



## Terrence O. Jones

July 20, 1948 - December 13, 2023

Terrence O'Callaghan Jones, Ph.D., 75, passed away December 13, 2023, unexpectedly at home in Chicago's East Lakeview neighborhood.

Beloved father of TJ O'Shae and grandfather ("Grandpa T") of Morgan Fae (Joseph) Bepler and Kael (Brittany) Vos (born Evan A Gross). Adored and adoring great-grandfather of Molly Cynthia Bepler.

Terry leaves behind a found family comprised of a core group of friends going back 60 years: Jim Edwards, Carl and Lola Keys, Maryann Casella, Dan Campion, Basia Bazell, and the late Debby Brougham.

Terry is also survived by siblings Larry, Gary, Kerry "K.C.", and Janice Jones.

A graduate of Austin High School, Terry studied Computer Science at Truman College and worked at Combined Insurance (now AON Corp) before earning his B.A. in Education and History and his M.A. and Doctorate in Childhood Education from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

He taught 6th-8th grade at Trumbull School for over two decades before his forced retirement from Chicago Public Schools in 2012. Being a teacher was the happiest and most fulfilling time of his life.

A self-taught left-handed guitarist, Terry had many interests and pursuits. He volunteered at Old Town School of Folk Music, was a scuba diver, loved riding his bike, and adored toys of all kinds. As a boy he loved science fiction and all the possibilities it entailed. The "Lord of the Rings" trilogy was one of his favorite reads and Terry was known for rereading them every autumn. He believed we never stopped learning and that the best way to learn, especially children, was through play. He was a generous and gregarious person at his core. Terry strongly believed in community involvement and education, and he abhorred xenophobia and racism on all levels.

A celebration of life is being planned.

Memorial donations may be made directly in Terry's name to The Well of Mercy here:

<https://www.givecentral.org/otp/39336>. The Well of Mercy mission is to provide safe long-term residential programs to help homeless pregnant and current parents heal, find stability, and start building a better path forward.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or [www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com](http://www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com).

# Tribute Wall

JE

“ Though we didn't know each other at the time, Terry and I tried out for Chicago's All-City Choir in 1966 while we both attended Austin High School. We were both accepted, and met for the first time at our first rehearsal, where he insulted me about being short. I retorted with an untoward remark about his mother, and we were fast friends lasting the next 57 years. Watch out what you say to a stranger about their mother!



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**James J Edwards** - December 25, 2023 at 02:57 AM

WS

“ I am thankful for your kind words to me on Terry's positive regard for my influence on him; the feeling is mutual -- dedicated and insightful students teach their professors. I am deeply saddened by Terry's passing.

*I was his professor in the PhD Program in Curriculum Studies at UIC, a program I coordinated for about 30 years. I first met Terry at Whitney Young High School where he participated in a Master's Degree and Supervisory Certification program that I designed and in which I taught. I was so impressed by his brilliance and ethical character that I invited him to apply to our PhD Program in Curriculum Studies. He was accepted, I taught many classes he took, and I hired him as my Graduate Assistant. I was impressed with his participation in classes which included his singing and guitar playing. His musical autobiography was the subject of his dissertation.*

*We continued to develop our friendship through the remainder of his teaching career, and into his retirement, his move to Montana, and his return to Chicago. I learned from his stories of experience, family, and friends -- his love of life, teaching, and sharing.*

*I will never forget and will always appreciate his spontaneous act of kindness when my late wife, Ann, was in her last months of life with multiple myeloma at age 54 and a patient at Rush Hospital. Terry helped me prepare a hospital-like place for her in our condo for Ann. Our son and daughter, Henry and Heidi, and I were so grateful.*

*My current wife, Ming Fang, Heidi, and Henry join me in sending heartfelt condolences to Terry's family and friends.*

*Peace be with you,*

*Bill Schubert*

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**William Schubert** - December 23, 2023 at 03:39 PM

JG

“ I pray you rest in eternal peace, Terrence. I am a member of the Austin High School Website, a former administrator. It is a wonderful site. There are many members of Austin signed up and active. Legacy sends us updates on Austin HS alums. I would like to paste the website address so that family members or friends have notice of Terrence's untimely passing. He never signed up so it is unclear what year he graduated but there are people on our site who knew him. If anyone wishes to reach out to me, I am open and receptive. I read every word. What a full, productive, loving life. Thank you.  
Joyce lasillo Gipson-Austin '65 joycegipson@gmail.com 708-768-1293  
[https://www.ahsreunion646566.org/class\\_index.cfm](https://www.ahsreunion646566.org/class_index.cfm)

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**Joyce Gipson** - December 18, 2023 at 09:23 PM