



William "David" Gamble

August 25, 1952 - June 29, 2021

William "David" Gamble, 68, of Trussville, Alabama went to be with his Lord and Savior Tuesday, June 29, 2021. He is preceded in death by his parents William H. Gamble and Marion Sunset Bowden and grandparents Charles and Clara Gamble and Robert and Sunset Bowden. He is survived by his brother Jonathan Gamble (Gina), sisters Belinda Treadwell (Vic), Cindy Jones (Gary), Patricia Waldrop, and Nancy Olive (Jimmy). David never met a stranger. Loved his family and many friends across the country. David loved the arts especially music and movies. He was an avid reader. If you had the privilege to know him you would never forget him. We love you David. There are no services to be held at this time.

Tribute Wall

DD

“ Oh wow, I've only recently become aware that David had passed. We were both members of the 1st graduating class from Huffman High School. It is peculiar that when you are young, you assume at least subconsciously that all the people you know and all your experiences are but a prelude to a much more varied and empowered and interesting life. But after a long life and then reflecting back on it, I at least, realize that some of those early experiences and friendships were one of a kind and not to be replicated. So this is a segue into my recollections of David as a singularly unusual persona. I have never met anyone else quite like him in my subsequent life. To me he always had this air of a sort of studied, theatrical, almost professorial demeanor; as though he were acting out his life as a sort of role. There was always the sense of his wearing a mask with the real David hiding out somewhere in the wings. Only I never saw the mask slip. Now you'd think this would be off-putting, but it was actually rather amusing, not the least because he seemed to on occasion invite you to participate in the gag, in the pretense of pretending. He was sort of meta before that was even invented and with the occasional self deprecating aside. As I recall in HS he played drums in a band, ran track, idolized Jim Ryan, and sang in the Baptist Church choir where we all went on a 2 week singing tour in Europe during spring break of 1970. He also had a decidedly intellectual bent, read German authors like Goethe, Nietzsche and Mann and listened to obscure composers like Carl Orff. Now in hindsight that was a bit odd. How many high school students living in 60's Birmingham, Al had such interest and aptitudes? And from where did such passions spring? So I must say that he had on reflection an outsized influence on me that I only recognize in hindsight and many of my adult interest at least in part spring from his influence. Even now, I have a copy of critical essays on Thomas Mann casually given to me while in HS that he signed right above an imprint of the Birmingham Public Library (which I have no doubt he purloined). After HS I only recall seeing him one other time at a private party while I was in London February 1984 while I was on an educational elective (studying tropical diseases of all things). I remember he

appeared to speak fluent German with a group of Europeans. I don't know why he was in London or what he was doing at the time. Unfortunately we spoke only briefly, but I recall the impression he seemed to be a bit adrift (and he was also considerably taller than when he was in HS). I always assumed at some point I would run into him and we'd chat about these things... or maybe he would not have wanted to reminisce. Now I will never know.

Doug Dailey - April 10, 2022 at 04:14 PM