy, Jodie & Karen Duel purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of David Disterhaft.*



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**Cindy, Jodie & Karen Duel** - February 20, 2023 at 02:17 PM

MC

“ *I enjoyed meeting David at a cousin's reunion at Carolyn and Tony Dolata's home in Appleton many years ago.*

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**Mary Craig** - February 17, 2023 at 02:24 PM