



Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell

June 25, 1925 - April 13, 2022

Bryan Livingston Blackwell went home to meet his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 in Florence, SC at 96 years of age. Born in Hartsville, South Carolina on June 25, 1925, he was the son of Barney Edward Blackwell and Maggie Lee Rogers Blackwell, as well as Anna Jane Berry Blackwell, who became his mother at the age of three after Maggie died. He was forever grateful to Anna Jane for becoming his mother.

Bryan was a graduate of Hartsville High School, class of 1942, and a graduate of Davidson College, class of 1947, with a BS in Economics. While at Davidson, he studied voice with Earl Berg and Dr. James Christian Pfohl, the founder of Brevard Music Center. There he was a member of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity. Bryan built his career as a rural mail carrier with the United States Postal Service on Route 4 and as choir director for Sardis Baptist Church (Timmonsville, SC) and Swift Creek Baptist Church. He also served as tenor soloist for performances of Handel's Messiah throughout the region. Additionally, Bryan was a highly respected soloist for weddings and funerals. A lifelong lover of music and an accomplished operatic tenor, Bryan began his musical career with the First Baptist Church Choir of Hartsville. He went on to sing with the Davidson College Glee Club and as a featured soloist on local radio stations WJMX in Florence and WHSC in Hartsville with his own weekly programs. He appeared as Bob in the opera The Old Maid and the Thief at Coker College. Other

musical highlights include being one of eight members of the prestigious Montreat Presbyterian Conference Center Choir under the direction of Dr. Austin C. Lovelace and working as a music counselor at the Brevard Music Center (Brevard, NC) in the 1940s.

Bryan began dating the love of his life Martha Ann Anderson Blackwell, a student at Coker College, while singing at a Boy Scout banquet, when he asked Martha Ann to be his accompanist. This led to a proposal at Prestwood Country Club, and the two were married on September 2, 1950. For over 71 years of marriage they were inseparable and were a devoted, loving couple. A devout Christian, Bryan was an upstanding member of the Hartsville community. He led Sunday School Opening Assembly music at First Baptist Church and was a member of the Men's Sunday School Class. In his later years, he and Martha Ann also attended worship service at First Presbyterian, Hartsville. Bryan was a member of Civitan International being named Hartsville Civitan of the Year (1996 - 1997), Outstanding Carrier of the Year by the South Carolina Rural Letter Carriers' Association (1984), and Treasurer of the South Carolina Association of Music Clubs for 22 years. He was proud to be a Life Member of the National Federation of Music Clubs. He was recognized by the South Carolina Federation of Music Clubs in 1984 for his many years of service. In his earlier years, he attended many state and national Rural Letter Carrier Conventions. Bryan loved pulling for the Hartsville Red Foxes, Davidson Wildcats, Duke Blue Devils, and San Francisco Giants. He enjoyed watching baseball, basketball, and football on TV, while cheering his teams on throughout the regular and postseason play. He loved reading and was a student of history as well as family genealogy and sports trivia.

Bryan could be found most of the time working in his yard until age 92 riding his lawn mower, pulling weeds, and growing tomatoes. He liked dogs and cats, feeding songbirds, playing with his children and grandchildren during

their childhoods, and valued spending time with his family. Bryan had a great sense of direction and knew how to navigate anywhere before a GPS and smartphone were invented. He will be remembered for being honest, kind, and having moral integrity. Bryan deeply loved his children, Joan and Barry and relished taking his family on trips to see the beauty and majesty of America. Before his passing, Bryan traveled to 46 of the 50 states and also took vacations to Canada and Mexico. He had a deep appreciation for the Western landscape, especially Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Bryce, and Zion National Parks. He loved the Blue Ridge Mountains and annual family vacations to Sunset Beach, NC. He and Martha Ann's golden years were spent traveling to National Federation of Music Clubs Conventions throughout the USA. One of Bryan's greatest joys in life was becoming a grandfather. He was a doting grandparent to his grandchildren Kimberly and Brent and with them he shared his love of music and history through summer trips to American historical sites.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years Martha Ann Anderson Blackwell; daughter, Joan Blackwell Hoover (Gary) of Aiken, SC; son, Barry Anderson Blackwell of Charlotte, NC; granddaughter, Kimberly Michelle Hoover of Aiken, SC; and grandson, Brent Michael Hoover of Aiken, SC, as well as several beloved nieces and nephews. In addition to being predeceased by his parents, he was predeceased by brothers, Lester Blackwell, Alton Blackwell; and sisters, Miriam Blackwell Myers and Martha Blackwell Martin. He was also predeceased by older brothers Cecil Blackwell and Barney E. Blackwell, Jr. who died in early childhood. Bryan was the last living member of his siblings.

Thank you to the many wonderful individuals who cared for Bryan at Southland Healthcare Center over the last two years.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home on Friday, April 15, 2022. A Service to the Witness of the Resurrection will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. to celebrate Bryan's life at First Presbyterian Church Hartsville. In memory of Bryan, please make a contribution to the Virgil and Alice Smith Music Scholarship at Coker College or a charity of one's choice.

The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

Cemetery Details

Magnolia Cemetery

140 South Cedar Lane
Hartsville, SC 29550
(843) 383-3004

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 15. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home
306 West Home Avenue
Hartsville, SC 29550

Funeral Service

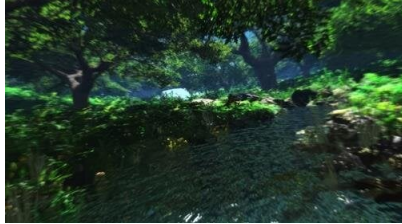
APR 16. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
213 West Home Avenue
Hartsville, SC

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown - Pennington - Atkins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



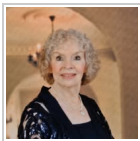
Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 15, 2022 at 01:03 PM



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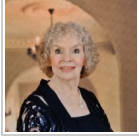
Cindy Griggs - April 19, 2022 at 03:55 PM



“ *My brother, Julius Scheidl and his wife Charlotte, would like to express their sympathy to our cousin Martha Ann and her family.*



Colette Melanson - April 16, 2022 at 02:25 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to my cousin, Martha Ann, and all the family. Bryan was always a very lovely and gentle person. He will be sorely missed!*



*Love,
Colette (Scheidl) Melanson and husband, Moe Melanson.*

Colette Melanson - April 16, 2022 at 02:03 PM



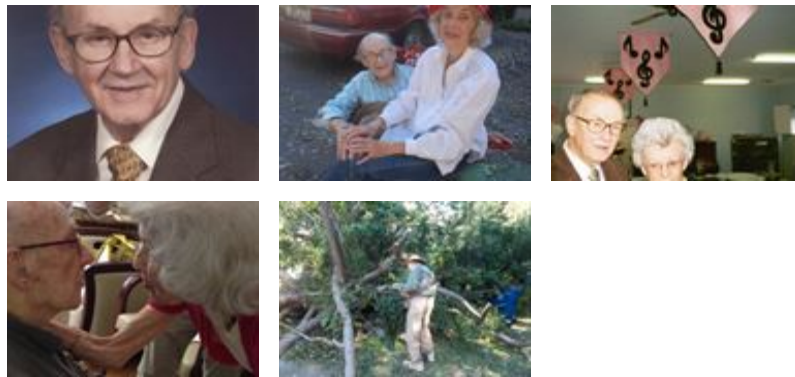
“ *Sending much love and prayers to you, Martha Ann, and all your family. My mother, Sarah Martyn Woodham Skinner, valued your friendship so and I greatly enjoyed the times with you all throughout the years. May God give you comfort and peace that surpasses all understanding as only He can provide. 🙏*



Rebecca Skinner & Family - April 15, 2022 at 04:18 PM



“ *67 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 15, 2022 at 01:01 PM

CB

“ *Carol Elmore Bryant lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



carol elmore bryant - April 15, 2022 at 12:29 PM

CB

Mr. Blackwell sang at our wedding in 1965-what a powerful voice. Prayers and peace for his family. Blessings, Carol

carol elmore bryant - April 15, 2022 at 12:31 PM

SB

“ *Suzanne Skinner Beasley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



Suzanne Skinner Beasley - April 14, 2022 at 09:37 PM

KL

“ *Kathy Lawhon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



Kathy Lawhon - April 14, 2022 at 09:35 PM

BM

“ *Billie McManus lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



Billie McManus - April 14, 2022 at 09:04 PM

CB

“ *CAROL [TUB] BEASLEY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



CAROL [TUB] BEASLEY - April 14, 2022 at 07:12 PM

DO

“ *Dianne O’Neal lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



Dianne O’Neal - April 14, 2022 at 03:53 PM

LR

“ *Sending thoughts and prayers to the Blackwell family. I always enjoyed discussing Davidson and Furman basketball teams and players when Mr. Blackwell came to my office. He was a fine Christian gentleman.*

Lester and Lori Reynolds - April 14, 2022 at 02:58 PM

LT

“ *Loretta Tiller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



Loretta Tiller - April 14, 2022 at 01:41 PM

JB

“ *I was one of the families that lived on route 4. Then I had the honor of him singing at my wedding. What a beautiful voice he has and I can imagine him singing in that heavenly choir. Prayers for the family as you go through this loss. May God wrap you each in his loving arms and give you a peace that only God can. Love in Christ*

Janelle Teal Britt - April 14, 2022 at 12:50 PM

FS

“ *Freddie Stanley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bryan Livingston Blackwell*



Freddie Stanley - April 14, 2022 at 11:34 AM