



Brad Chertoff

June 27, 2015

Chertoff, Brad

Brad Chertoff, 63, died at home on Saturday, June 27, 2015, after a long illness. Brad was born in Bronx, NY, and graduated in New Rochelle, NY. He came to the University of New Mexico with a math scholarship and left with degrees in biology and history. After college Brad opened a hobby shop in Hialeah, FL, which he later sold to return to Albuquerque and UNM where he completed a master's degree and began teaching. He taught science at Valley High School for 20 years before cancer forced him to retire.

Brad was a big personality with a big love for learning, teaching, and young people -- passions shared by his wife, Anne Young, also a teacher at Valley. Their desk drawers overflow with pictures, cards, and thank-you notes from students who enjoyed marine science field trips to California and Florida over the years. Outside the classroom, Brad played and coached on the tennis courts. More recently he trucked around town on motorcycles. Every day with this whimsical, generous, kind man was an adventure for those who knew him.

Brad is deeply mourned by his wife, Anne; as well as by his sister, Barbara, and her loving family in Boston. A celebration of his life is planned at Valley High School on Saturday, July 11, 2015, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Donations to the "Brad Chertoff Scholarship Fund" to benefit Valley students can be sent to

1536 Griegos Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87107. Please visit our online guestbook for Brad at www.FrenchFunerals.com.

FRENCH - University
1111 University Blvd. NE
505-843-6333

Tribute Wall

RL

“ Brad was a true friend. He was always positive and warm to me throughout his ordeal as I spent my many hours at Valley as a fund raiser and President of the PAC. He always seemed more concerned about other people than he ever was about himself. I will always remember his warm smile every time I saw him. He was truly an original and I will treasure my memories of Brad as will my son, Michael ,who had him for classes. He was a teacher that Michael could never say anything negative about. Michael loved the trip to San Diego with Brad and classmates and loved Brads classes.. Ms. Young...please take care of your self and treasure the memories of Brad as we will do also.

Rick Lowder VHS Class of 1969 and past President of The Parent Advisory Council.

Rick Lowder - July 13, 2015 at 11:56 AM

KK

We will all miss you so much! God bless your wife and family. Thank you for your love and care. You made an impact on so many lives! Rest in peace, dear man.

Kay Kennedy - July 19, 2015 at 05:41 AM

LL

“ What a wonderful man , Mr Chertoff was. He was my daughter's teacher and she absoutely adored him! He was a great teacher and an even better gentleman. I'm sorry to hear of his passing. Hugs to Ms. Young. He will be missed by many! R.I. P.
*Leni Logan
Kelly Logan Class of 2004*

Leni Logan - July 12, 2015 at 10:11 PM



Erin Hatch

“ *What a generous and fun teacher he was; he inspired me and took the time to form a personal connection, which I'll never forget. His trip to San Diego, which we took because he didn't want a group of us to make the unsupervised road trip we'd threatened, was a highlight of my time at Valley.*

Erin Hatch - July 11, 2015 at 10:50 PM



TS

“ *Thanks to Mr Chertoff, my son grew to love science. We have a deep respect for Mr Chertoff and are grateful for his contribution to the students of Valley High School. Our condolences to Ms Young and the families.*

theresa sandoval - July 11, 2015 at 07:47 PM



AG

“ *Chertoff brought the fun of the ocean world to the desert of NM. His Florida trips were something we looked forward to and our class was lucky enough to get the swim with the beached Pilot Whales in the Keys. He inspired many of his students and they knew who he was even if they weren't in any of his classes.*

Alejandro Gomez - July 06, 2015 at 01:54 PM



“ *It's an honor to reflect on the impact great teachers had on us as people. Chertoff was a pioneer in his teaching style and lit a fire that didn't exist for many students kindled by pure proximity to his passion for his work. Great loss but glorious while present.*

Mark Paiz - July 04, 2015 at 10:41 PM

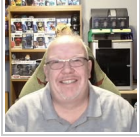
AL

“ Mr. Chertoff,

I guess I can call you Brad now since I'm finally an adult. And now that I have a few more years under my belt - and perhaps some insight too - I think I can finally say we're "equals" as adults, which means I can finally look back and truly appreciate the significance of your efforts as a teacher. During my time at Valley from '96-2000, I had you in biology and marine biology, which means I spent two entire years of my life in your presence, learning from the knowledge in your quirky, yet intelligent, dedicated and goal-oriented mind. You never gave up on me or anyone else in the classroom, you were abundantly fair, and held every student up to a very high standard of achievement. Even though you knew how to get down to the level of teenagers like a pro, you never let us get the best of you, and always kept us responsible, true to you, and true to our learning. You demanded respect yet were emanated a warmth which made being around you easy and learning from you feel really good. Thank you so much for being such a great example while I had the pleasure of treading on this earth with you. You are not forgotten, and never will be. And every day I am alive, I will celebrate you by trying to emulate your beautiful example. Rest in Peace, Mr. Chertoff, Brad.

*Sincerely,
Armando Lamadrid
VHS Alumni (1996-2000)
Oslo, Norway*

Armando José Lamadrid - July 04, 2015 at 06:24 PM



“ Teaching next door to Brad for a number of years at Valley High School was never boring. He was always there to meet the kids with a smile and seemed to have something unusual and exciting in store. Another great teacher has gone on to a better place. Thank you for all you taught me as a teacher Brad. I am a better teacher for it.



Karn Gustafson

Karn Gustafson - July 04, 2015 at 03:15 PM

BC

“ May you rest in peace Mr. Chertoff. I am deeply saddened to hear that you have left this world, but I find peace knowing you are no longer suffering! You left an everlasting impact in my life! Thank you for being such a funny, caring, passionate, amazing teacher! I will always remember your sense of humor. Mrs. Young my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time!

Briana Cordova - July 03, 2015 at 11:44 PM



“ Chertoff was one of the most amazing teachers I was able to learn from. I was also blessed to go to San Diego with him and Ms. Young. Definitely one of the treasured memories from high school. Seeing Chertoff on a stripper pole is definitely something I will never forget. Chertoff you definitely made an impact on my life and I am so thankful to have had you in my life. Rest in peace. Heaven definitely gained an amazing angel.

Josephina Chavez - July 03, 2015 at 11:18 PM

AR

“ *Mr. Chertoff was an amazing educator and person. I will treasure every moment I spent learning from him. He is the reason I am studying to become a science teacher. I only hope that am I half the person he was.*

Ashleigh Ray - July 03, 2015 at 06:10 PM

JB

“ *Brad was a wonderful teacher for our son Justin and daughter Noelle. He helped make them good students and they both got into very good schools after leaving Valley H.S. He was one of those kinds of teachers that really and truly make a difference.*

Jim Baca

James R. Baca - July 03, 2015 at 12:38 PM

CJ

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

Chris Jogi - July 02, 2015 at 10:17 AM