



## Dan Perky

April 8, 1952 - June 28, 2020

Daniel Jefferson Perky, age 68, fondly known as “Dan,” passed away on Sunday, June 28, 2020 in Lexington, Tennessee. Dan is survived by his wife, Claire Perky of Lexington; a son, Jeff Perky (Sarah) of Nashville; a daughter, Betsy Kennedy (Brandon) of Thompson Station; a brother, Dave Perky (Teresa) of Overland Park, Kansas; four grandchildren, James Perky, Lee Perky, Coates Kennedy, and Case Kennedy; and beloved uncle to seven nephews and four nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jefferson and Joyce Perky.

Dan was born in Kansas City, Missouri and attended Shawnee Mission East High school in Prairie Village, Kansas graduating in 1970. Dan received a BA degree from Vanderbilt University in 1974 and was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. While in Nashville, Dan met his wife, Claire, and they married in 1974. In 1976, Dan obtained his juris doctorate from the University of Memphis School of Law.

After graduation from law school, Dan and Claire moved in Lexington, Tennessee in 1977 in order to raise a family and enjoy the blessings of a nurturing community. Dan began his practice in partnership at Martin & Perky, spent time serving as an Assistant District Attorney, and finally in private practice acting as a wise and trusted counselor.

Dan was a servant of the Lord devoting his time and gifts as a member of First United Methodist Church in Lexington, Tennessee where he led a Sunday morning men’s group, served in the Upper Room Prayer Ministry and in many

leadership positions. Dan saw God's love in everyone. He devoted many years of service to the growth and sustainability of the Jamaica Ecumenical Mutual Mission which was so dear to him.

He was a member of many community organizations – Gideon International, Rotary Club (awarded Rotarian of the Year), Henderson County Commission (County Commissioner), among many others.

Dan travelled extensively in the U.S. and all over the world with wife and family in tow. He was an avid sports fan. He had a passion for thoroughbred racing and sharing his knowledge of handicapping the horses. He loved baseball, particularly the Kansas City Royals. He cheered hard for his Kansas City Chiefs as well, and, less assuredly, but, with equal enthusiasm for the Vanderbilt Commodores.

However, there is nothing Dan cared for more than Claire, his wife of 46 years and the love of his life. He was a loving and devoted father and grandfather to his two children, Jeff and Betsy, and his four grandsons, James, Coates, Lee, and Case.

Funeral services will be Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 11AM at the First United Methodist Church with burial to follow in the Beech River Cemetery. Visitation will be at Reeds Chapel on Wednesday 3PM-7PM. The family requests in lieu of flowers memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church Jamaica Mission Fund. Due to the COVID-19 situation the family has requested that all attendees wear a mask to the visitation and funeral and the service will be live streamed through the First United Methodist Church Facebook page.

# Tribute Wall

GD

“ I was just remembering old times and happened across this notice looking for Dan. I met Dan and Claire as a Freshman at Vanderbilt. We were all dating the Peabody girls and Dan got a date with Claire a week before I did (she had already fallen for him (Lucky Dog). I spent three amazing years after that as a good friend with both of you and suitemate/fraternity brother with Dan. I will never forget Claire dragging us to see some silly piano player in concert we had never heard of. (Elton John). The fishing trips, painting the dock at the pond before the wedding, that amazing drive during my law school visit that I do not remember where we went (or came from?).

I am so sorry for your loss Claire. It has been a couple of years and I hope you are still doing well. I was never very good at staying in touch with people. Last time I saw you two Dan was just getting started in his law practice and Claire was teaching school if memory serves me. You were a wonderful couple and I am happy to know you made it through so many years together.

George Dillinger  
Kingman, AZ

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George Dillinger - February 07, 2023 at 06:10 PM

PP

“ We will miss you "Dan" emenously. We first met Dan and Claire on a cruise, they made us feel like family. Then joined for our 25th anniversary in Kona Hawaii. We had a great time being among people we love. Claire when you are ready let's try that cruise we thought we would go on in memory of "Dan". I will reach out soon...just want to you space. Wish I were there.

I know I am blessed cause I have an "angel" looking out for me.  
Patricia & Tab Perry

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Patricia Perry - July 02, 2020 at 02:41 PM

SK

“ Condolences to The Wonderful Perkey Family, Jeff, Sara and the boys.

Your neighbors,  
Scott & Anne Kardenetz

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scott kardenetz - July 01, 2020 at 06:34 PM

FS

“ My friendship began with Dan Perky in the early 90s when he and I had law offices in Carthel Smith office. He and Claire sponsored Ginger and me on our walk to Emmaus at Lakeshore. I kept pestering Dan that I wanted to go to a horse race because I had never been. In 2002 he took me to Churchill Downs on the first Saturday in May. We arrived on a Thursday and stayed all weekend. You talk about jumping in the deep end of the pool, I was there. After the Kentucky Oaks on Friday, due to the traffic jam, Dan and I went and met the locals who loved Dan, invited us into their home and fed us free food, etc. Everyone had an opinion on the winner for big race the next day. As we headed to the track on that Saturday, Dan and I listened to “Run for the Roses” at least three times. I will never hear that song without thinking of you friend. Thank you for allowing me into your life. Frankie

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Frankie Stanfill - July 01, 2020 at 04:42 PM

EV

“ Prayers for peace and comfort for the family in the coming days during your time of loss.



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Elizabeth Vineyard - July 01, 2020 at 03:57 PM

LS

“ My condolences to Claire and the Perky Family. My parents and Dan’s parents were good friends so I am not sure when we first met. He is 9 days older than me. I do recall trading baseball cards at about age 5. In recent months we had began texting. A lot of quarantine movie recommendations and the like. Will miss my childhood and lifelong friend.

Larry and Marsha Schweiger  
Overland Park, Kansas

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Larry Schweiger - July 01, 2020 at 03:02 PM

AM

“ To Dan's Family and Friends: It was impossible to be sad or mad when Dan was around, as he was for most of my youth in school, Cub Scouts and sports. He was a central figure in our merry band of Leawood, Kansas chums.

To Dan: A few days ago you lit up my memory bank by calling for more Cat Stevens. My friend, I'll always think of you when I hear:

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven  
Like the first dew fall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass

Rest in Peace, and give comfort to Claire and all your friends and family.  
Alan

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Alan McCoy - July 01, 2020 at 11:19 AM

AF

“ Alan McCoy and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dan Perky.



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**Alan McCoy and Family** - July 01, 2020 at 10:08 AM

BC

“ Lexington was blessed with the Perkys choosing to live here. Dan was always prompt in taking care of his clients and very reasonable in his fees. I always enjoyed doing business with him and talking with him. We lost one of our best. Prayers to his family.

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**Bobby Cogdell** - July 01, 2020 at 05:55 AM

JS

“ Jerry Stegall lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky



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**Jerry Stegall** - June 30, 2020 at 11:34 PM

LL

“ Lisa LewisEvans lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky



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**Lisa LewisEvans** - June 30, 2020 at 10:03 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dan Perky.*



June 30, 2020 at 04:58 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dan Perky.*



June 30, 2020 at 03:52 PM



“ *Christopher Escue sent a virtual gift in memory of Dan Perky*



**Christopher Escue** - June 30, 2020 at 01:25 PM



*This makes me so sad. We just loss Steve Hinson and now Mr. Perky. I attended school with Jeff all of my life and Mrs. Perky was our music teacher at Caywood. I send much love and peace to the family.*

**Christopher Escue** - June 30, 2020 at 01:27 PM

LR

“ I will miss him he done all my legal work for me and gave free advice. I talked to him about three weeks ago we talked for around 20 minutes. He will be missed a great guy with a great legacy. Prayers for family

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**linda Ross** - June 30, 2020 at 11:38 AM



“ Fan wss a key member of our undefeated junio high basketball team which my dad coached. I loved his fellowship and abilities. This is really sad news.

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**Paul Clark** - June 30, 2020 at 11:28 AM



“ I graduated from Shawnee Mission East with Dan. He was always a friend. He will be missed.

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**Larry Olson** - June 30, 2020 at 11:26 AM

CS

“ Dan and I met in the 6th grade. We spent countless hours together through high school. There are so many treasured memories that involve laughter, practical jokes, good times together, sports, school and shared friends. He was a wonderful friend who obviously grew to become a wonderful person, strong family man and good friend and mentor to so many. I will miss Dan. Condolences to Claire and brother David, as well as all members of the Perky family and his extended family of friends.

*Barb and Carl Sniffen  
Oregon City, Oregon*

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**Carl Sniffen** - June 30, 2020 at 10:59 AM

DB

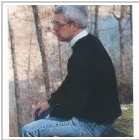
“ Remembering long-ago days with Dan and Claire in Lexington Little Theatre productions. Dan was always ready to help with the many jobs behind the scenes, and one time, he actually let us make him a star! His sly sense of humor was forever ready to boost our moods....or smooth our frustration.

*Always helping others, he gave his talents and knowledge and wisdom in just the right amounts to make an important difference. My heart is with you, Claire. May your sweet memories and the love of your friends and beautiful family bring strength and comfort to all of you.*

*Sincerely  
Dian*

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**Dian Brown** - June 30, 2020 at 10:26 AM



“ Shortly after I became pastor at First Church, Dan became Lay Leader. He was a joy to work with and always ready to step in or step up when needed. Becky remembers her time with Dan on the Upper Room Prayer Line. We will miss him.

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**John Middleton** - June 30, 2020 at 09:16 AM

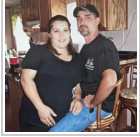
LE

“ So sadden to hear this....prayers for the family



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**Linda Elam** - June 30, 2020 at 04:05 AM



“ *Mary Seggo lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Mary Seggo** - June 29, 2020 at 10:26 PM

BH

“ *Bruce & Joyce Hughes lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Bruce & Joyce Hughes** - June 29, 2020 at 09:41 PM

TA

“ *Condolences from the Bobby Ayers family.*



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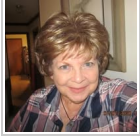
**Teresa Ayers** - June 29, 2020 at 07:36 PM

SB

“ *Dan was a character with a heart of gold and a deep resolve to help others in need ...no matter where in the world they were. I loved the banter with him about UT and Vanderbilt sports. Porter and I will miss knowing you are here. Anchor down, our friend.*

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**Susie Bunch** - June 29, 2020 at 06:13 PM

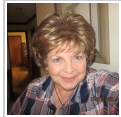


“ *Virginia Nalepinski lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Virginia Nalepinski** - June 29, 2020 at 06:12 PM



*Claire, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Sending prayers to you and family! Love you.*

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**Virginia Nalepinski** - June 29, 2020 at 06:14 PM

CF

“ *Cindy Frizzell lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Cindy Frizzell** - June 29, 2020 at 05:15 PM

SS

“ *I'm so terribly sorry for your loss of Dan. He was a very nice and good man. I am thinking of and praying for you.*



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**Sylvia Stone** - June 29, 2020 at 04:26 PM

MF

“ *Marcella Ellis & Family lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Marcella Ellis & Family** - June 29, 2020 at 04:26 PM

TT

“ *Teresa Taylor lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Teresa Taylor** - June 29, 2020 at 04:23 PM

KP

“ *Keith & Debbie Patterson lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Keith & Debbie Patterson** - June 29, 2020 at 03:27 PM

EA

“ *Eddie Akins lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Eddie Akins** - June 29, 2020 at 03:24 PM

DD

“ *Donna Darrough lit a candle in memory of Dan Perky*



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**Donna Darrough** - June 29, 2020 at 03:21 PM

AC

*No words can describe how very sorry I am. Prayers for comfort. Love you all.*

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**Alice Cook** - June 29, 2020 at 05:39 PM