

2015 CORNERSTONE AWARDS

Mark Miller

Mr. Miller is receiving this award posthumously, in recognition of his dedication and service to Gahanna Lincoln High School.

After just four years outside the district, Mark Miller spent 28 years in the English classroom at Gahanna Lincoln High School.

Miller was dedicated to his students and sought to instill in them the ability to think critically. He also shared his love of literature and good writing, and served for many years as the chair of the English department. Students and colleagues alike reflected on his humor, kindness, and generosity.

During his tenure, students were able to take classes such as Honors English 9, British Literature, Broadcast Journalism, Advanced Placement Literature and the popular Classical Film Studies course. It was due to his love of the cinema (Miller was published in several film journals and multi-author books, and was an internationally-recognized film historian) that this course was created.

A recipient of the John Howard Award for Excellence in Education, Miller also advised the Anime Club upon student request. This provided a welcome niche for several students who might not have found another place to belong, and showed that he was available to all, at all times.

Miller was a long-standing member of the 'Lords of Literature,' an all-teacher rock band that got their start at a Battle of the Bands in the GLHS gymnasium. As the band's drummer, he called his drumming hobby a great way to reduce job stress and always enjoyed the camaraderie with his bandmates.

After his passing in Dec., 2014, many former students shared sentiments, such as, "Mr. Miller's influence in my life permeated beyond the classrooms walls of Gahanna Lincoln. He is uniquely responsible for my love of writing and literature." Others called his classes "the brightest spot of my day."

Miller earned a Bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and a Master's from Ashland University.