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**Fredric George "Fred" Wetzel**

“Learn Something New Everyday”



Fredric George “Fred” Wetzel, 68, passed away on Saturday, September 29, 2012 at his residence surrounded by his loving family. A native of Carter County he was the son of the late George and Ella Grace Clemons Wetzel. Mr. Wetzel was a 1962 Elizabethton High School graduate, East Tennessee State University graduate in 1965 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Chemistry, and in 1980 with a Masters in Science Education. He was a member of Munsey Memorial Methodist Church, Kings Mountain Chapter S.A.R., Ole Timers Hiking Club, and a lifetime member of Watauga Association of Geneology (W.A.G.S.). He was a High School Chemistry teacher at Science Hill for 36 years before he retired. Fred received countless awards in the classroom over the years; but his highest achievement in the classroom was when a student’s eyes would light up and then he knew they understood. A true educator at heart, he always measured his success through the successes of his students. After retirement he found a passion for botany especially in Japanese Maple Trees on their farm in Virginia. Some of his favorite memories were either boating on Watauga Lake or hiking on the Appalachian Trail. He instilled his love of nature in all of his children and grandchildren, and enjoyed camping and biking with them as often as possible.

He leaves behind his loving wife Lois Duncan Wetzel; his children, Kimberly Wetzel Pless and her husband Eddie, Kerrie Wetzel Sluder and her husband Brent, and Fredric Duncan Wetzel; grandchildren, Celia Katherine 'Katie' Pless, Elijah Charles 'Bo' Pless, Christopher Reece Bradford, Ethan Cole Sluder, David Cole Bradford, Evan Samuel Sluder, and Samuel Fredric Bradford; and two sisters, Anna Sue Wetzel Peters and Mary Lou Wetzel, brother and sister-in-law, John and Nancy Duncan.

Several nieces and nephews also survive. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his brother, Thomas Wayne Wetzel.

The family will receive friends for Fredric George “Fred” Wetzel at Tetrick Funeral Services, 3001 Peoples Street, from 5:00-7:00 PM, Wednesday, October 3, 2012. A Celebration of Life service will be conducted immediately following at 7:00 PM in the Sunrise Chapel with Mr. Brian Taylor, Minister, officiating. Music will be under the direction of Loren Harris. A private Committal and Inurnment will be held at a later date at Mountain Home.

Special thanks to all of his friends for the numerous cards, phone calls, visits and prayers during his extended illness.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that donations be sent in Fred's honor and memory to the E H S Class of 1962/Fred Wetzel Scholarship Fund, C/O Carter County Bank, P.O. Box 1990, Elizabethton, TN 37664

Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at [www.tetrickfuneralhome.com](http://www.tetrickfuneralhome.com). Arrangements for the Wetzel family are in the care of Tetrick Funeral & Cremation Services, 3001 Peoples St., Johnson City, 610-7171.



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