



William Lee Ellis

April 21, 1943 - October 31, 2014

For 35 years, William “Lee” Ellis felt himself privileged to be given the task of educating the young middle school students entrusted to his care. The benefits of his dedicated efforts will be felt in those lives for years to come. Lee passed from this earthly life in the peace of his home on October 31, 2014. Lee was born in Newnan and was the son of the late Dr. William Yates Ellis and Ida Lee Ellis. He was educated in the Newnan Public schools and chose Emory at Oxford for his first college experience. He went on to The University of Georgia for Bachelor’s and Master’s in Political Science. During the 32 years that he taught in the Marion County School System, he also did graduate work at MTSU. He was twice named Marion County’s Middle School Teacher of the Year and also The Conservation Teacher of the Year. Lee believed in being fully engaged in his community. He was associated with the Jaycees and was named their Young Man of the Year. He was chairman of the board for The March of Dimes and through his involvement with The Lions Club, he was able to help young people obtain eyeglasses. His love of books and their importance in education led him to service on The Marion County Library Board. The last year of Lee’s teaching experience was in Coweta County after retiring from Marion County.

Lee is survived by his wife Janet Davis Ellis. His children are Janet Lee (and husband Hamilton) Whaley; Dub (and wife Tammy) Ellis. He was a proud grandfather to Caroline Whaley, Hamilton Whaley and Kinsey Ellis. Other survivors include his mother-in-law Allilee Davis and his siblings Frank Ellis

and Frances Lunsford. His nieces and nephews are Terry Chadwick, Scott Lunsford, Tim Davis, Patrick Davis and Rob Davis. Memories of Lee's exemplary life will be shared by Dr. Joel E. Richardson at the funeral service to be held on Sunday, November 2, 2014 at 3:00 PM in the McKoon chapel at 38 Jackson Street in Newnan. The family will receive friends beginning at 2:00 PM. Interment will be in Forest Lawn Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Central Baptist Church, The Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University or The Gentiva Hospice Foundation. The dedicated staffs at Winship and Gentiva have been a blessing to Lee's family. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mckoon.com.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

656 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 2. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

NOV 2. 3:00 PM (ET)

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38 Jackson Street
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Tribute Wall

JB

“ Janet, Janet Lee and Dub I was so sorry to hear about Mr. Ellis. He was a wonderful teacher and friend. He left all of us in Jasper with warm and kind memories. He will be truly misses by everyone here. My love and prayers to all the Ellis family.

Johnnie Sanders Bailey - November 14, 2014 at 02:52 PM

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Johnnie Sanders Bailey - November 14, 2014 at 02:49 PM

MG

“ What a wonderful teacher! My children had the good luck to have Mr. Ellis & also his wife as teachers at Jasper Middle School, Jasper, TN Once in a while, if your are lucky, you get to meet that once in a life time teacher. Mr Ellis was such a man.

Melinda Griffin - November 14, 2014 at 11:27 AM

DM

“ I just read in the local paper of the passing of Mr. Ellis. He was a wonderful person and teacher.

Debbie Watson Morton - November 13, 2014 at 03:47 PM

MJ

“ Janet and family - I'm so sorry for your loss. Pleae know you're in my thoughts and prayers.

Merrie Lee Jones - November 05, 2014 at 11:58 AM

KB

“ As a teacher, what he did for me and his other students means so much more. He was a wonderful teacher, and man. My prayers are with the family.

Kelley Ake Burroughs - November 05, 2014 at 06:38 AM

SC

“ I had the joy and privilege to work with Lee as a fellow teacher at Jasper Middle School. His love for students, family, and our JMS family was clearly evident daily. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Lee had many qualities to love, however, my favorite was his sense of humor. I have so many memories of Lee's wonderful antics. One account that stands out involves the school intercom. Whenever someone forgot to turn off the intercom after making an "all call" Lee would always go into the office and loudly proclaim, "Mrs. Ellis is a beautiful woman!" Janet, Dub, Janet Lee, and grandchildren my heart goes out to you with love and prayers.

Sharon Cline - November 04, 2014 at 09:31 AM

CP

“ Mr. Ellis' love for teaching was unmatched. I remember learning to love science in his classroom. I am quite positive that I became a science teacher and then counselor because of his influence. I recently saw pictures of a Jasper Middle School Halloween dance where there was a skeleton used as a prop; I wondered if that was the skeleton that Mr. Ellis used for so many years to teach so many students. His enthusiasm for knowledge was cultivated through us. A thirst to shape young lives will be remembered fondly. To the Ellis family: my condolences in the loss of such a great man. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Cameron Houts Perry - November 03, 2014 at 11:13 PM

SB

“ My sincere condolences to the family. Mr. Ellis was my most beloved teacher of all time. He was always so encouraging and willing to go above and beyond for his students. I will never forget the afternoons of Thinking Cap and going to Chatt State for Academic Bowl. He always wanted us to reach for the stars. Without him as a teacher I'm not sure I would have gone on to be an engineer. I had just thought of him the other day and wondered if I could find his address to write a letter, but it's too late now. I hope in Heaven he knows how much he meant to so many of us.

Shannon Bennett - November 03, 2014 at 08:07 PM

SG

“ I know Lee loved the beach. I believe I fixed a light so he could see the step at the walkover to San Remo's route to the beach. We at Seahauts will miss him.

Sam Gillis - November 03, 2014 at 03:23 PM

EC

“ I GO WAY BACK WITH LEE, FRANKIE AND FRANCES; WE USED TO WATCH DICK CLARK AT THEIR HOUSE AFTER SCHOOL. MY SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY ON LEE'S DEATH.

ED COLE - November 03, 2014 at 11:46 AM

KS

“ I was fortunate to have met Lee a year ago at a weekly bridge club. He was always the kindhearted gentleman of our group and I will miss his one liners and gentle spirit. My sincere condolences to sweet Janet and all of Lee's family.

Kaye Schulz - November 03, 2014 at 10:03 AM

FF

“ We have all the family in our prayers. Lee was such a fine person.

FRANK AND MELODY FARMER - November 03, 2014 at 09:58 AM

LM

“ I am so sorry to hear about Lee's passing. I have many fond memories of Lee growing up. Your family will be in my prayers.
Linda Mealor

Linda Mealor - November 02, 2014 at 10:40 AM

KA

“ So sorry to hear of Lee's passing. May he find peace with our Lord and Father.

Kay Harvey Adams - November 02, 2014 at 08:53 AM

SR

“ Love & prayers to all the family.. Sarah Hope & family

Sarah Hope Roberts - November 01, 2014 at 09:36 PM

JW

“ I was saddened to learn of the Lee's passing. As a co- worker, it was a pleasure to work with him at Smokey Road! I especially remember his love of the "oldies". I am so sorry for your loss! Jimmy Wilson

Jimmy Wilson - November 01, 2014 at 03:54 PM

TW

“ We are so sorry to hear this news. We will all miss Lee so much. Love to all of you...Linda and Greg and Family

The Whitakers - November 01, 2014 at 02:24 PM