



Joseph Herbert Bridges

October 19, 1929 - September 24, 2013

Joseph Herbert Bridges, 83, passed away Tuesday, September 24, 2013. He was born October 19, 1929 in Sharpsburg, GA to the late Edward Herbert Bridges & Janie Cecil Cole Bridges.

Herb attended the Georgia Military Academy and graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in History. After college, he served in the Army in Korea for two years. He taught school for several years in Warm Springs and Thomaston before becoming a rural mail carrier in Sharpsburg. Mr. Bridges was a noted author and historian who wrote many books about the history of Coweta County and *Gone With the Wind*. He was a charter member and the first president of the Newnan Coweta Historical Society and a member of Central Baptist Church. Herb was widely known for his knowledge and his collection of *Gone With the Wind* memorabilia and was considered a preeminent expert on all things pertaining to the movie.

The memorial service is Friday, September 27, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at Central Baptist Church, 14 West Broad St, Newnan with Dr. Joel Richardson officiating. There will be a private family interment. The family will greet friends in the church fellowship hall following the memorial service. Rather than flowers, the family respectfully requests contributions to either the Georgia Baptist Children's Home, 9250 Hutcheson Ferry Rd, Palmetto, GA 31268 or to Central Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1221, Newnan, GA 30264.

Condolences can be expressed online at www.mckoon.com

Survivors include wife, Eleanor Witcher Bridges; daughter, Anne Bridges

Clayton & husband Graves of Cary, NC; sons, Joseph Herbert Bridges, II & wife Nan of Columbus, GA, William Edward Bridges & wife Christy of Brewton, AL; and grandchildren, David Clayton, Will Clayton, Jim Clayton, Bo Bridges, Zoe Bridges, Edward Bridges, and Amelia Bridges.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Previous Events

Service

SEP **27**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Central Baptist Church
14 West Broad St.
Newnan, GA 30264

Visitation

SEP **27** (ET)

Central Baptist Church
14 West Broad St.
Newnan, GA 30264

Tribute Wall

BB

“ He was a pall bearer at my grandfathers funeral and he and his wife were at my mother's funeral. We both shared an interest in family history. I can still remember him leading the singing of "Yes, we will gather at the river" at the old Sharpsburg Baptist Church. May his family be surrounded by God's love now at his passing.

Betty Gwyn Bunch - October 13, 2013 at 11:46 AM

PB

“ I was shocked and saddened to hear of Herb's sudden passing. My heartfelt condolences go to all of his family and friends. I first met this wonderful man in Atlanta for the 50th anniversary of GWTW. He provided a warm, gracious welcome to the world of GWTW for which I have remained grateful. Such a loss for all of us who knew and respected him. We mourn along with his family.

Pauline Bartel - September 28, 2013 at 01:12 PM

SS

“ Our prayers to the Bridges Family. Mr. Herb was a walking history book. I always enjoyed his visits and our talks. May God bless and comfort you in the days ahead.

Sheriff Mike Yeager & Staff - September 28, 2013 at 09:49 AM

TJ

“ Dear Ellie and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Herb. I am glad I spoke to him last week and will always remember the conversation. I am in shock over this big loss of a friend and fellow GWTW collector. I am sending my prayers to you and the family. Tina

Tina Jakes - September 27, 2013 at 11:20 PM

DS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. He will be missed*

deb & rob sharkey - September 27, 2013 at 10:06 PM

JA

“ *To the family: Sometimes I'd see Herb at the post office as we got our mail. We would always talk for a minute about what was going on. I'll miss his wit, his feistiness, his knowledge, and his will to tell it like it is. He was a "True Southern Gentleman". Jim Adamson*

Jim Adamson - September 27, 2013 at 12:22 PM

JC

“ *Eleanor and family, You are in our thoughts and prayers. Herb was such a good friend to mother and daddy and we really appreciate the visits he made with them. He and mother always enjoyed talking about Sharpsburg as they knew it years ago and keeping up with current events in the town. As you know they will not be able to attend the service today because of their health, but you know that they loved Herb and his family. I enjoyed serving on the library board with him too. He was a good man. Jane Chambless*

Jane Chambless - September 27, 2013 at 11:13 AM

PW

“ *Bill, I am very sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you and your family.*

Philip Widner - September 27, 2013 at 10:17 AM

HA

“ *Mr. Bridges was our speaker last month at the annual meeting of Historical Jonesboro. We so enjoyed his program on Margaret Mitchell and the excitement with which he presented it. He will be greatly missed in the historical community. Truly a gentleman and a scholar.*

Helen Adkins - September 26, 2013 at 10:58 PM

CC

“ *Herb's passing is a very great loss to so many of us in the land of Gone with the Wind. He shared so much of himself with us at Stately Oaks, and we will never forget him. We have been so blessed to have known him. My deepest sympathy to his dear family.*

Carol Cook - September 26, 2013 at 06:29 PM

JL

“ *Dearest Eleanor, There are not enough words to express how deeply my heart is aching for the tremendous loss of beloved Herb! For many, many years I have been so richly blessed to call you both friends. I have looked up to both of you as amazing role models and the epitome of the perfect Southern, genteel couple. You made me smile, inside and out, just to chat on the phone or be together at the many treasured GWTW events. The positive impact and inspiration that you and Herb have had on my life will carry on through everyone I meet along the way. I hope that for you and all of your family it will bring you some peace and comfort to know how much you are loved and cared about. There is a huge hole left in my heart that will never be filled, but oh how much better Heaven became on September 24th, when one of the most incredible men that has ever blessed this earth, crossed through the Pearly Gates. With much love and many blessings, Jan Galyen (formerly known as Lingner)*

Jan Galyen (fka Lingner) - September 26, 2013 at 05:33 PM

DJ

“ *Eleanor and Family, We were saddened to hear that Herb had passed away. We had great respect for him and what he stood for, friends.with everyone. You and your family will be in our prayers, that the Good Lord will give you peace, love and understanding during this difficult time. God loves you and we do too, Don Jerry Jones Sr. And Mildred Oliver Jones*

Don and Mildred Jones - September 26, 2013 at 03:17 PM

LP

“ *We were so sorry to hear of Mr. Bridges passing. He truly was a Southern gentleman. We had seen him at the Bell's and also at the Gadsden event. He was so happy to share his knowledge of GWTW with us and did not mind all of my questions. I know he will be missed so much by his family and his many, many friends. Our thoughts are with the family.*

Linda/Larry Parker - September 26, 2013 at 12:57 PM

MJ

“ *I am so sorry for our loss Herb wad such a great friend to all of us Windies He will be sorely missed What a wonderful person*

Mary Jackson - September 26, 2013 at 12:19 PM

DW

“ *Herb, will always be remembered as the perfect southern gentleman that he was. I have never met a more pleasant person. He touched countless lives and was a jewel to the Gone With the Wind community. He was an absolute joy of a man to be around. Herb, was such a blessing to everyone that knew him. May God comfort your family during this time.*

David and Tina Wilson - September 26, 2013 at 12:02 PM

RN

“ Eleanor, Rochelle and I are very sorry to hear of the passing of Herb---What a shock. Rochelle served on several committees with him and loved every minute of it.. Due to Rochelle's health we will not be able to attend; however all of the family will be in our prayers. Love Rochelle and Hershall

Rochelle&Hershall Norred - September 26, 2013 at 11:09 AM

GD

“ Dear Eleanor and family, My deepest condolences on the loss on a beloved member of our community. Herb was one of my first friends in Newnan as we served on the Historical Society board together. He was a true Southern gentleman who loved his family, his community, and his heritage. He will be greatly missed by those of us who loved him. Please know that I am a phone call away if I can help you in any way. Love, Miss Glenda

Glenda Davis - September 26, 2013 at 11:09 AM

SL

“ Dear Elinor, I am so saddened at the loss of Mr. Herb. He was a giant in our community and one of the most gracious people I have ever known. He was much beloved by all. He was the heart of the Historical Society and gave us all a great sense of our southern heritage. My prayers are with you and your family.

Sarah LaMance - September 26, 2013 at 10:27 AM

BL

“ One of the highlights of my life was actually meeting Herb Bridges, after being influenced and entertained by him for so long through his brilliant books, at the Christie's auction here in New York. He seemed like such a genuine, kind, thoughtful affectionate and enthusiastic person. His loss affects many but my condolences go to his family. Know that he was appreciated and loved by many worldwide.

Barry Lamm - September 26, 2013 at 08:59 AM

JE

“ I had the honor of meeting Mr. Bridges at several events pertaining to *Gone With the Wind*. As a life-long aficionado of all things GWTW, he was my go-to expert over the years. He was always willing and eager to discuss the movie and the extensive collection of memorabilia and I always looked forward to catching up with him at any of the many GWTW events around the state. He was so friendly and accomodating and I'm proud to own all of his books and have his autograph on a few. He will definitely be missed. My condolences go out to his family and the rest of the Windies who will miss him.

Jill Ellington - September 26, 2013 at 08:47 AM

MF

“ Mrs. Bridges, Joe, Ann, and Bill, I was so sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Bridges. He was such a warm and friendly man who I know will be missed. I have especially enjoyed hearing about him and his *Gone with the Wind* passion from my friend Ellen Brown who co-authored a book with John Wiley. It has brought a touch of Newnan up here to me in Virginia to have a friend who got to know and admire Mr. Bridges and visit the special towns of Newnan and Sharpsburg. Take care, my prayers are with you all.

Mamie Farley - September 26, 2013 at 08:13 AM

SU

“ I am so very sorry to hear of the passing of my former postman, Mr. Herb Bridges. My deceased ex husband was also a rural letter carrier and I consider it a wonderful profession. My ex who was an avid reader and history buff, enjoyed Mr. Bridges' books and I always enjoyed reading in the Times Herald about the latest *Gone With the Wind* news! I want to extend my deepest sympathy to Mrs. Bridges and pray that God will help her through this sad time.

Susan - September 26, 2013 at 07:47 AM

CS

“ Mr. Bridges will be sorely missed by all in the GWTW community and by all who knew this man who always had a pleasant smile and time to talk with you. My condolences to his family and my thoughts are with you at this sad time.

CJ Shank - September 26, 2013 at 04:16 AM

BP

“ Mr. Bridges was always a consummate gentleman and the best example of Southern gentility. The South lost a fine man. My thoughts are with Mrs. Bridges, Anne and "the boys."

Betsy Groh Ptak - September 26, 2013 at 01:23 AM

NL

“ Herb Bridges was an absolute delight. My sincerest sympathies and hugs to all~

Nikki Luebke - September 25, 2013 at 11:51 PM

GJ

“ FORTY years of friendship! I can't begin to tell you how much I will miss Herb Bridges. We spoke on the phone regularly and enjoyed sharing information on our lives and mutual hobby. I feel as if I have lost a dear relative, not just a friend. How happy I am that when we staged the largest GONE WITH THE WIND show ever in the USA in Gadsden in 2011 that we dedicated our show to Herb. He truly was the WORLD'S leading authority on the book and film and thru his writings, generations of people will appreciate his knowledge. Love to MRS HERB, as I have always called Eleanor and all the family. I have a new hole in my heart-- George W. Terrell Jr.

George W. Terrell Jr. - September 25, 2013 at 10:36 PM

FB

“ Our hearts are crying for you, Eleanor and family. Herb touched so many lives and influenced so many people to do whatever it was they really wanted to do. He truly was a very special southern gentleman and he will be greatly missed. Gone With the Wind Memories was honored to have Herb at our first 3-day event back in 1999, and the rest of the events throughout the years where we all learned to love him. May God give you inner peace and comfort through the months to come. We love you and you will be in our prayers.

Faye and Jim Bell - September 25, 2013 at 10:30 PM

SN

“ To the family of Herb Bridges: Please accept my condolences on the passing of Mr. Bridges. While my collection of GWTW paraphernalia is nowhere near as extensive as his, I share with him my adoration for the subject which began when I first read the book in 1966, when I was 18 years old. May he rest in peace. Susan Newman

SUSAN NEWMAN - September 25, 2013 at 10:01 PM

JL

“ We were sorry to hear about Herb's passing. We had the pleasure of meeting him at one of the GWTW weekends in Plant City. He truly was a Southern gentleman. Blessings to his family and friends and may all of you feel God's peace and comfort through the days ahead.

Jack and Polly Long - September 25, 2013 at 09:56 PM

CS

“ Herb Bridges was a credit to Coweta County and the South: A true southern gentleman with a wit as sharp as his mind. I am indebted to him for his help with my writings about Coweta County and his encouragement in my writing and art. It was a privilege and joy to have known him. His genuine smile and hearty laugh stand out in my mind. He will be greatly missed.

Carla Cook Smith - September 25, 2013 at 09:55 PM

JW

“ We were so very sad to hear of Herb's death...he is such a fascinating, and wonderful wealth of knowledge on so many subjects. He will surely be missed by many. Thinking of all of you in the days ahead..Judi and Mike Worth

Judi Worth - September 25, 2013 at 08:42 PM

SE

“ Mr. Bridges was a very important part of my life being a shop owner 12+ years in Old Town Sharpsburg. I will always hold fond memories of him scurrying around town "doctoring" ant beds and walking to the post office everyday! Not only was he was my Sunday school teacher at SBC, he was a mentor and friend. He will be truly missed. My heart goes out to Eleanor and the rest of the family. God bless.

Sharon Hazel Evans - September 25, 2013 at 08:35 PM

SE

“ *Mr. Bridges was a very important part of my life being a shop owner 12+ years in Old Town Sharpsburg. I will always hold fond memories of him scurrying around town "doctoring" ant beds and walking to the post office everyday! Not only was he was my Sunday school teacher at SBC, he was a mentor and friend. He will be truly missed. My heart goes out to Eleanor and the rest of the family. God bless.*

Sharon Hazel Evans - September 25, 2013 at 08:34 PM

SE

“ *Mr. Bridges was a very important part of my life being a shop owner 12+ years in Old Town Sharpsburg. I will always hold fond memories of him scurrying around town "doctoring" ant beds and walking to the post office everyday! Not only was he was my Sunday school teacher at SBC, he was a mentor and friend. He will be truly missed. My heart goes out to Eleanor and the rest of the family. God bless.*

Sharon Hazel Evans - September 25, 2013 at 08:33 PM

RC

“ *So saddened by the news of "Cuz'n" Herbert's passing. He was one of Mothers favorites, as well as mine, too. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. His exuberance was infectious! Gonna miss that smile...*

Roxie Clark - September 25, 2013 at 08:17 PM

AB

“ *Herb Bridges passion for life still lives throughout Georgia. Over the years, his cards and Gone With the Wind updates were a welcomed sight in my mailbox. Remember meeting Herb years ago at his GWTW Gallery, 152 Nassau St, which also had Melanie's Restaurant. The building still stands near The Tabernacle and Centennial Olympic Park. I treasure the books and trinkets I bought there. Herb was one of those special people who would always be there. I am so grateful he touched and enriched my life. Dear Eleanor, you are in my thoughts an prayers. Ann*

Ann Taylor Boutwell - September 25, 2013 at 08:02 PM

PG

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. I'm thankful for happy memories of GWTW event times with Herb. He was a joy to know and the kindest man I have ever met. I will never forget him.*

Peggy Greenfield - September 25, 2013 at 07:55 PM

MS

“ *We have lost a great friend. Herb was a great mentor and colleague. May God bless his beautiful wife, Eleanor and his family. I will always remember his great wit and his advice.*

Mary Jane Sinclair - September 25, 2013 at 05:55 PM

DT

“ *Eleanor,, words seem inadequate to express the sadness we feel about Herb's death. Herb brought so many gifts to many lives. He was a good friend, a true southern gentleman, a teacher, devoted community servant. His love for history and Gone with the Wind is unmeasurable and will never be forgotten. Our prayers and deepest sympathy to you and your entire family.*

David Penick & Russell Taylor - September 25, 2013 at 05:48 PM

SR

“ *Herb was my first friend in the Gone With The Wind world and I always felt lucky to know him. My prayers are with you all in his family. Sally Rains*

Sally Rains - September 25, 2013 at 05:22 PM

DL

“ *Herb was a gentleman of the first water and one of the warmest, kindest, most encouraging folks I ever met. Cousin Eleanor and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. We shall see you on Friday.*

Dan Langford - September 25, 2013 at 04:52 PM

JR

“ *IT'S A SAD DAY IN COWETA COUNTY, WE HAVE LOST ONE OF COWETA'S FINEST. THE FIRST FRIEND WE MET WHEN WE MOVED TO COWETA COUNTY YEARS AGO, WHO WAS OUR MAIL CARRIER AND HE, ALONG WITH HIS FAMILY BECAME NOT ONLY OUR DEAR FRIENDS, BUT HAVE BEEN LIKE OUR FAMILY. ELEANOR, ANNE, JOE AND BILL, YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. WE TREASURE THE TIMES SPENT WITH EACH OF YOU. WE LOVE YOU, JUDY AND HARRY RIVERS*

JUDY RIVERS - September 25, 2013 at 03:59 PM

RW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with ya'll.*

Ronnie and Susan Robinson Whatley - September 25, 2013 at 03:55 PM

SK

“ *It has been such a pleasure talking to Mr. Bridges over the last 14 years at the newspaper. He was always such a delightful man and will be greatly missed.*

Stacie Kittle - September 25, 2013 at 03:51 PM

WS

“ *Lynn and I and all our family are praying for the Bridges family. So many happy memories of special times with Herb and Eleanor. God bless you all.*

Winston Skinner - September 25, 2013 at 03:31 PM

CS

“ *My friend Herb will be missed more than words can say. And, on behalf of the staff of the Marietta Gone With the Wind Museum and of the City of Marietta, we extend our sympathy at the loss of this wonderful and genteel man. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this very sad time. Connie Sutherland*

Connie Sutherland - September 25, 2013 at 02:16 PM