



## Timothy Joseph Nee

May 2, 2024

Timothy Joseph Nee, 66, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, passed away on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at his home in West Hartford, Connecticut. He was the beloved husband of Bob Liljenquist and father to his two sons, Daniel and Alexander. Born to Alberta and Daniel Nee on June 21, 1957, Tim spent his early years living on Spring Street with his siblings Dan, Carolyn, Rick, and Ron.

Tim was a passionate public educator who spent his career working to make a more equitable and fair world for students and educators alike. He was a champion of children's rights and a deep believer in Montessori Education. His dedication to Montessori gave rise to students gaining access to high-quality education across the state of Connecticut and internationally. Despite his lofty achievements, Tim never forgot his roots as an elementary school teacher, his first love as an educator. He started his career teaching in Pennsylvania before moving to Atlanta to work for Gwinnett County Public Schools. These early experiences laid a foundation for his belief that all children deserve a safe and quality education. These beliefs would drive his work throughout his career, including leadership positions at Harwinton Elementary School, Wapping Elementary School and CREC Montessori Magnet School in Hartford. Education was his life's work, and for over 40 years, Tim improved the lives of countless students, educators, families, and colleagues.

Beyond his professional life, Tim was well known for his consistent love of hosting and entertaining. From birthday parties to graduations, holidays, and work events, he always planned for the occasion with a specially themed cocktail in hand. He had a deep love of the arts and supporting his friends' creative pursuits. His home was always full of music, laughter, and joy. Little gave him more happiness than belting his favorite Broadway songs with his friends.

Tim also had a passion for traveling. Tim and Bob built their life together in West Hartford but, over the later years, lived and worked around the globe, including San Francisco and Sitges, Spain. No matter where he was, Tim had a knack for making connections and making those around him feel loved and welcomed. He had an extraordinary ability to lift others up, and all those who knew him have been changed for the better.

Despite his world travels, Tim was always home for the holidays and to spend his summer in Provincetown, MA, with his husband, two boys, and close circle of friends. Tim loved returning to Pittsburgh to spend time with siblings, nieces, and nephews, traveling to Utah to visit with the Liljenquist in-laws, and cherished time spent with his granddaughter Kleo. He welcomed any chance to be in New York City or Melbourne with his sons and was excited to meet his new grandson. When it came to family, no event was too small or too far away.

Tim is survived by his beloved husband, Bob Liljenquist; son and daughter-in-law, Daniel Nee and Martine Forneret, son Alexander Nee; stepchildren Kristin Katsanevas (Johnny Katsanevas) and Jayson Liljenquist; siblings Dan Nee (Kathie Nee), Carolyn Heck (Jim Heck), Rick Nee (Patty Nee) and Ron Nee (Maureen Nee), granddaughter Kleo Katsanevas, and many nieces and nephews.

He will be deeply missed by his family, colleagues, neighbors, and friends.

The family will be holding a viewing on Saturday, May 11, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Molloy Funeral Home, located at 906 Farmington Ave, West Hartford, CT. The viewing will be immediately followed by a Celebration of Tim's Life at Tim & Bob's home at 25 Ellsworth Road, West Hartford, CT, from 12:15 PM to 3:30 PM.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAY 11. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

# Tribute Wall

SL

“ Sheri L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

Sheri L. - May 12, 2024 at 07:24 PM

VN

“ Vivian N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

Vivian N. - May 11, 2024 at 09:34 AM

AL

“ Alexander L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

Alexander L. - May 10, 2024 at 04:29 PM



“ *Tim was not just a friend, but also a mentor and colleague. He played a pivotal role as my first Montessori mentor, shaping much of my understanding of leadership in Montessori settings. His invaluable words of wisdom will forever resonate within me. Beyond professional guidance, Tim offered unwavering support as I navigated learning more about my gay son. Alongside Bob, he graciously welcomed me and my friends unknown to them into their home in Spain, creating unforgettable memories during one of the most enjoyable vacations I've had. I could endlessly recount the ways Tim enriched my life. He was truly one of a kind, with his authenticity, laughter, and sass leaving an indelible mark on my heart. My deepest condolences extend to Bob, Daniel, Alexander, his bonus children, his CREC/MTCNE family, and all those fortunate enough to have experienced Tim's love and reciprocated it in kind.*  
~Dr. KaLinda Bass-Barlow



---

**Latrese DrBass-Barlow** - May 10, 2024 at 11:09 AM

LB

“ *Levi B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.*

---

**Levi B.** - May 10, 2024 at 11:00 AM

TF

“ *The Archambault Family purchased the Florist C hoice Bouquet for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.*



---

**The Archambault Family** - May 09, 2024 at 10:40 PM

DS

“ *Tim was principal of Montessori Magnet when our child was there. He was an amazing guiding light for the students. He was kind, above all else; but also enthusiastic, committed to his students and an amazing principal. We were so thankful he was there. And then he was our neighbor, with Bob, which was delightful. My deepest sympathy to Tim's family - he was one of a kind.*

---

**Deirdre Sinnock** - May 09, 2024 at 07:06 PM

BF

“ *Baani, Elizabeth, Guianna & Families purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.*



---

**Baani, Elizabeth, Guianna & Families** - May 09, 2024 at 04:35 PM

MS

“ *Munir Shivji American Montessori Society purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.*



---

**Munir Shivji American Montessori Society** - May 09, 2024 at 03:05 PM

FT

“ From Tobias planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

From Tobias - May 09, 2024 at 12:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



May 09, 2024 at 12:15 PM

KS

“ Kindall S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

Kindall S. - May 09, 2024 at 10:58 AM

CH

“ Ces Thompson, Dean, ENHP, U. of Hartford planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

Ces Thompson, Dean, ENHP, U. of Hartford - May 09, 2024 at 04:47 AM

CH

“ Ces Thompson, Dean, ENHP, U. of Hartford purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

**Ces Thompson, Dean, ENHP, U. of Hartford** - May 09, 2024 at 04:47 AM

LP

“ Linda Porter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

---

**Linda Porter** - May 08, 2024 at 06:13 PM

LP

“ Linda Porter purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

**Linda Porter** - May 08, 2024 at 06:13 PM

JF

“ Tim Nee was the Principal of Harwinton Consolidated School when I was the Media Specialist . He was an amazing Principal and expediated the renovation of the Media Center which was quite an accomplishment. My sympathy to the family with hopes that the memories of Tim will be a blessing .

---

**Joan Fine** - May 08, 2024 at 04:38 PM

HE

“ To the Liljenquist - Nee Family  
In memory of Timothy Joseph Nee

*Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Tim brought so much knowledge, experience, and fun to every encounter. He was bold, brave, and so very very kind. I feel incredibly fortunate to have partnered with Tim in our Montessori work. Many fond memories of Tim will be with us always.*

*Mary Levy and the faculty and staff at Mountain View Montessori School, Reno, Nevada*

---

**Holly Evers** - May 08, 2024 at 04:26 PM

MM

“ Mary Levy and Mountain View Montessori planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Joseph Nee.

---

**Mary Levy and Mountain View Montessori** - May 08, 2024 at 04:23 PM

MM

“ Mary Levy and Mountain View Montessori purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

**Mary Levy and Mountain View Montessori** - May 08, 2024 at 04:23 PM

AM

“ AMI/USA purchased the *Strength & Solace Spray* for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

AMI/USA - May 08, 2024 at 01:31 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

May 08, 2024 at 11:05 AM

SS

“ I have fond memories of my time at the Montessori school in Hartford, CT, from 2000 to 2009. Mr. Nee, my first principal, played a significant role in making my educational journey a positive and inclusive one. Despite struggling with social anxiety and difficulties making friends, Mr. Nee was always willing to let me visit him in his office, creating a sense of comfort and security. He made me feel like I belonged, and his kindness and understanding helped me thrive in a way that I wouldn't have otherwise.



Mr. Nee's leadership was exceptional, and he had a remarkable ability to make every student feel seen and valued. He created a warm and welcoming atmosphere in the school, making it feel like a true "home away from home." His dedication, compassion, and guidance had a profound impact on my life, and I will always be grateful for the positive experience I had under his leadership.

As I offer my condolences to his family and close friends, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the incredible principal that Mr. Nee was. He left an indelible mark on my life, and I hope that his legacy will continue to inspire and influence the lives of countless students and educators to come.

---

Sydnee Shuler - May 07, 2024 at 08:51 PM

JR

“ Allow us to extend our heartfelt condolences on Tim's loss to all his family, friends and siblings. The Nee and Reilly Families have been intertwined through more than 50 years through Dan Nee's marriage to my sister Kathleen. Our lives were enriched by our celebration of family occasions with Tim and all of the Nees throughout many years at their family homes in Pittsburgh and later Bethel Park. We shared years at St Henry's Catholic School and later at IUP. To all of Tim's relatives, his warmth and kindness, made the world a better place. His loss leaving a void in the world and everyone whose lives he touched. Jerry Reilly Family

---

**Jerry Reilly** - May 07, 2024 at 05:04 PM

TF

“ The Hajek Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

**The Hajek Family** - May 07, 2024 at 02:56 PM

DH

“ My condolences to the entire family on the loss of Timmy. I have such fond memories of him growing up at great-grandma's house in Lawrenceville and Aunt Shirley's house right next door. He brought so much light to a room and was always the life of the party. We all looked forward to the letters that he wrote and sent at Christmas telling of all he and Bob's adventures and catching up on all the family. May he rest in peace.

*Dana (Mahoney) Hickey*

---

**Dana Hickey** - May 07, 2024 at 01:01 PM

VL

“ Vern & Susan Liljenquist purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Timothy Joseph Nee.



---

**Vern & Susan Liljenquist** - May 06, 2024 at 07:34 PM

FD

“ Tim, thank you for your dedication, vision and love for Montessori. Your work will continue. The torch remains lit. It has been an honor to work, play, laugh and cry with you. Rest well my friend.

*Francoise Deristel-Leger and family*

---

**Francoise Deristel-Leger** - May 06, 2024 at 03:46 PM

LS

*Mr. Nee! My daughters went to his Montessori in Hartford from 2003-2009. I remember his amazing vision for what true education can be. My daughters thrived. I can say now that both are smart, talented young women and his leadership and educational opportunities for my beautiful yet spirited girls was the foundation. I remembered many heated meetings with CRÈC and angry parents about school uniforms and standardized testing. He held showed grace and curiosity yet stayed strong to his vision! Our family supported him 100#. We stayed a year after he left and it was disgraceful watching this amazing school succumb to society's pressure for standardized testing. All the Montessori trained teachers were leaving by October! Unheard of in a school system. We were lucky to have entered West Hartford Webster Hill with another amazing Principal but I had wished my youngest had gone through the full term like my oldest. Many blessings on his family and I hope you are proud of his legacy. It made our lives a better place.*



---

**leslie macnab and arthur simoes** - May 12, 2024 at 12:39 PM