



## Dale Erik Reagan

December 19, 1956 - March 15, 2022

Dale Erik Reagan was born on December 19th, 1956 in Fort Worth, TX. As the first-born son in the family, Dale assumed the role of a protective and loving brother naturally, and he loved all four of his siblings dearly. With much of his dad's family in the Savannah, GA area, Dale grew up as a self-proclaimed "river rat" and knew the surrounding rivers, inlets, and creeks like the backs of his hands. As a youth, he helped with the family business, Reagan Seafood & Supplies, delivering fresh seafood to locals. He knew where to catch the best shrimp and loved taking his family on boat rides in the fresh marsh air. With a streak of adventure in his veins, he was even an Okefenokee Swamp guide at one point.

In 1977, Dale met the love of his life, Mary Sue, while participating in musical theater in Savannah. Two weeks after Hurricane David in 1979, Dale and Mary Sue were wed in a small but sweet ceremony at Inner City United Methodist Church in Savannah. They went on to have a beautiful family together including daughter, Laura, and son, Erik. Out of all the things Dale did and accomplished in his life, his most treasured accomplishment was being a father. While not without flaws, he loved, protected, and served his family wholeheartedly. He was a wonderful husband and steadfast father.

A graduate of Armstrong State College, he was a man of many talents. Dale was a teacher at heart who loved an exchange of ideas and sharing what he

had learned. He began his teaching career in the early 80s at Tompkins High School. He loved beautiful music, but he was also a nerd who loved technology. He went on to teach computers and technology at DeRenne Middle School for many years. Eventually, he went on to work as an IT specialist in the tech world. He was visionary and brilliant. He enjoyed mentoring others in what he learned along the way.

When Dale was not working, you could find him in a number of places. He might be at home practicing his classical guitar. He might be chasing a sunset on the marsh with his camera (his photography has been featured by the Savannah Music Festival, Kennesaw State University, and others). He might be hiking up a mountain with his trusty sidekick German Shepherd, Moose (who is trained in German since Dad was always proud of his German heritage). He might be climbing a tree using his own weight and a rope-pulley system. An avid reader, he might be reading some Tolkein or some sci-fi. A sucker for a good romantic comedy, you might catch him watching a heartwarming and equally witty Sandra Bullock movie. He made the best homemade popcorn, which his kids and grandkids would fight over. Dale's boiled shrimp was unmatched.

No matter what version of Dale you were lucky to know, we can all agree that he had a commanding presence. You always knew when he was in the room whether his larger-than-life laugh caught your attention or his firm, confident voice let you know he was there. In his final days here on earth, the medical team all made the same observation as they cared for him: he was as solid as the majestic oaks scattered through Savannah. His hands were Herculean. They were an outward expression of the strength he carried within. He was solid through and through. Dependable and determined. Dale had been a fighter his entire life, and he fought to the very end.

Dale passed away on March 15th, 2022 in Gainesville, GA following

complications from a heart attack. He is survived by his devoted wife of 42 years, Mary Sue Reagan; his children, Laura Sue Johnson (Adam) and Erik Reagan (Nikkie); his brother, Thomas Blood; his sister, Dolores Barnett; his mother, Erika Monteith; his three grandchildren, Brady Faith Reagan, Cade Reagan, and Imogen Johnson; many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews; and last, but not least, his beloved pup, Moose. At Dale's request, there will be no funeral or memorial service. Instead, the family asks that friends and loved ones plan a nice walk or hike and think of him in the beautiful spring weather. In lieu of flowers, please honor Dale with a donation to the Guitar Foundation of America (<https://www.guitarfoundation.org/>) or Canine Pet Rescue (<https://www.caninepetrescue.com>).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dale Erik Reagan*

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November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *Canine Pet Rescue is very appreciative of you including us in Dale's honor, and supporting our work to continue helping German Shepherds like his beloved Moose. We will keep the family in our thoughts and prayers, and hope that all the special memories shared about him will bring you peace.*

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**Carla Brown** - April 06, 2022 at 11:07 PM

MM

“ Beautiful tribute to a thoughtful man. One thing I admired so much about Dale was that he was a forever student continuing to learn new subjects and had new interests as well as being a teacher. Dale also flew out to Alaska to take a few pictures and visit my son, Eddie, while Eddie’s stepdad and my spouse was deployed to Iraq in 2004. Having been a military kid himself, Dale understood the hardships of family during uncertain and complicated times such as these. During Dale’s visit, Eddie’s biological father unexpectedly passed away and Dale’s generosity and kindness helped Eddie get back to Georgia in a timely manner for that funeral. I was and will remember Dale for that, be forever grateful, and pay it forward as Dale would want. When talking about our kids one day, he made the comment “we did pretty good, didn’t we?” It reassured me to know that Dale recognized our lives weren’t only about the small area of Montgomery Georgia where we spent some time growing up but was about a much bigger plan and purpose to grow in ways that stretch us to the fullest. Prayers for my cousin’s family have been heavy in my heart. We have been forever blessed to have shared a portion of our lives with Dale.

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**Melody Reagan Mammay** - March 27, 2022 at 08:02 AM

JH

“ Dale was a great boss he forgave when I deleted ETC by mistake.

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**john haefner** - March 23, 2022 at 09:56 PM

TF

“ Rest in Peace, Maestro.  
Your musical expresiveness will always be present with me.



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**Terry Finlay** - March 23, 2022 at 12:18 PM

TB

“ I have many beautiful memories of Dale: listening to him play the guitar, hiking in Georgia and California with him, visiting for thanksgiving, and many more. My favorite memory, however, will always be the day Dale and Ronnie took their little brother (I was 14 then) on the Savannah to go crabbing and fishing. It was a day in the best summer I've ever had, hot and humid, beautiful and glorious, peaceful and exciting, with my brothers. We even caught some fish.

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**Thomas Blood** - March 22, 2022 at 01:37 AM

TC

Mary Sue, What an awesome man you married. I wish I had the pleasure of knowing him. I am deeply sorry for your loss. But I did enjoy reading his accomplishments. You were so fortunate to have him.

My prayers for you are that you have a carrying support system for from my own experience I know how important that is!

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**Thelma Crosby** - April 07, 2022 at 10:52 AM

EM

“ As a little girl we often visited my mother’s family in Savannah. At the top of the list for our visit it was always Uncle Dale and Aunt MarySue. They were the most interesting couple. Uncle Dale shared so many of his talents with us from Music, Photography, and even the earliest Computers. He taught me respect for my elders as he always expected that (yes Sir). The memory that stands out to me the most is one of my favorites. We were visiting the n November for thanksgiving. Uncle Dale took us to Tybee Island. Back then it wasn’t the beach it is today. It was quiet and nearly untouched. Nothing around but beautiful beach. The water was cold but as the sun was setting I’ll never forget that 8yr old girl playing in the surf. Taking in the absolute glory of this beautiful place. Ive returned to a Tybee over the past 40 yrs several times. In fact I took family June 2021. We had a wonderful family trip. I shared this memory with my children as we sat on the porch of our rental overlooking the beautiful Tybee sunset🌅. RIP UNCLE DALE🙏❤️ You will be missed by many but your laughter and wit will stay with us always ❤️😊 the comfort comes from knowing you and Uncle Ronnie are reunited💕👫

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**Erika Masciantonio** - March 21, 2022 at 06:20 PM

BP

“ When I found out that I was going to be star student I knew the person who had to be star teacher, Mr Dale Reagan. He thought was so funny but accepted. He was a great teacher, encourager, and friend my whole life.

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**Belinda Pollett** - March 21, 2022 at 03:49 PM



“ 19 files added to the tribute wall



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**Laura Sue Johnsno** - March 21, 2022 at 02:14 PM