



Granville Newton Rainey, Jr. (Buddy)

February 1, 1933 - May 20, 2025

Granville Newton Rainey Jr. (Buddy) passed away Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

Mr. Rainey was preceded in death by: his father and mother, Rev. and Mrs. G. N. Rainey, Sr; five sisters: Emolyn R. Mount, Elizabeth R. Certain, Martha R. Thorne, Ann R. Erwin, and Sue R. Harris.

He is survived by the following; his wife of 66 years, Judy J. Rainey; three children: Morris Rainey (Marcia), Karyl R. Harris (Jimmy), and Thomas Rainey (Sarah); Grandchildren: Megan R. King (Will), Jamie H. Kahl (Matthew), Joshua Harris (Cassandra), Katlyn H. Williams (Ryan), Molly Rainey, Emma Rainey; Great-grandchildren: Carolyn Kahl, Jeffrey Kahl, Ella Frances Harris, Hayes Harris, McKenna Williams; Sister-in-law: Jennifer Hadwin, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Buddy was born on February 1, 1933 into a Methodist parsonage family. He thereafter lived in the following towns: Savannah, Statesboro, Columbus, Waycross, Cairo, Fort Valley, and Macon.

Buddy graduated from Cairo High School in 1950. He attended Emory College at Oxford (Emory at Oxford). He was then drafted into the Army and spent three years-one in school in Fort Deven, MA and then two years on Okinawa in the ASA.

He returned from the military and attended Georgia Teachers College (now Georgia Southern). He graduated in 1958 with a BS degree in Education. He was hired to come to Albany to teach at Albany Junior High School. He was first a teacher, then a Guidance Counselor, then an Elementary School Principal, and spent his last years as an Administrative Assistant and retired after 34 years of service in 1992.

Buddy and Judy were married in 1958 just before he reported to work for the Dougherty County school system.

He was an active member of the First Methodist Church, Albany, Ga. for 66 years, choir member, usher, Young-At-Heart coordinator, and many other positions of service to all he met.

Special thanks to the Care-Givers: Renita Shorter, Deloris Bolden, Phyllis Williams, Babette Willingham, Lenora Hicks, and Shirley Nixon who provided loving assistance.

Memorials to Albany First Methodist Camp Kirksey or the Altar Fund.

Celebration of Life Service will be Saturday, May 24, 2025 at 2 pm at Albany First Methodist Church, Walden Chapel, with visitation beginning at 1 pm.

You may sign the online guestbook at www.kimbrellstern.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 24. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Walden Chapel at First Methodist Church
307 Flint Ave.
Albany
Albany, GA 31701

Celebration of Life

MAY 24. 2:00 PM (ET)

Walden Chapel at First Methodist Church
307 Flint Ave.
Albany
Albany, GA 31701

Tribute Wall

GR

“ *Morris and family, sorry for your loss, he was a great guy, God bless you all during this difficult time,*

greg rowe - May 26, 2025 at 08:03 AM

AB

“ *Thinking of the Rainey family during this time and lifting you up in prayer. So grateful for Buddy Rainey and his wife Judy along with particularly, one of my best friends, Karyl. They showed love beyond measure for God and their church as well as their family. Their home was filled with such love and offered a welcome and nurturing spot for me when needed. I wish I could be there with you to express this in person, but I am not able to at this time. Thankful for each of you and continuing to pray for you during this time.*

Anne Marie Bishop - May 24, 2025 at 12:48 PM

CI

“ *Cindy,Cathy,Jennie,Melissa,Libby planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Granville Newton Rainey, Jr. (Buddy).*

Cindy,Cathy,Jennie,Melissa,Libby - May 22, 2025 at 09:27 PM

CI

“ *Cindy,Cathy,Jennie,Melissa,Libby purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Granville Newton Rainey, Jr. (Buddy).*



Cindy,Cathy,Jennie,Melissa,Libby - May 22, 2025 at 09:27 PM

RG

“ *What a Godly man. Served in the church and made a difference in so many lives. What a great family!!! Love and prayers to you all.*

Rob Grotheer - May 22, 2025 at 08:12 PM



“ *Lit a candle  in Remembrance*



Elena Taylor - May 22, 2025 at 12:37 PM

NJ

“ *On a Sunday in 1958 Buddy and Judy just moving to Albany were looking for a church. They visited the Methodist church down town in Albany, Paul and I met them and asked them to have lunch with us, /After church we drove to Lake Blackshire and enjoyed lunch together at a restaurant.on the shore of the Lake This was the beginning of a beautiful friendship lasting for 66 years. A wonderful couple. Their friendship ia one I treasure.. My prayers and thoughts are with you at this time. Buddy will be missed by so many and especially by me. Sending love*

Nan Jones - May 22, 2025 at 07:49 AM

AC

Judy, I met you at N'side and later Buddy during his last position w DCSS...may you and your family feel the beautiful undercurrent of His Peace!!! Blessings abound in every circumstance and you will be able to celebrate Buddy's life, knowing he is saving you a place at Jesus' feet!!

Annlies Cato

Annlies Cato - May 24, 2025 at 01:02 PM

LT

“ Buddy, a fine Christian, Husband, Father, Grandfather, great Grandfather, Teacher, Principal, Neighbor, Friend, just an awesome man who loved God, His church and serving in many ways through life! I had the honor to be his neighbor for about 20 years. His home and yard were the gathering place for neighborhood kids who saw in action how a Godly man heads his household. Mine included. Sad to lose him but he is resting now in the arms of Jesus in the presence of God Almighty! Love you Buddy, Judy and your precious family! You were family to me and mine! See you!

Linda Taylor - May 21, 2025 at 10:29 PM

JM

“ Mr Buddy was a fine man! He was a wonderful neighbor also for many years. We are so sorry to hear of his passing. Kim and Joan Morris

Joan W Morris - May 21, 2025 at 06:40 PM

NR

“ Buddy was certainly the Lord's servant. I am proud to have called him my friend and colleague. Love to all.

Nancy Reimer - May 21, 2025 at 03:52 PM

TC

“ The Windrift Crew planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Granville Newton Rainey, Jr. (Buddy).

The Windrift Crew - May 21, 2025 at 11:49 AM

TC

“ *The Windrift Crew purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Granville Newton Rainey, Jr. (Buddy).*



The Windrift Crew - May 21, 2025 at 11:49 AM