



Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles

April 9, 1938 - September 12, 2024

Jimmie Fred Bowles was born on April 9th, 1938 in LaGrange, Georgia and passed away on September 12th in Albany.

His funeral service will be held Monday 2:00PM at First Presbyterian Church in Albany with interment to follow at Crown Hill Cemetery. Rev Josh Bower will be officiating. The family will receive friends Monday from 12:30PM to 2:00PM at the Church.

While a student at LaGrange College, he worked changing the reels at the local theater. It was during this time that he met the love of his life and wife of 64 years, Claire. "Freddie" as Claire calls him used to sneak out of the back window of the classroom to sit on a bench and talk with her. He also earned his Masters in Education from Georgia Southern.

While living in Albany, he was a long time member of First Presbyterian.

A career educator Fred retired from the Dougherty County School system as assistant superintendent, touching countless lives in his 38 year career.

Family was the most important thing to him and perhaps his favorite title was "Bop" a name given to him by his oldest grandson.

Holidays at Bop's house were always special whether it his annual 4th of July

party or Christmas, Bop believed that everyone should be invited and feel included.

He will continue to live on through the lives he touched and the memories he made with those he cared about most.

He is preceded in death by his parents Willis and Mary Bowles. Sister-in-law Camille Haynes.

He is survived by his loving wife of 64 Years, Claire Bowles. Children Leigh Hart (Thomas), Bruce (Yvette). Grandchildren Jaye (Amanda), Josh (Amanda), Joey (Jamie), Sterling (Leah) and Tara (Duke). Great-Grandchildren Hudson, Levi, Maevry, Judah, Tanner, Truett, Jones and David. Sister Faye Hood, Canton, GA. Brother Frank Bowles St. Louis, MO

Those wishing to watch the live stream can go to First Presbyterian Church of Albany's Facebook page.

Cemetery Details

Crown Hill Cemetery

1907 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **16**. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
220 N. Jackson St.
Albany, GA 31701

Funeral Service

SEP **16**. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
220 N. Jackson St.
Albany, GA 31701

Tribute Wall



“ *Best principle ever. Condolences to the family, friends and students all inspired by such a wonderful soul. He will be greatly missed. AHS c/o '91. 🤝💚*

Linda Witherspoon - September 18, 2024 at 09:08 PM



“ *Dear Mrs. Bowles and Family,*

I was deeply saddened to hear of Mr. Fred Bowles' passing. He was a remarkable principal at Radium Springs Jr. High School and his leadership left a lasting impression on so many, including myself. My father, who coached during that time, always spoke highly of Mr. Bowles, and I grew to respect and admire him immensely.

Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. He will be truly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

With heartfelt condolences

Michael McGhee - September 18, 2024 at 12:50 PM



“ *Comfort, to you, the family of your deceased loved one. He was truly a man of courage, integrity, compassion, humility, justice, humor and joy.*

Mrs. R. H. Gaiter

Mrs. R. H. Gaiter - September 16, 2024 at 03:33 PM

RR

“ We are saddened by the passing of Mr. Bowles.. We have known Fred over the years as a parent, teacher, principal, and a little league coach. As principal of Albany High School he led the faculty and students with integrity and fun. It was a joy to work under this leadership. Prayers for Claire, Bruce and Leigh.



The Reid Family -
Herman & Rebecca Reid
Michael Reid
Michele Reid-Vasquez
Mabel Reid
Maurice Reid

Rebecca Reid - September 16, 2024 at 01:25 PM

GM

The late Dr.Bobby McGhee and Family extends our condolences to the Family. 🙏

Gwen McGhee - September 16, 2024 at 05:29 PM

FH

“ From Shirley and Hans purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



From Shirley and Hans - September 16, 2024 at 09:45 AM

MG

“ Mark and Chiree Gordon purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Mark and Chiree Gordon - September 16, 2024 at 08:59 AM

MG

“ Mark and Chiree Gordon planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

Mark and Chiree Gordon - September 16, 2024 at 08:59 AM

JH

“ Jeanne Herring purchased the *Florist Choice Bouquet* for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Jeanne Herring - September 15, 2024 at 02:01 PM

JL

“ James Richard Lilly purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



James Richard Lilly - September 15, 2024 at 01:51 PM

JL

“ James Richard Lilly planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

James Richard Lilly - September 15, 2024 at 01:51 PM

DC

“ Dr. C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

Dr. C. - September 15, 2024 at 01:38 PM

GP

“ My sincere condolences to the family!

Gena Pace - September 15, 2024 at 09:15 AM

RK

My condolences to the family of Mr. Fred

Ronald King - September 15, 2024 at 11:28 AM

JS

“ Claire, I am so sorry for your loss. Fred was one of a kind. He will be missed.

Jean Satterfield - September 15, 2024 at 02:44 AM

KG

“ He was my principal at Radium Springs Junior High School in the late 70's, early 80's. He was my friend's Dad and eventually he hired me for my first teaching position at Albany High School and became my boss! He was terrific at all three positions in my life. He made me love being a student and a teacher. I adored him deeply. He gave me a beginning into a career I cherished . Rest in Peace, Mr. Bowles! You were one of a kind! ❤️❤️❤️ Bruce, I'm so sorry!

Kim Barthelemy Goodsin - September 14, 2024 at 08:22 PM

JT

“ JoAnne Taylor purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



JoAnne Taylor - September 14, 2024 at 05:41 PM

JT

“ JoAnne Taylor planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

JoAnne Taylor - September 14, 2024 at 05:41 PM

LR

“ Logsdons, Cameron's and Otts, and the Rieck's purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Logsdons, Cameron's and Otts, and the Rieck's - September 14, 2024 at 01:21 PM

JB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
What a wonderful man! He will be missed.
May his memory be a blessing to all.
Love, Janie & Bruce Bitterman



Janie Friedman Bitterman - September 13, 2024 at 05:11 PM

LF

“ Love, Peggy and Cindy (Gatlin) & fams
purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the
family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Love, Peggy and Cindy (Gatlin) & fams - September 13, 2024
at 03:05 PM

RT

“ Rory Mary Emma T Sarah G Torbett purchased
the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Mr.
Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Rory Mary Emma T Sarah G Torbett - September 13, 2024 at
01:53 PM

RT

“ Rory Mary Emma T Sarah G Torbett planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in
honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

Rory Mary Emma T Sarah G Torbett - September 13, 2024 at 01:53 PM

SD

“ Sharon and Don purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Sharon and Don - September 13, 2024 at 01:05 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



September 13, 2024 at 12:19 PM

RM

“ Raymond M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

Raymond M. - September 13, 2024 at 12:19 PM

JS

“ One of the greatest friends I have ever had. Fred was the best friend and neighbor anyone could ever have. Always brought joy to everyone! You will never be forgotten. I was blessed to have had you in my life truly a remarkable gentleman and friend. I will always remember all our fun times with you and Claire. You all are family to me. May you rest in peace until we meet again ❤️. Jean Shiver

Jean Shiver - September 13, 2024 at 09:58 AM

JE

“ I loved Fred as a friend and always enjoyed being in his company A great man who will be greatly missed

Jim Ervin - September 13, 2024 at 09:31 AM

PS

“ Pat and Reni Schutte purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.



Pat and Reni Schutte - September 13, 2024 at 09:26 AM

PS

“ Pat and Reni Schutte planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

Pat and Reni Schutte - September 13, 2024 at 09:26 AM

JE

“ Oh dear sweet man! I will miss you so much! When we found out we had the same birthday's, my mom used to bring a cake in the office for us both! I worked in the office during 6th period! You will never be forgotten, I will always be thinking of how you took me under your wing and showed me how to stay focused on "my job" ! Love you and prayers will continue! April 9th!!!!

Judy Enzmann - September 13, 2024 at 09:22 AM

ML

“ *Mr And Mrs Allen Land lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles*



Mr and Mrs Allen Land - September 13, 2024 at 09:15 AM

ST

“ *I was in his home room class in the first years of DHS. He was a blast, one of the best people I remember from my high school days. Never left anyone out of a conversation and friendly to all. I'm sure he'll be missed by his friends and family. Prayer to his family. Fly high Coach Bowles. Hope to see you again some day soon.*

Starr Hamlin Tryoff - September 13, 2024 at 08:05 AM

ST

I was Starr Hamlin in school.

Starr Hamlin Tryoff - September 13, 2024 at 08:15 AM

TM

“ *Mr bowles my Ole principal I always liked you but won't ever forget that wooden paddle you and rosco use to tear my butt up with lol r.i.p Ole bud*

Tracy mcdonald - September 13, 2024 at 07:39 AM

TB

“ *Best principal ever! What a blessing he was to his students* ❤️🙏

T. Bryant - September 13, 2024 at 06:21 AM

SS

“ Ahhhh, Mr. Bowles!!!! My reprimander, my principle, my guide and my friend - in that order. Mr. Bowles was one of the good ones for sure!!!! He could show you the way - sternly if necessary and at the end of the day you understood the lesson and respected him for it. We forged our friendship from the initial end of a paddle to what grew into a mutually respected bond spanning almost 40 years. When crossing paths through the years we always stopped to catch up. I was proud to call Mr. Bowles a friend and mentor and he was proud of what he had helped to shape. Rest in peace my friend, your work here is done!!!! I look forward to when we meet again!!!!

Sam Shugart - September 13, 2024 at 04:37 AM

BE

“ Ms. Claire and family I am so so sorry to hear about Mr.Fred you will be in my thoughts and prayers. Beth Blaylock Rouse



Beth - September 13, 2024 at 12:05 AM

L(

“ Lynn Hart (Cox) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles



Lynn Hart (Cox) - September 12, 2024 at 10:49 PM

PG

“ *Mr. Bowles was the principal at Radium Junior High where I taught Georgia History. It was the happiest years in my teaching career. Prayers to Claire, Bruce and Leigh.*
Patty Gerst

Patty Gerst - September 12, 2024 at 10:29 PM

PH

“ *Pam Hill lit a candle in memory of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles*



Pam Hill - September 12, 2024 at 10:16 PM

JR

“ *Mr. Bowles gave me my first job as a band director at Radium Springs in July 1981! I am an Auburn graduate and he loved Bear Bryant and Alabama Crimson Tide! We had a blast teasing each other! He supported his teachers and protected us all from parents who wanted to complain and intimidate us! He was truly magnificent! Thank you Fred and Claire for helping me get my teaching career started! I'm now in year #44!!!!*

Jeffrey Rowser - September 12, 2024 at 09:20 PM

JC

“ *Jace C. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.*



Jace C. - September 12, 2024 at 07:14 PM

JC

“ Jace C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.

Jace C. - September 12, 2024 at 07:14 PM

MR

“ I had Mr Bowles when he first started teaching at Dougherty Jr. high he was a great teacher though a lot of him

Mildred Clark Raper - September 12, 2024 at 06:57 PM

PB

“ I was a student at Dougherty High school many moons ago. I loved Mr. Bowls.He was such a nice man. We saw him not long ago at Harvest Moon and had a wonderful conversation . My condolences to his family and friends. Rest Easy Mr. Bowls!🙏

Paula J. Basko - September 12, 2024 at 06:14 PM

KS

“ I remember Mr Bowls when he was my principal at Radium Middle school and attending the same church with my grandparents. So sorry to hear of your passing!! You touched a lot of young lives and we are so grateful to have known you!!🙏😭

katherine snelson - September 12, 2024 at 06:13 PM

KS

Mr Bowls knew me as Katie Thames.

katherine snelson - September 12, 2024 at 06:14 PM

TK

“ *Tamie, Chip, Greg, Mike, Kathy and Kurt purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mr. Jimmie Fred Bowles.*



Tamie, Chip, Greg, Mike, Kathy and Kurt. - September 12, 2024 at 06:05 PM

CL

“ *My deepest sympathy for your loss. Mr Bowles was a wonderful man. I attended Radium Springs Jr high while he was principal.*



Connie Lundy - September 12, 2024 at 05:21 PM

PM

“ *I was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Fred Bowles. A great man, an amazing educator, a loving husband, tather and grand father, he will always be remembered by so many, whose lives were influenced by Fred Bowles.
My sincere prayers and sympathy to the family of Fred....most especially for his loving wife, Claire.*

Patsy Mrtin - September 12, 2024 at 02:44 PM

DC

Fred Bowles was my boss at Radium Springs Jr. High.

He was a great leader and was loved by faculty and students alike.

I have so many fond memories of this truly fine man. He used humor to work with s brain new teacher.

He was firm yet fair.

I am thankful Fred Bowles crossed my path many years ago.

I am a better person because of my association with him.

Dan Carter - September 12, 2024 at 04:57 PM

SW

Mr. Bowles was such a wonderful principal & boss. I am so thankful that I had the pleasure of teaching at Radium Springs Middle School when he was there. Everyone loved & respected Mr. Bowles (teachers & students). Sheila Whitfield

Sheila Whitfield - September 12, 2024 at 08:39 PM

CW

Fred was firm and fun! A teacher, leader and friend to many of us and our children. He shared our triumphants and sorrow. .. taught us to laugh at ourselves but to be accountable. Our world was a better place because he shared his humor and love! Thanks for all the memories J. Fred Bowles.

Carol Inlow Wiggins - September 12, 2024 at 10:00 PM

WB

Many fond memories of Mr. Bowles! He made really significant impact on many young people and was a good friend, and later on a deeply respected colleague. My prayers are with Mrs. Claire, Leigh, Bruce and all of the family.

Walter Burgess - September 13, 2024 at 08:32 AM

PD

There aren't enough words to describe what Fred Bowles meant to the Craver family! I am the youngest of 7 children and I think Coach Bowles either taught or coached all of us! He also worked with our mother at RSJH. He had such an impact on my family and we are all better humans for having known him! I went to school with his daughter, Leigh and many years later, my two daughters (Kaley & Kari Duffy) and I had the privilege of knowing his son, Bruce, when they were students at Westover High and Bruce was an Asst. Principal. My prayers are with Ms. Claire, Leigh, Bruce and all of the Bowles family. I pray you find comfort in knowing how much Coach meant to this community and everyone that had the absolute honor of knowing and loving him!

Patti Craver Duncan - September 13, 2024 at 08:58 AM

DH

Fred Bowles was one of a kind. He first of all loved his wife and family. His love for children made him the kind of man we all loved. Fred, I will truly miss you. You help make me what I have become today. Your kind and big heart; your crazy smile. I will always remember how you taught me to become a proud and strong administrator. I pray we have more educators like you that put children first. God bless you my friend.

*Your Assistant Principal
At Albany High School*

Dr. Carolyn Hand - September 15, 2024 at 01:51 PM

TH

"Mr" Bowles and I go back to the 60's. I keep noticing fun in the remarks about him, and THAT he was. I had the pleasure of knowing him when he started his career in Harris County, and he truly made learning fun. He was an incredible teacher and a friend to all of his students. Tedeedra Healy

Tedeedra Healy - September 16, 2024 at 12:01 PM



My condolences go out to the Bowles family. Mr. Bowles was my principal at RSJH school & he was a great leader. Felecia Lewis Thomas

Felecia Thomas - September 18, 2024 at 06:58 PM