



William Carey Barker Deacon

February 12, 1948 - August 15, 2025

The Biblical writer, James, shared this thought. "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him". In the predawn hours of August 15th, the full life journey for William Carey Barker Deacon came to its earthly conclusion as he peacefully slipped the bonds of this life in exchange for the eternal life promised him by the God he loved and served for so many years.

Billy's unique life story began on February 12, 1948. His parents, David and Carey Barker Deacon, welcomed their second son into their family. After 1950, the Deacon family moved to Newnan, Georgia where Carey's father, Reverend William Carey Barker, was pastor at First Baptist Church. This association with the historic First Baptist church would come full circle as it became Billy's church during the last part of his life.

Billy graduated from Newnan High School in 1966. It was during those high school years that he developed a great interest in speech and drama under the wise guidance of Mrs. Marjorie Hatchett. Her family had owned Dunaway Gardens which was a training ground for the Sewell Production Company and the Patchwork Theater. Billy's mother helped spark his interest in the stage and the entertainment world. It would be the catalyst for a lifelong fascination with the business of making movies.

Billy did not jump headlong into the world of making movies after completing his education. True to his inherent sense of a servant spirit, he spent 15 years in Macon, Georgia as a paramedic. The invaluable lessons he learned during those years would also come to play a significant part in his career in his later years.

Billy was fascinated by the world of filmmakers. His career in that industry began in his association with the Local 479 Union in 1996 in the craft service department. In September 2012, he began working as a steward of Local 479. His duties included scouting shooting locations and helping to pull together all the nuts and bolts to ensure that the final product would be created in as efficient a manner as possible. He worked on "The Lonesome Dove" series as well as "The Walking Dead." Other projects would have him scouring the country for possible shooting locations and assisting on Tyler Perry projects.

As much as Billy loved his vocation, there was another dimension to his life that was life-altering for him and enabled him to help countless other people in the throes of addiction to understand that there is always hope. Billy fought the odds to be relieved of the grasp that addiction had placed on his life, creating the chaos that would destroy his home and fracture his relationships with his family. When he did hit rock bottom, Billy never looked back. Instead, he reaped the benefits of good counselors and a magnificent peer group, and he came to have a staunch belief that the God he loved would deliver him and make his life have meaning again. He would spend, literally, the rest of his life making himself available to anyone who was willing to listen. Where there was no hope, he helped them realize that as long as there is breath, there is hope. Where there was no faith, he helped them realize that there was a God in heaven who loved them more than anybody in this world could possibly love them. Billy was quick to assure his mentees that God loved them and he loved them, as well, but nobody could outlove the God that created them both.

In the latter part of his life, Billy began to experience some significant health problems. These were serious enough that they would shadow his life story for the rest of his life. An overriding prayer concern for Billy (and he was a man who deeply believed in prayer) was the broken relationship that his problems had created with his two sons. He would share this with those close to him and ask that they would bond with him in prayer that those relationships might be restored before he reached the end of his life. To make a long story short, his prayers were answered. To be able to have a renewed relationship with his sons and their families was more than he could have ever thought possible.

The last few weeks of Billy's life were very difficult. The doctors were cautious in their prognosis of his condition, but Billy's years as a medic made him realize his time was limited. He was very philosophical in assessing this time in his life. He talked about the good times in a career that was like a fantasy world very often, the bad times where the years when he was in the hold of addiction that seemed insurmountable, but the worst of the worst could not hold a candle to the incredible joy of recovery and his absolute joy in helping others discover their own way out of the abyss that engulfed them. He considered himself a lifelong learner. The more he helped others, the more he understood his own recovery.

Billy's life journey came to an end in the early morning hours of August 15th. He left this world peacefully. One moment, he took a breath, and the next moment, he crossed over into eternity. It was exactly the end he had prayed for.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents, David Duffield and Carey Barker Deacon. He lost his best friend ever when his brother Duffy joined his wife

Rita who had preceded him in heaven.

Billy's life was blessed by the unwavering love of his wife Judy Martin Deacon. She was his tireless caregiver, staunch advocate, and enthusiastic cheerleader. Every problem had a solution, and she took that as her challenge. No one could have done more than she did.

Billy's love for his sons was boundless and resolute. The new relationship he had with them brought his life full circle. He gave honor and praise to the God who made it possible.

William Carey Deacon Davis is the older of the two. His wife is Kai. Their daughter is Kiyah Davis (and Gaven), and their son is Liam Campbell. The younger son is Joshua Kyle Deacon Davis. His wife is Sarah. Their children are Cody Davis and Bella Davis. Billy embraced his wife Judy's family as his own. Her sons are Chris Martin (and husband Jamie Shropshire) and Bryan Martin. Bryan's children are Kayla Martin, Victoria Martin, and Alex Martin. The mother of Bryan's children is Stephannie Martin. Duffy's family remained a major part of Billy's life. Duffy's children are Kelley Hight (and Kyle Bowen); Carey Deacon and her children, Catherine Teeter and Caroline Teeter; Duffy Deacon III (and Jennifer) and their children Brian and Kimberly; Natalie Deacon and her daughter, Anna Alexander. There is an innumerable extended family of cousins, aunts, uncles, or any other relationship one might manufacture!

The life of this good man will be recalled with great love, a little laughter, and absolutely no regrets because every goal in his life, he saw to the finish. That is one thing that made his life so unique. There will be a visitation on Tuesday, August 19th from 6 - 8 PM at McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory, 38 Jackson St., Newnan. Stories will be told, some true, some exaggerated. There will be much laughing and back slapping because that would just be Billy. No golf stories will be told because most have no truth anyway. The

service to honor our friend will be on Wednesday, August 20th at 2:00 PM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory. The service will be led by Billy's friend and pastor, Reverend Lee Chitwood. Most everything he says may be truthful. We will sing songs and pray, and then we will leave for the interment at Historic Oak Hill Cemetery.

Grieve not for our faithful and robust friend. "It is well with his soul." Those were some of his last words. We must believe it as strongly as he did.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory, 770-253-4580.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

96 Jefferson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-3744

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **19**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Funeral Service

AUG **20**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of William Carey Barker Deacon*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - August 20, 2025 at 11:26 AM

GW

Beautiful tribute.

Geraldine Welch - August 20, 2025 at 12:48 PM

JC

Geraldine , after 61 years I was honored that you took the time to speak to me the other day , A kind word to another sometimes can be very up lifting. Thank You

John Coshnitzke - August 20, 2025 at 05:51 PM



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of William Carey Barker Deacon*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - August 19, 2025 at 03:56 PM

FS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Felicia Smith - August 20, 2025 at 01:27 PM

QF

“ Quwyndoline F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Carey Barker Deacon.

Quwyndoline F. - August 19, 2025 at 11:45 PM

JM

“ The many days, meetings, etc. at Triangle. You were a true friend and I'll miss you but I know you ended up in heaven. John

John McLaney - August 19, 2025 at 06:36 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



August 19, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Carey Barker Deacon.

August 19, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.*



August 19, 2025 at 04:55 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Carey Barker Deacon.

August 19, 2025 at 04:55 PM



“ *Billy Deacon exemplified the best qualities of a union brother. His openness and generosity benefited many. He will be greatly missed. Rest in service, brother.*

Bob Giolito - August 19, 2025 at 04:31 PM



“ *Difficult to put into words how important he was. He helped so many, particularly with addiction. He helped me several times, once when my faith was severely damaged. The world is better because of him. My condolences to his family. He was a great man.*

Steven Chris Hunter - August 19, 2025 at 11:48 AM



“ *Billy was just always there, at the Union meetings with kindness and openness offering help to those that needed it. I didn't know him but I'm sad to hear of his passing. He will be missed by so many. We should all hope to have a positive effect on so many lives as he did.*

Midian - August 18, 2025 at 11:55 PM

CD

“ Reading the obituary and everyone’s comments make me feel extremely proud to be his son. I will be forever grateful for these past couple of years reconnecting, and I wish it would have been sooner and more time. Love you!

Carey Davis - August 18, 2025 at 07:14 PM

JF

“ Jenn , Eric, Aries and Reid Flannery purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



Jenn , Eric, Aries and Reid Flannery - August 18, 2025 at 06:39 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



August 18, 2025 at 01:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



August 18, 2025 at 11:51 AM

J4

“ He was a leader. He used his life experiences to better mankind. He was a shining example of what humanity should be like.

Jim Recznik 479 - August 18, 2025 at 09:17 AM

YA

“ Your Friends and Colleagues at athena purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



Your Friends and Colleagues at athena - August 18, 2025 at 09:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Carey Barker Deacon.

August 18, 2025 at 08:36 AM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



August 18, 2025 at 08:36 AM

KH

“ I love my Uncle Billy and what he has meant to me and this family! He helped me tremendously through the hardest times of my life! Rest with Jesus sweet man.

Kelley Hight - August 18, 2025 at 07:10 AM

MM

“ I met Billy quite a few times at the old Newnan clubhouse over my first decade here, but didn't really get to know and appreciate his kindness until I became a regular at Fr Mikes Sat AM mens group-,his concern, kindness and influence will live on in the dozens or hundreds he helped with addiction probs- he will be very fondly remembered hereabouts-

Mike C aka Jersey Mike - August 17, 2025 at 10:46 PM



“ Billy was one the first people I talked to about getting sober and helped me find some of my treatment options. Almost 3 years sober now. RIP

Q - August 17, 2025 at 07:19 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



August 17, 2025 at 06:57 PM

AL

“ Brother Billy cared so much for the struggles of others, always letting us know we didn't have to carry our burdens alone. He will be greatly missed, but the example of Loving Kindness he was will live on in our hearts. May his memory be a blessing.



Allie - August 17, 2025 at 05:53 PM

JC

“ Sorry to hear about Billy, I went to NHS with him. I have not saw him since 1964 but did wonder about him several times over the years . He was one of those you just never forgot. So many of my school friends have now passed away and often I look at those old year books and wonder what happen to them..

John Coshnitzke - August 17, 2025 at 03:23 PM

GW

John, I hope you are doing well. I remember you from high school and often wonder how they are and hope they have a good life. I retired from teaching many years ago and moved away from Newnan but I lived there sixty years and it will always have a special place in my heart.

Geraldine Welch - August 17, 2025 at 06:38 PM

JC

Thank you Mrs. Welch, you was a great teacher. I am far from well but I have had a blessed and prosperous life and hope all is well with you.

John Coshnitzke - August 17, 2025 at 08:45 PM

GW

So happy to hear from you. My life has been good but also very sad. My son died ten years ago at age 47. My husband died four years ago but I have five grandchildren and six great grandchildren so as with most of us, life is a mixed bag. I am almost 85 years old and live alone so you can imagine, it's hard not to become depressed at times. I am glad you had a good business and I hope your health improves. Billy's life is a great example for people. He will be missed.

Geraldine Welch - August 18, 2025 at 11:55 AM

JC

I don't think I will be able to make the visitation or service but but I will try. Life is a mixed bag and at this age we all have been on some long and dark roads. We are fortunate to have made it this far. So good to hear from you.

John Coshnitzke - August 18, 2025 at 04:48 PM

DC

“ Billy was such a great person. We went to EMT school together and became friends. He got me started as a set medic in IATSE Local 479. You will be truly missed my friend.

Darren Chappuies - August 17, 2025 at 05:00 AM

DD

“ My dear Uncle Billy was a beautiful Christian man. He was a wonderful example to all who knew him. After I lost my father and he lost his brother we leaned on each other with a good time on the golf course or an encouraging phone call. He was a wonderful uncle to my children as well I will miss him and my prayers are with Judy and her boys

Duffy Deacon - August 17, 2025 at 12:47 AM

MT

“ As a classmate at Newnan Jr High and High School, I can say we all loved Billy. My last few interactions at reunions have been so encouraging that he was enjoying his New Life. Now he rejoices before the Throne of his Savior. But we will all miss him and I pray for his family.

Mary Anne Turnbull - August 17, 2025 at 12:20 AM

TD

“ So sad to hear that my long time friend passed away ! So many memories of the times we had in our younger years ! Rest in peace Billy !

Talley Ned Denney - August 16, 2025 at 01:59 PM

BI

“ I am deeply saddened by the passing of my lifelong dear friend.
Bill Ingram

Bill Ingram - August 16, 2025 at 12:00 PM

SG

“ Judy and Family,
We are very sad at Billy's passing. He was such a kind and sweet man. We will miss him. Thinking of you and your family during this difficult time. Praying that God will give you strength to make it through!
We love you,
Joe and Sandy Gibbs

Sandy and Joe Gibbs - August 16, 2025 at 08:42 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Carey Barker Deacon.

August 16, 2025 at 08:07 AM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



August 16, 2025 at 08:07 AM

JW

“ Joy Williams lit a candle in memory of William Carey Barker Deacon



Joy Williams - August 15, 2025 at 08:21 PM

KK

“ Kelley and Kyle purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of William Carey Barker Deacon.



Kelley and Kyle - August 15, 2025 at 05:21 PM

GW

“ I am so shocked and saddened to read of Billy's passing. His family has my sincerest condolences. I first knew him when he was a student at Newnan High School. I remember him so fondly from those days and in the last few years, we have communicated through Facebook and he seemed to be so happy with life. I am truly sorry that he passed too soon.



Geraldine Welch - August 15, 2025 at 03:45 PM

LM

Billy and my husband John McGlynn, work

My husband and John were very good friends that had so many funny laughs together. He was John's best friend and close like a brother. It really saddens us that he has really sounds that he passed. But he is up there with God now and rejoicing. We will all meet again

Lynn McGlynn - August 18, 2025 at 04:48 AM

WI

*Mary Anne - Please save your piety for a Sunday School class.
Bill Ingram*

William Ingram - August 21, 2025 at 06:34 PM