

David Herbert Van Langeveld

February 6, 1941 ~ April 24, 2024

Dave had many passions like calculating numbers, skiing, traveling, and talking politics, but his real passion was finding ways to help others be their best and being with family.

David Herbert Van Langeveld was born February 6, 1941, to Jacobus Johannes Van Langeveld and Johanna Maria Herbert in Salt Lake City, just the day before his father's 65th birthday. His parents were immigrants from the Netherlands. His father loved playing with numbers and taught Dave how to do many different math manipulations in his head.

Dave dropped out of West High School after 10th grade to work. While he never finished his GED, he was admitted to the University of Utah on probation. In the beginning, he didn't do too well, which was reflected in his GPA. He eventually went to work for Sperry Utah as an inspector of the components for the space program. The job paid well, and he had money for skiing which was his favorite sport. He continued skiing until age 81.

In December 1962 he began a 2 ½ year mission to The Netherlands for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints where he made life-long friends. When he re-entered the U of U on his return, he was still on probation, so Dave took a year of math, English and international law to raise his GPA. He was on the dean's list all that year. In the Fall of 1966, he and Jill Andersen were married in the Salt Lake Temple. They began married life as poor students in The Avenues living in his mother's duplex.

Because of his early love for numbers, he decided to major in Mathematics and work in business, but was eventually directed toward education, and he never looked back. He taught high school math in Davis County at Viewmont and Clearfield High Schools for over 40 years before he retired. He loved the students and loved watching them figure things out. He also tutored many of the neighborhood kids to help them pass calculus.

One class of calculus students was shocked to discover that he was a high school dropout without a high school diploma. They decided to remedy that. They quietly worked with their principal and surprised him at a school assembly where, with Pomp and Circumstance, he was presented an honorary Clearfield High School Diploma to go with his bachelor's from the University of Utah and his master's from the University of Montana.

He was honored by being inducted into the Davis School District Teachers Hall of Fame.

He was the Davis Education Association (DEA) president and worked tirelessly with the Utah Education Association (UEA) to support public education. When he retired, he became the first president of the UEA-Retired group.

He loved his community. He was born and raised in The Avenues. He worked with the Greater Avenues Community Council (GACC) to find ways to serve. He was president of the GACC in 2011 and in 2017 he received the Heart and Hands Award for his many years of service.

He enjoyed sharing his time and talents with his church community. He especially enjoyed his many teaching assignments.

He liked to take the family camping, but he hated the insects. He liked camping in a 20-foot motor home so he could be in the mountains but have windows with screens and be able to take a quick shower. He also loved hiking with family or friends.

He had the “travel bug” and visited many beautiful places to see God’s handiwork. He used to say that if he wasn’t Dutch, he would like to be Norwegian because of the breath-taking fjords.

He leaves behind his cherished wife of 57 years, Jill; his children David R. Van Langeveld (Kris) of Ogden, Utah; Kim Pollard (Shane) of Bentonville, Arkansas; Gerrit Van Langeveld (Alex) of South Jordan, Utah; Erin Coppin (Mark) of Jerome, Idaho; J.J. Van Langeveld (Alisa) of North Salt Lake, Utah; and Stéphane Akoki and his sister Melissa Akoki, Saratoga Springs, Utah; and 16 grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and his brother Jim.

A memorial service is scheduled for 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, in the Hilltop Ward chapel followed by a mingle - 589 E. 18th Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.

In remembrance of Dave’s life and service, the family asks that you donate time or money to a charity that you think will make a difference in someone else’s life.