



## Dr. Diane L. Goltz

February 12, 1949 - June 7, 2025

Dr. Diane L. Goltz, a pioneering leader in special education who developed and managed programs for the ninth-largest school system in the United States, serving 190,000 students across 337 schools in 19 countries, 8 states, and 2 United States territories, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 7, 2025.

Born on February 12, 1949, in Hot Springs, Arkansas, to the late Bernice Lockwood and Lewis Goltz. She was also predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Rosalind Goltz Hudson and Earl H. Hudson Jr.

Diane's legacy extends beyond her family; she is survived by her loving sister and brother-in-law, Susan and Lou Siegel; her cherished niece, Madeline Hudson Bull; her adored great-nephews, Cooper Jack Bull and Spencer & wife, Mimi Bull; and great-great-nephews, Lucas and Parker. Diane is also survived by her beloved cat, Bella. A devoted friend, sister, aunt, and cousin, Diane leaves behind countless loved ones who brought her immense joy. To name each one would fill the entire newspaper and more!

Dr. Diane Goltz received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service. In the words of former Secretary of Defense William Perry, "Dr. Goltz's contributions have significantly increased armed forces readiness through her innovative policies and programs that support military and civilian personnel and their families." Her work focused on vital areas, including adult education, the education of children, particularly those with disabilities, and the Defense Conversion process.

Among her many groundbreaking achievements, Dr. Goltz established the first education program for exceptional children, including gifted and talented individuals; the first military medically related services delivery system; the first formal mediation process for resolving educational disputes; the first Office of Continuing, Adult, and Postsecondary Education; and the first APEX Orientation.

In recognition of her distinguished career, Diane received numerous awards, including the Secretary of Defense Meritorious Service Medal, induction into the 1st Hot Springs School District's Hall of Fame, membership in the Phi Delta Kappa Educational Honor Society, the Experienced Teacher Fellowship, and an Educational Fellowship from the University of Oklahoma, where she also earned her PhD. Diane proudly identified as a "Boomer Sooner."

A graveside service will be held at 11 AM on Wednesday, June 11th, at the Jewish Rest Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Charity of one's choice.

Pallbearers are Mark Fleischner, Stuart Fleischner, E. Charles Jalenak, Christopher Coble, Cristian Navarette, Blaine Thacker, Gary Brown and David Alexander.

Honorary pallbearers are Dr. Timothy English & his nurses & staff, Dr. Fred Heinemann, Dr. Richard Braley, The Miami Bums, The Texas & Washington D.C. Hanukah Groups, The Baker Boys, President William "Bill" Jefferson Clinton.

Arrangements are by Hot Springs Funeral Home

Online condolences at [www.hotspringsfh.com](http://www.hotspringsfh.com)

## Cemetery Details

### **Jewish Rest Cemetery**

Hot Springs,, AR

## Previous Events

### **Graveside Service**

JUN **11**. 11:00 AM.

Jewish Rest Cemetery  
Hot Springs,, AR

# Tribute Wall

FB

“ *Freda Briscoe lit a candle in memory of Diane Goltz*



Freda Briscoe - September 06, 2025 at 04:16 PM

SM

“ *Diane adopted me as her "honorary little sister" when she visited Susie in Dallas. I loved and admired her greatly, and she will always be with me. Susie, I send my heartfelt sympathies to you. May her memories be a blessing. Sandy Miller*

Sandy Miller - July 19, 2025 at 02:01 PM

RN

“ *Sorry, Robert Nelson.*

Robert Nelson - June 21, 2025 at 10:50 AM

TN

“ *Did not know Diane as well as I would have liked to. The times I did see her(uptown st.)she was so kind and friendly to my entire family from the get go!Diane wanted to play golf with me on the Congressional, and I was embarrassed that I couldn't play well enough. My family will truly miss my friend Diane, I will be sad for a long time! Loved , love you Di!! Bob, Barbara,Josh, Jay.❤️❤️❤️❤️*



Tobert Nelson - June 21, 2025 at 10:46 AM

JS

“ *Diane knew how to improve the DoD school system for all students. When assigned to the HQ USAF staff, I contacted Diane to see if she knew of good, local programs in Special Education that my wife could apply to teach. She gave us sage advice and Joye taught in the Maryland system for the next 16 years. We'll light a candle in her memory. Jeff Short, HSHS Class of 1968*

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**Jeffrey Short** - June 12, 2025 at 12:50 PM

JP

“ *Ah, cousin Diane. Always a smile on her face, & complimentary words from her mouth. This is how I remember cousin Diane. She was a star in our family, everyone of us so proud of her & her many accomplishments.*  
*Hugs to cousin SuSu & family. My sincere condolences.*  
*Cousin*  
*Joy*

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**Joy Parker** - June 12, 2025 at 12:01 AM

RM

“ *Roseanne Mickens lit a candle in memory of Diane Goltz*



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**Roseanne Mickens** - June 11, 2025 at 03:37 PM

MB

“ Cousin Diane,

*Thank you for spreading so much love. We are forever grateful that you were able to attend our wedding in NYC.*

*We love and miss you already.*

— Michelle and Eddie

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**Michelle Brown** - June 11, 2025 at 03:02 PM

NB

“ *Memories to share would be plenty. Going back to our childhoods. Family, you know that. See you later this morning. Nancy Britt*

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**Nancy Britt** - June 11, 2025 at 09:01 AM

PT

“ *Diane - What a beautiful and glorious person! She was filled with God's love, joy, goodness, and peace which she shared with everyone she met. I have been blessed to have known Diane and her family since our childhood. She always called my parents, Mama Leeanna and Daddy Wes, and we were sisters. My parents and I left Hot Springs in 1956. Through God's grace, our families always remained close. During the past 40 years, our special sisters relationship grew stronger and we celebrated each others' milestone in life. My husband and children just adored her. Our home was her home and vice versa. I will miss her very much, her beautiful smile, her laughter, and the joy of just talking with her. Diane will always be in my heart ❤️*

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**Patricia (Curry) Trotman** - June 10, 2025 at 06:29 PM

BM

“ Condolences to her family. A life well-lived. May her memory be blessed.

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**Barbara L. Morgan** - June 10, 2025 at 09:26 AM

QH

“ Diane was such a smart, accomplished person, but her real asset was the way she treated people with kindness, respect, and compassion. When I would see her my spirit would always be lifted and I would feel a joy a comfort that I was fortunate to have her as a friend . I remember the respect my father had for her father and family and I am grateful I could call her a friend. My heart goes out to her wonderful family, and I pray 🙏 they find comfort and peace despite losing their wonderful Diane.

Q. Byrum Hurst

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**Q Hurst** - June 10, 2025 at 08:38 AM

GD

*Diane was very special to me for many years as one of my first classes to teach. She would later come visit and babysit my two little boys! Her family was always so kind to our family. After many years, she talked me in to filling out an application for DODDS, to teach Special needs children . What a great experience to live in GE for five years. Of course that wasn't enough for her so Dick and I went to Japan for 4 years. She encumbered me all the way , even doing 2 years in BE. Everywhere I went I heard how great Diane Goltz was. She will be really missed by all of us,*  
*Joan Gail Dameron*

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**Gail Dameron** - November 10, 2025 at 05:09 PM

M1

“ I graduated with Diane back in 1967. Does anyone remember what she made for the science fair in school. Probably not. She carved the foot bones out of soap. We would always be running into each other at Regions Oaklawn Bank, WalMart on Central or having breakfast at The English Muffin on Central Diane, my husband Jack and myself would always be laughing about our meetings. Sure will miss her. I had the pleasure of going to grade school, junior high and high school She always had a smile. Never said a bad thing about one.

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**Marilyn Jones Feimster Class of 1967** - June 10, 2025 at 07:52 AM

JL

“ Diane was a wonderful neighbor and a great friend. We will miss her tremendously. Caw caw from the old turkey.

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**Joe & Nancy Little** - June 09, 2025 at 07:58 PM

VM

*Dr. Dianne and I worked together at the Pentagon in the early 1980s sending the 1st contingent of Army Medical Specialists to Europe to support the Department of Defense Dependent Schools special education programs. The wisdom, camaraderie and collegiality Diane shared while working on this project greatly influenced the success of this mission. As a result of this pilot project the Exceptional Family Member Program for all military families has become standard operating procedure in military medicine today. I have been blessed knowing Diane on active duty and in retirement years. Her professionalism, passion for providing help and service to others, her positive attitude, progressive outlook on life and wonderful sense of humor were virtues we all should aspire to. She was truly a great role model. I'm very grateful for the time and opportunity I had to work (and play) with Diane over the years and to meet Diane's wonderful family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*COL Virginia Metcalf, Ret. Former Assistant Chief. Army Medical Specialist Corps, OTSG*

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**Virginia Metcalf** - June 10, 2025 at 01:53 PM

SK

*“ Many wonderful memories of the “little sister” growing up in Hot Springs with the “big sister “. A wonderful, intelligent, inspiring woman, Diane has always been an outstanding person and a dear friend. She will be missed and remembered with love by all who were lucky enough to have known her.*

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**Suzanne Klein** - June 09, 2025 at 05:18 PM

DY

*“ What a wonderful friend my heart is broken! Such a privilege to know Dr Diane. Sympathy to the family and friends sending big hugs and lots of love!*



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**DC & Steve Yearby** - June 09, 2025 at 01:26 PM