



Bonnie Claire Garrison

December 25, 1949 - August 28, 2009

To view Mrs. Garrison's funeral service online click-
Bonnie Newman Garrison

Bonnie Newman Garrison

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Mrs. Bonnie N. Garrison, 59, died August 28, 2009 peacefully at Piedmont Newnan Hospital in Newnan surrounded by her family after a courageous battle with cancer. She was born December 25, 1949 in Newnan, GA to the late J.B. and Virginia Newman. Bonnie was a lifelong resident of Newnan graduating from Newnan High School, Reinhardt College and the University of West Georgia. Upon graduation in 1972 Bonnie began working at the Department of Family and Children Services where she continued for 21 years. In 1993 Bonnie became the Executive Director of Communities in Schools for Coweta. Bonnie not only worked tirelessly for the children in the school system, she also gave of her time to help those who were in Piedmont Newnan Hospital for over ten years as a Patient Representative.

Bonnie was very active in the community and in the Newnan Coweta Chamber of Commerce, she was a Leadership Coweta graduate, Co-chair and Chair of Workforce Development Committee. Bonnie was also involved

with the University of Georgia Excellence in Leadership Certificate Program.

Bonnie dedicated her life to advocating for others, whether it was for the families and children through her work at the Department of Family and Children Services or the children she advocated for through her work at Communities in Schools who had literally fallen through the cracks. Bonnie took so many children who otherwise would have never made it and helped them to become productive adults because of the direction and care she gave them in their lives. She knew it was her life's mission to care for the children who had been left behind. Bonnie made countless people know that they mattered.

Bonnie was a founding member of St. George Catholic Church. The family will receive friends on Monday, August 31, 2009 between 6:00 & 8:00 pm at McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson St, Newnan, GA. with a Rosary following at 8:00 pm. The funeral mass is Tuesday, September 1, 2009 at 10:00 am at St. George Catholic Church with Father Jesus D. Trujillo officiating. Burial will follow at Forest Lawn Memorial Park. Flowers are welcome; however, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Coweta Communities in School (P.O. Box 2474; Newnan, GA 30264) or St. George Catholic Church.

Bonnie is survived by her husband, Charles Garrison of Newnan; children, Matt Garrison of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and Drew Garrison of Newnan; brothers, Casey Newman of Los Angeles, California, Charlie (Nan) Newman of Moreland, Tom (LaDonna) Newman of Castleberry, Alabama, and Doug (Carmen) Newman of Williamson; brothers-in law, Bruce Garrison of Newnan and Guy Garrison of Peachtree City; nieces and nephews Alison Newman of Newnan, Leigh Newman of New York, John Newman of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and Joey Newman of Castleberry, Alabama..

Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.mckoon.com

McKoon Funeral Home (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

656 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 31. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com

Service

SEP 1. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. George Catholic Church
771 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall

DM

“ We are so very saddened to hear of Bonnie's passing. She was a wonderful and caring person who touched the lives of many. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Debra Morgan Smith and Ryan Morgan - September 05, 2009 at 10:03 AM

EA

“ Mrs. Garrison was a teacher even after 8 years from Graduating I can still remember, see around town and give a hug to. She made big changes in my life in 1999. She was a REAL TEACHER who cared about the kids and it just wasn't a JOB. I feel blessed to have had her in my life. My thoughts go out to the family. Mrs. Garrison... THANK YOU! Erika

Erika A. - September 04, 2009 at 01:57 AM

DE

“ I was so sorry to hear about Bonnie. We were Reinhardt friends. I just found all these pictures of our group. Brought back so many great memories. Sounds like she made many memories with so many people. Those memories become treasures...she will always live within those that loved her and those she touched...for each memory keeps her close. Will be praying for those left behind...that God will comfort you.

Debbie Patterson Epperhart - September 03, 2009 at 09:27 PM

KT

“ Mrs. Garrison helped me out in so many ways. If it wasn't for her, I never would of graduated. She was a sweet and loving lady who cared about us all. She went out of her way to help people. She always made me feel special, and made me feel like I was important. I have so many great memories of Ms. Bonnie. I am going to miss her a lot. I love you ms. Bonnie! Thank you for everything you did for me! If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be where I am now.

Kate Tiemeyer - September 03, 2009 at 03:09 PM

DE

“ I worked with Bonnie, at Newnan Hospital. She was always a joy to work with and you could tell that she really cared for the patients and the staff. She was such a joy to know. She will be greatly missed. May God comfort you during this time.

Dede - September 03, 2009 at 10:26 AM

RB

“ Bonnie, I will always remember you at Reinhardt. We were friends. I will meet you again someday. Love Rosa Leigh

Rosa Leigh DeViney Bell - September 02, 2009 at 12:55 PM

CB

“ Bonnie was a wonderful person to work with and a true champion for the children. Her spirit and dedication made a difference in so many lives. She left a living legacy in all the children her life touched because of the positive changes she made in their lives and in all those of us who were fortunate to have worked with her. She will be missed and remembered with love.

Carla Brown - September 02, 2009 at 10:38 AM

WD

“ On behalf of myself, the entire staff and Board of Directors of Glascock County Communities in Schools our deepest sympathy is extended to the Garrison family on the loss of a dear colleague. Even though we may not know you personally we knew your Bonnie and she was a dear person to us. The passion and love she possessed for the children and families always shone through and will never be forgotten. The world was a better place because of her. Our PRAYERS will be with each of you in the upcoming days ahead. God Bless each of you. Wanda Davis, Executive Director for Glascock County Communities In Schools

Wanda Davis - September 01, 2009 at 11:53 PM

JS

“ I cannot think of a greater tribute or higher honor than to be remembered as someone who made other lives better. This old world has one less HERO and we are poorer for it. Bonnie, may God hold you in his loving hands. Jack Smith Reinhardt,69

Jack Smith - September 01, 2009 at 10:57 PM

RR

“ I worked with Bonnie for many years at Newnan Hospital. She was a wonderful person and a great friend to many. My prayers are with her family as they lay her to rest. She will be deeply missed.

Rhonda Walby Roberts - September 01, 2009 at 09:04 PM

MS

“ Charles and Family, Anne and I will be praying for you at this difficult time, We will be praying for you later as we know there will be times when the family will need uplifting. In Christ, Darry, Sr. & Anne Walker

Mr. & Mrs. Darry (Anne) Walker, Sr. - September 01, 2009 at 03:20 PM

KT

“ *The Garrison Family Bonnie was truly an inspiration in my life. During my time as an investigator with the Sheriff's Office she and I had the occassion of working on different cases involving children. Her calm spirit and her deep compassion was an influence to me in how I approached each case. I will always remember the expression on face when she saw that I had signed up to be a mentor. She will truly be missed. God bless you all.*

Kelvin Thompson - September 01, 2009 at 10:57 AM

MN

“ *I met Bonnie when I moved to Newnan in the 4th grade. We remained great friends until we graduated in 1967. We had many sleep overs at each others homes through out those years. I moved away for many years after that but had the opportunity to see her a couple of times when I was back in Newnan visiting. When I move back 12 years ago, we just picked up where we left off. Had the opportunity to see her one day about 6 months ago and we sat for an hour just talking about good old times. I will miss her so much. My prayers are always going to be with you.*

Melanie Lunsford Nowell - August 31, 2009 at 11:00 PM

CD

“ *Charles My Condolences To You And Your Family During This Difficult Time.*

Chris Decker - August 31, 2009 at 10:53 PM

BR

“ I met Bonnie and family when I was 18 yrs old. I baby sat for Matt and Drew. Bonnie ment so much to me as did her family. I am so blessed to have her as a friend for 25 years. She also helped my son Adam get in the right direction for his future. Bonnie left a great path in her life and will be remembered always. Beth Robertson

Beth Robertson - August 31, 2009 at 09:52 PM

PH

“ I was very saddened to hear the news about Bonnie. We went to Reinhardt together. I will always remember her smile and caring ways. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Pat Harris - August 31, 2009 at 09:49 PM

SH

“ I am terribly sorry for your loss, My prayers are with your family. During high school when i wanted to give up, Mrs Bonnie was always there to cheer me on and keep me going, she was always there with a kind word when I needed her. She was such an amazing person and she will always have a special place in my heart!

Sara Hunter - August 31, 2009 at 09:00 PM

SH

“ Charles, I extend my sympathy for your loss.

Sandra Roberts Howell - August 31, 2009 at 07:51 PM

DL

“ *Max, I am glad you've shared your life with such a wonderful woman judging by all that has been written. May God take you under His wing, just as Bonnie did so many, and give you peace and acceptance.*

Deanna Nolen Lawley - August 31, 2009 at 07:31 PM

TB

“ *Charles, Noel and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of your wife Bonnie. Please know we pray God will give you and your family strength and comfort to carry you through this difficult time in your lives. It is with sincere sadness and heartfelt concern that we send you our love today.*

Tina Keheley Brown and Noel Brown - August 31, 2009 at 07:30 PM

JT

“ *Dear Garrison Family, I am so saddened to hear of Bonnie's death. She was a lovely and precious person. She always brought me to laughter with her humor. I know you will all miss her so much and she loved her family and friends dearly. God Bless you all, Jane*

Jane Treadwell - August 31, 2009 at 06:53 PM

LM

“ *I was very sad to hear of Bonnie's passing. We were classmates and Dorm buddies at Reinhardt. I was truly blessed by her friendship and appreciative of her devotion to children. I will always remember her fondly.*

Lucie McKinney - August 31, 2009 at 04:47 PM

CF

“ On behalf of Communities In Schools of Marietta/Cobb County's staff and board of directors, I would like to express our deepest sympathy in the loss of Bonnie to her family and friends. Her compassion for youth will be missed but the memory of her impact on many lives will not be forgotten. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. With warmest regards, Carol Fey Executive Director

Carol Fey - August 31, 2009 at 11:59 AM

AG

“ Matt and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Mrs. Bonnie. You and your family have been in my prayers, your mother was such a blessing to so many people and will truly be missed.

Alexis and Millie Garza - August 31, 2009 at 11:52 AM

ME

“ My condolences to your family for the loss of Bonnie. I know you will miss her.

Marsha Moore Eiland - August 31, 2009 at 11:00 AM

JH

“ I can not begin to tell you what a wonderful person Bonnie was in the lives of the people in this community. I will always remember her with loving thoughts. My prayers are for all of you and I have a big hug waiting for Allison when she returns to work.

Joan and Maribeth Hanson - August 31, 2009 at 10:13 AM

DC

“ Our sincerest condolences to all of Bonnie's family. She was a wonderful person and will be sorely missed. I'm grateful for the assistance she gave my wife and myself with my stepson. I'm also grateful for the loving and strong parenting she did which was evident in her children which I had the immense pleasure of having in my class at Newnan HS. I know that some solace will be forthcoming in the knowledge that she was a giving and wonderful person to know.

Dan & Deb Coleman - August 31, 2009 at 10:06 AM

MS

“ Charles and family, We are so sorry to hear about your loss. You and your family will be in our prayers.

Merridith Shirley - August 31, 2009 at 09:58 AM

DD

“ I had the pleasure to know Bonnie through her work as Executive Director of Communities In Schools of Coweta County. I knew her as a very caring and loving person; as a dedicated advocate for young people in need of additional support to achieve success in school and in life. She will be missed very much by her associates and friends in the CIS network! My deep condolences go to Bonnie's family and friends.

Douglas Denise - August 31, 2009 at 09:49 AM

BB

“ Bonnie was my "big sister" at Reinhardt. I was so proud to have her!! She always had a smile on her face!!! I was blessed to see her two years ago!!! She was a good friend. Her smile will always stay with me!!!

Beverly Birdyshaw - August 31, 2009 at 08:21 AM

SF

“ *To The Family: Over the past 10 years I have known Bonnie and she has and always will be a good friend to me in my heart. I worked with her in the same department and during our shifts we would just talk and most important she was a good listener! God took back his angel and left us with precious memories, but she will never be forgotten. God knows what's best for his children and we can't questioned that. Bonnie, I love you and we all will see you again soon! Bonnie's favorite saying: "How 'bout them dawgs!"*

Stan Freeman - August 31, 2009 at 07:31 AM

BK

“ *Mrs. Bonnie was a kind and caring lady, who motivated us during our last couple years of high school, to work hard and graduate. If it weren't for her we wouldnt be who we are today. She really inspired us to be more like her in so many different ways, we feel so blessed to have had her in our lives, highschool wouldn't have been the same without her. We will truley miss her and we will keep her family in our prayers. We love you mrs. Bonnie!*

Brittany Thompson and Katie Kitchens - August 31, 2009 at 01:14 AM

SB

“ *Bonnie was always more alive than most anyone I've ever known. In high school she was a good friend with a great smile. My son Casey had the great pleasure of knowing her at the PLC. Bonnie will be missed by this town and all the people who's lives she touched and blessed with her kindness and love. I will pray for all of you as I have for Bonnie since I learned of her sickness. May God bless and comfort you all.*

Steve Bledsoe - August 31, 2009 at 01:02 AM

CB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all of the family. Bonnie was such a big part of our lives at the hospital and we all admired her dedication to doing the right thing. I am a better person for having known her and will miss her and hold the memories of her close to my heart.*

Corrine L. Birkman - August 30, 2009 at 11:41 PM

GD

“ *I went to high school and Reinhardt with Bonnie. I also belonged to St. George Catholic Church. Bonnie was a remarkable lady. The world was a better place with her here.*

Gail Lambert Day - August 30, 2009 at 03:35 PM

LM

“ *Bonnie's work with children will be sorely missed. She practiced her passion for helping children long enough that I'm sure there will be some with whom she worked that will follow in her footsteps! Larry Moon Reinhardt '68*

Larry Moon - August 30, 2009 at 12:59 PM

HF

“ *to the familey mrs bonnie sorry for for your lost she will be missed*

hazel ferrell - August 30, 2009 at 12:24 PM

GL

“ *Charles, Matt and Drew, We are sorry for your loss. Bonnie was a wonderful person and will be missed.*

George Lee - August 30, 2009 at 08:36 AM

TC

“ Our prayers go up for all of you. Mrs. Bonnie will be missed by all. She was so faithful and dedicated to the work she did. She was inspirational and an advocate for many young people in our community. Through my experience with the Juvenile Court in working with other agencies, Bonnie was always available to help, to plan, to teach, or just give advice or support to all involved with our youth. She will be remembered always. May you all find grace and comfort in the presence of our Lord. Thanks to Mrs. Bonnie for being the outstanding citizens that you were and will always be to our community. Be blessed.

Terry and Vickie Calhoun - August 30, 2009 at 08:16 AM

CA

“ I worked with Bonnie during her last few years at DFCS and had a few opportunities to catch up with her through the school system. I was saddened to hear recently of her illness. My prayers are with the family as you grieve the loss of such a special lady.

Carolynn - August 30, 2009 at 07:30 AM

CB

“ Charles and family, I worked with Bonnie at the hospital for many years, and considered her a wonderful friend. When we heard about Bonnie's cancer, it was such a shock to us all. She was such a great person to know. We used to have fun during football season, she being a Georgia fan and me for Auburn. We loved kidding each other about our chosen team. She was that kind of person. Always with a smile on her face, Her pain is now gone and she is not suffering anymore. There will never be another like her. We all loved her and will miss her. :(

Carolyn Brooks - August 30, 2009 at 01:56 AM

BA

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Bonnie's family. Bonnie was a great lady. I'm honored to have known her and to have worked with her at the CEC. Becky Alexander*

Becky Alexander - August 29, 2009 at 11:32 PM

AP

“ *Deepest sympathy. Annica Potts Piedmont-Newnan Hospital*

Annica Potts - August 29, 2009 at 09:45 PM

LP

“ *Bonnie and I were neighbors on 4th Street as children but lost touch when I left Newnan to go to school. Years later we became neighbors again as adults. I will miss seeing her walking and miss knowing that she was just up the street . Bonnie was an extraordinary woman and will be missed by many. My sincere sympathy to the whole family. Lynn David Oliver also sends his condolences .*

Lynn Oliver Porter - August 29, 2009 at 09:04 PM

BK

“ *Bonnie was a powerful voice for those most vulnerable in our community, our children, who had no voice. Do not grieve for her, her legacy is one that is rich and is manifest everyday in the lives of countless children and families that she changed for the better. She would want each of us to re-energize our lives and always let those we love and cherish know how much they are loved and respected. God Bless you Bonnie and your wonderful family!!!!*

Brenda Kennedy - August 29, 2009 at 07:36 PM

GS

“ I am so sorry to hear of Bonnie's passing. She and I were classmates at Reinhardt. May God comfort you in this difficult time.

Glenette Reece Stegall - August 29, 2009 at 03:33 PM

JM

“ Charles and Family, My heart goes out to you for your loss. Bonnie's positive attitude, her calm serenity, her work ethic, and her caring nature always inspired me to try to be a better person. Plus she had a wonderful sense of humor and knew how to have fun. I've known her all my life, and will always miss her. She was a great lady. Junie

Junie Austin Merkle - August 29, 2009 at 03:32 PM

JW

“ max and family: so sorry for your loss. bonnie was a such a wonderful and caring person who touched the lives of so many. she will certainly be missed. johnny and penny wilson

johnny and penny wilson - August 29, 2009 at 03:18 PM

LW

“ I have worked with Bonnie for many years at the hospital but she became a second mother to my son Jordan his senior year of high school, she took him under her wings and for that he graduated. I am forever grateful. I am very saddened for your loss.

Leslie Wray - August 29, 2009 at 02:52 PM

YC

“ Charles, Matt and Drew, Please accept my deepest and heartfelt sympathy. Bonnie was truly the epitome of one who loved and served God by serving her fellowman. She supported the children of Coweta County through her life. Seems like only yesterday that I met Bonnie and we immediately became friends, although she was my supervisor at DFCS. She was a supporter and encourager of our annual “Back To School Bash” held for the children of Coweta County. My last memory of Bonnie was at our CIS Board meeting where she was so excited about her “Flip-Flops” project. It was that week she received her diagnosis. Charles, Matt, and Drew may you find comfort knowing that God is “near to those that are broken at heart; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.” (Psalm 34:18) Her prognosis is good....she is at home now, and she is healed. Thanks be unto God! I will miss her immensely, but her legacy lives on.

YoLanda Colton - August 29, 2009 at 01:53 PM

AR

“ Miss Bonnie was a dear friend. She came into our lives when we needed her most. She helped to get my son into the program at Fort Stewart. She helped to make him the man he is today She took him under her wing and gently guided him in the right direction. She will be missed, but never forgotten. Her work here was finished, and now God has her under his wing.

Ann Robertson - August 29, 2009 at 01:50 PM

JC

“ On behalf of Communities In Schools of Laurens County, Inc. and its board of directors, I would like to offer our most sincere sympathy in the loss of Bonnie. She was a constant source of positivity and served as an example to all of us who work with children on a daily basis. May God bless you during this difficult time - Jackie Pittman Curtis, Executive Director

Jackie Pittman Curtis - August 29, 2009 at 01:44 PM

JJ

“ I have enjoyed working with Bonnie here at Piedmont Newnan Hospital, I have known her for many years. You have my deepest sympathy for your lose, we lost a great woman, she will be missed, but she is in a better place, may the Lord be with you.

Jerome Rucker Jr. - August 29, 2009 at 12:14 PM

TF

“ It is with deepest regret that we learned of Bonnie's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time of sorrow. We pray God to give you strength and courage.

The Eddie Ball Family - August 29, 2009 at 12:08 PM

TW

“ I am so sorry for your loss of Bonnie. She was a good friend and boss to me at DFCS. A very caring and fun person to work with and for. Your are all in my prayers as you go through this difficult time. God bless you all.

Terry Wyche - August 29, 2009 at 11:40 AM

JW

“ *Max and Family, I am deeply saddened by Bonnie's passing. She was so dedicated to whatever task she chose to do. She was one who sincerely cared for others and took actions to help them in many ways. She will be missed by all. Please accept my heartfelt condolences for your loss! Jimmy*

Jimmy Wilson - August 29, 2009 at 11:31 AM

GW

“ *Bonnie will be missed. She was a good friend.*

Gary T. Welden - August 29, 2009 at 10:40 AM