THE REVEREND WILLIAM L. MURPHY

The Reverend William L. Murphy, 68, of 3704 Commodore Point Court, Midlothian, died Wednesday, April 20 while golfing, his passion and his pastime, on the Outer Banks. He was on Hole No. 4, the prettiest hole of the course (because it overlooks the sound). He was close to the Bunker, but not in it and almost to the green. He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Lynn; and sisters, Joan Erwin and Sylvia Carr.

Father Murphy began His career as an elementary School teacher and principal in Lancaster, Ohio, where he was a member of St. John’s Church. He was working for the Ohio State Department of Education when he felt the call to the ministry at age 40. He graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary and in 1983 became the priest at St. Francis Church in Rutherfordton, N.C., where he spent 15 very rewarding and happy years. Since retiring in 1998 and moving to the Richmond, Virginia area, he found great joy and satisfaction in serving as supply clergy to many churches and as interim rector at Christ Ascension Church, Richmond, All Saints, South Hill, and St. John’s Chester.

Father Murphy often attended St. Michael’s At 501 Old Town Drive, Colonial Heights, Va., 23834, where a service to celebrate his life will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, followed by reception for everyone. The family will welcome friends at 3 p.m. in the parish hall prior to the service. Because he felt death was a new beginning, please come with sense of joy and wear bright colors as a tribute to his memory. He leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion. His teddy bear hugs will be missed by many. In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to the St. Michael’s Kitchen Renovation Fund or to their Altar Guild Fund. An interment service will be held at St. Francis Church, Rutherfordton N.C. on May 14 at 11 a.m.