



## Carl W. Bedwell, Jr.

April 11, 1945 - November 17, 2023

On Friday, November 17, 2023, Carl W. Bedwell, Jr., surrounded by loved ones, passed away at Piedmont Newnan Hospital. He was 78 years old. Born and raised in Atlanta, he was the only child of Carl W. Bedwell, Sr. and Vera Edwards Bedwell.

At O'Keefe High School, he played basketball, was drum major of the band, and co-president of his senior class.

Attending the University of Georgia, he focused on what would become one of the loves of his life, music.

At UGA, he majored in Music Education and was a member and band captain of the Georgia Redcoat Band. He was also a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

After graduating from UGA, he joined the army and was a member of the US 3rd Army Band stationed at Fort McPherson. There he played the herald trumpet and was the drum major.

During a thirty-five-year career in music education, he was the band director at Southwest High School, Palmetto High School, and McIntosh High School. He also completed his Master's in Music Education and was a member of the Phi Beta Mu National Bandmasters Fraternity.

In addition to his love of all kinds of music, he enjoyed his cats, Ellie and Ollie, traveling, classic cars, model trains, and DIY projects around the house. He further enjoyed being a life-long supporter of the Georgia Bulldogs, being a season ticket holder for over 30 years. Furthermore, he and his wife enjoyed visiting their condo on Tybee Island, where they could relax from their busy life.

He is survived by his loving wife of fifty-three years, Cheryl York Bedwell.

A funeral service will be held Monday, November 20, 2023, at 11 o'clock in the Chapel of Parrott Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Mountain View Park Cemetery in Marietta. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory, 770-964-4800.

# Cemetery Details

## Mountain View Park Cemetery

410 Whitlock Avenue NW  
Marietta, GA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory  
8355 Senoia Road  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
(770) 964-4800  
info@parrottfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.parrottfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

NOV 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory  
8355 Senoia Road  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Parrott Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Carl W. Bedwell, Jr.*



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**Parrott Funeral Home** - November 20, 2023 at 08:35 AM

WT

“ *I'm so sorry for your family's loss. Prayers of comfort for all of them. Some of my band memories with Mr. Bedwell as the director at MHS are my fondest. Most of very best friends were my bandmates. Thank you for your leadership of some great experiences.*  
*Wendy Williams Taylor*

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**Wendy Taylor** - November 23, 2023 at 03:06 PM

BW

“ *Having Carl as the Band leader at Palmetto H.S. was a gift from God. My 3 children were under his leadership of the band. Carl became a good friend of mine, as he had me preach the funerals of his mom and dad. My family still laugh at "His laugh". Cheryl, please know that I did not know this news until today (11/21) Jeannine and I, and my family love you all.*

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**Buddy Waldron** - November 21, 2023 at 08:55 AM

MM

“ *Mr. Bedwell was, hands down, the most important not-related-to-me adult in my adolescent life. He made the band a home. He is the teacher I most hope I emulate in my own teaching.*

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**Mindy Gilbert Makant** - November 20, 2023 at 09:40 PM

WL

“ *Mr Bedwell was my high school band director and one of my favorite teachers. I cherish the memories of him leading the McIntosh band....band camp, concerts, marching competitions, the way he allowed the band room to be our "home" in school where we would gather with friends before school and at lunchtime. Thank you "Chief" and God bless.*

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**Wendy Little** - November 20, 2023 at 05:22 PM

PS

“ *What an incredible human being! He gave so many young people the gift of music. I am thankful you were in my family's lives.*

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**Patricia Shontz** - November 20, 2023 at 02:16 PM

DW

“ *I was one of the McIntosh band kids that had the pleasure of learning from Carl. We all felt like he was like a father to us, loving us and teaching us. Even in the 4 decades since then, we all agree he had one of the biggest impacts on who we became. Thank you for all the fond memories, good times, and music we shared. (I still can see him laugh - with his shoulders moving up and down) ❤️❤️*

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**Doug Williford** - November 20, 2023 at 02:15 PM

JB

“ *Mr. Bedwell was one of my favorite teachers throughout my high school years. The halftime shows, festivals, concerts, and parades all led to a deeper appreciation of music.*

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**Jim Brady** - November 20, 2023 at 09:57 AM

PW

“ *Mr. Bidwell had a huge impact on my life. My years as Drum Major of the Palmetto High School Raider Band were amazing! I will always reflect on those years with the best of memories!*

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**Patricia Willey** - November 19, 2023 at 11:07 PM

TC

“ *Deepest condolences to the family from Tom Cantrell and Lavon Caldwell Cantrell, classmates of Carl's at O'Keefe High School and co-graduates, Class of 1963. He was delightful to know, very friendly and always smiling.*



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**Tom & Lavon Cantrell** - November 19, 2023 at 10:14 PM

MH

*With deepest sympathy to Carl's family from Mary Ann Gassaway Haney, Home Park Elementary and O' Keefe classmate. We were in many grades together at Home Park and graduated from O'Keefe. He had such a love of music and played trumpet in the band at Home Park. Carl was such a nice person, always friendly and kind to all.*

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**Mary Haney** - November 19, 2023 at 11:23 PM

SB

“ Mrs Bedwell (so hard to call you Cheryl!), Sincere condolences sent from the Baldauf family. Carl, of course, was such an example to our children. I always loved the stories and excitement Julie and her friends exhibited after practicing and being involved with the band in anyway. As a parent I was so grateful for his leadership and influence on my child’s life. You, of course were right there helping with Julie’s oboe lessons! Love to all of you from our family. Sandy Baldauf-Boda

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**Sandra Baldauf-Boda** - November 19, 2023 at 08:54 PM

NE

“ He was one of my favorite teachers, a great leader and example for us all and part of so many of my happiest memories from high school.

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**Nikki (Heise) Evans** - November 19, 2023 at 08:00 PM

KJ

“ Great band director and a better Teacher. Lots of great memories doing parades and festivals. Made a positive impact in my young life and I'm sure many others.

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**K Janda** - November 19, 2023 at 07:22 PM

PH

“ I loved Mr. Bedwell as a band director. He gave me the love of marching band. I encouraged my kids to do marching band and 3 out 4 them had done it. My youngest isn’t high school age yet.

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**Paige Hinton** - November 19, 2023 at 03:58 PM

KS

“ *Mr. B had such a profound impact on my life. He showed me hard work and practice could be fun and rewarding, and the community he fostered at MHS shaped me to this very day. I’m so fortunate he entered my life and all of our lives at MHS.*

Kirby Spivey - November 19, 2023 at 01:37 PM

KV

“ *Mr. Bedwell was the best of the best. He was kind, patient and certainly encouraged us all to excel to our top performance. Music was a wonderful way to teach that you get what you strive for and our band was top of the list. I have an album that we made while he was directing. Yes sir he was one FINE band director and he had a heart of pure gold. He really cared about each and every one of his students. My sincerely sympathy to his family as I know you will surely miss him terribly.*



Karen Bradley Villano - November 18, 2023 at 09:36 PM

NM

“ *Mr. Bedwell was a great band director. I was always amazed at his talent to figure out our Friday night halftime routine. He will be missed.*

Nan McGuffey - November 18, 2023 at 09:19 PM

BH

“ *The most awesome band director a girl could have! My best high school memories had Mr. Bedwell right in the middle. By the way, it really wasn't me that rolled your yard that time, promise! Love you, Mr. Bedwell!*

Beth Merritt Hardaker - November 18, 2023 at 05:44 PM

WS

“ Great man, great band director. He was my band director at Palmetto High School from 1974-1978.

Warren Smith - November 18, 2023 at 04:34 PM



“ Rose Tribute was purchased for the family of Carl W. Bedwell, Jr..



November 18, 2023 at 11:57 AM

CF

“ Craig, Susanna & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carl W. Bedwell, Jr..

Craig, Susanna & Family - November 18, 2023 at 11:57 AM