



## Mr. William "Bill" Bailey Rowden Sr.

April 28, 1927 - January 17, 2017

William Bailey Rowden Senior, of Albany, Georgia, died Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at Pruitt Healthcare in Albany. A funeral service will be held for Mr. Rowden on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 1 PM at Beattie Road Church of Christ, 1731 Beattie Rd, Albany, GA, 31721.

Bob Templin, Bobby Templin, Robin Watson, George Drain, Jerry Weldon, and Eddie Garcia will be speaking at the Funeral.

The family will receive friends for visitation at 11:30 AM prior to the service at 1:00 PM.

Bill Rowden, born in Decatur, Alabama went through life with many careers. Following high school Bill served in the US Army. Returning to Decatur, he worked as a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service before moving to Florida where he began a varied and successful career in sales. The citrus industry in Lakeland, Florida; the Playtex Company and later Wolverine Copper tubing all benefitted from Bill's skills. In 1967 Bill moved his wife, Jane and son, Bill Jr to Albany, GA. He opened "Rowdy's BBQ" with 2 locations, one in East and one in West Albany. Later in life he was the Club Manager of Sherwood Golf and Country Club in Albany. He was truly a jack of all trades.

In the late 70's he finally found his calling. Because of his love for the Church, South Georgia Missions was established by way of his large involvement with prison ministry. Bill traveled the southeast and raised money to build predominately African American Churches in South Georgia. When the money

was raised, the minister was hired and the construction and growth began until self-supported. He continued this throughout his life. Many great people and souls were reached in this 40 year endeavor.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Ethel Kelly Rowden and his brother Jimmy Rowden. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Sara Jane Andrews Rowden and son, Bill Jr.

To share a memory with The Rowden Family or to sign in our online guest book, please visit: [www.kimbrellstern.com](http://www.kimbrellstern.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Crown Hill Cemetery

1907 Dawson Rd.  
Albany, GA 31707

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 21. 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Beattie Road Church of Christ  
1731 Beattie Rd  
Albany, GA 31721

## Funeral Service

JAN 21. 1:00 PM (ET)

Beattie Road Church of Christ  
1731 Beattie Rd  
Albany, GA 31721

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. William "Bill" Bailey Rowden Sr.*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. William "Bill" Bailey Rowden Sr.*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. William "Bill" Bailey Rowden Sr.*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Jane & Bill - I am sorry that I did not get to see you last week and Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss -- I have some great memories of Bill and Sherwood CC - what a wonderful time to have shared with Bill - Life seems to put space between s those memories but I have not forgotten them Jimmy Taylor*

**Jimmy Taylr** - January 23, 2017 at 02:51 PM



“ *EDISON Church of Christ purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Mr. William "Bill" Bailey Rowden Sr. .*



**EDISON Church of Christ** - January 21, 2017 at 10:21 AM

JP

“ Jane and Bill "Jr",  
I am so sorry for this world's loss of Bill and his love for all things God created. I am also sorry that I cannot get to Georgia again in time for the funeral but I know you are surrounded by God's family there and that Bill is surrounded now by his eternal family - waiting for us to join with the chorus. What could be better than that? Love to you both and Jane, I will try to come up again soon.  
Judi (Miller) Pinch



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**Judi Pinch** - January 21, 2017 at 09:27 AM



“ Mr Bill & Mrs Jane are two of the most wonderful people Chris & I ever met. We are so blessed to have them for our neighborhoods for the last six years. Mr. Bill always had nothing but nice words for everyone he met, a smile on his face at all times, and a love for God & Nature rarely seen these days. Mr Bill loved Mrs Jane so much & often told me how she was the love of his life while sitting at the table in his favorite place, their sun room. Mr Bill, you will be missed but we will see you again in Paradise. God bless Mr Bill & his wonderful family.



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**Jody Smith** - January 20, 2017 at 09:04 PM

AD

“ I WILL GREATLY MISS BROTHER BILL. YOU ALL ARE IN MY PRAYERS. LOVE, AMANDA DOWDELL.

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**AMANDA DOWDELL** - January 20, 2017 at 04:18 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. William "Bill" Bailey Rowden Sr. .*



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January 20, 2017 at 11:55 AM



“ *Jane, I am sorry for your loss of Bill. You are in my prayers and thoughts. Stay focused on our Lord and let Him fill the void in your life. I love you.*  
*Sandy Wilson Ellis*

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**Sandy W. Ellis** - January 20, 2017 at 11:32 AM



“ *I was so saddened to hear of Bro. Bill's passing. He and Jane were so special to me and my family. Bill and Jane were long time friends of my grandmother Jean Humphrey. When I accepted Christ and was ready to be baptized I was terrified to do it in front of a whole church full of folks. Bill, Jane, Joedy Putnal, and Jerry Whitemire met me on a Staurday, in fact it was Feb 24, 2001, to counsel me, pray with me, and baptize me. Ms Jane helped me prepare in the back and Bill lead the singing of hymns while everyone waited. I have never met finer people than Bill and Jane Rowden! Much love to Ms Jane and Bill Jr. Keeping you in prayer for peace and comfort as only our heavenly Father can provide.*

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**Yvonda Humphrey Mann** - January 20, 2017 at 08:33 AM

CT

“ I'm sorry to hear about the passing of Bro Bill. I've had many fun time with a great missionary. He introduced me to the greatest game ever played. God bless his family! Bro. Curtis

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**Curtis Tinson** - January 20, 2017 at 07:03 AM

ME

“ Bill Rowden was the finest man I have ever known. He was the friend of so many and a champion of the down trodden, the marginalized, the poor and incarcerated. He never met a stranger. He was just as at home teaching a Bible lesson at a small prison gathering as he was enjoying a round of golf with a group of his golfing buddies. Bill was a tireless worker for the Lord. His "motor" never quit. He was as gentle, kind, and compassionate as any man and more fun-loving than most. He was the life of the party wherever he went. He introduced me to my beautiful wife Cindy 34 years ago, performed our wedding ceremony 30 years ago this April, and was my best friend. They say you can learn a lot about a fellow by playing a round of golf with him. Well I played hundreds of rounds with Bill over the years and I never saw him lose his temper even one time. I look forward to being with my friend in the life to come and teeing it up again. I imagine Bill saying as we are about to tee-off, " I'm feeling kind of stiff today, I'll probably blow up and shoot 80."

*Jane and Bill Jr. you are in our prayers.*

*Love you,*

*Monty and Cindy Eason*

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**Monty Eason** - January 19, 2017 at 07:23 PM

BA

“ Both Melba and I recall times spent with Bill and Jane. Their dedication to the Lord was evident through conversation and through the amount of time spent traveling to raise funds for establishing congregations throughout Georgia. Our visits with them from time to time were both hilarious, at times, as well as inspirational. The words of the apostle John fit well.

*"then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, ' Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' Yes says the Spirit,'That they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."*

*God bless Bob and Melba*

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**Bob and Melba Abne** - January 19, 2017 at 06:21 PM



“ On behalf of the Food & Beverage Culinary Staff at Spanish Trail Country Club we extend our deepest Condolences to Mr. Bill Rowden and your mother Sara along with other family and friend. Your are in our Prayers.

*Spanish Trail Country Club  
Executive Chef Albert D. Washington*

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**Albert Washington** - January 19, 2017 at 03:02 PM