



Dr. Burton Coley

April 5, 1917 - April 17, 2011

Dr. George Burton Coley, of Bowdon, GA, passed away on April 17, 2011. He was 94.

Dr. Coley was born April 5, 1917 in Ranburne, AL and was the son of Myrtle Ruth Pirkle and Joel Judson Coley, and the husband of Bessie Edmondson Coley.

Dr. Coley attended Howard College (since renamed as Sanford University) in Birmingham, AL before volunteering to join the U.S. Army on January 1, 1942. After serving his country with distinction in the Pacific Theater for four years during WW II, he completed his undergraduate education at Howard College and then matriculated at Emory University School of Dentistry, graduating in 1950. Dr. Coley moved with his family to Bowdon, GA in 1950, where he practiced general dentistry and then specialized in prosthodontics until his retirement in 1986. He was a member of the American Dental Association and the Georgia Dental Association.

The son of a Baptist preacher, Dr. Coley was a Christian believer from an early age and a long-time member of the Bowdon Baptist Church, where he served as trustee, deacon, Sunday School teacher, and in many other capacities. His family remembers him as a loving husband, father, and grandfather, always generous and always encouraging. He inspired those

close to him in their spiritual growth and was ever available for help and encouragement, and he provided for the educational goals of his family. His prayers of thanksgiving at holiday meals are remembered for thanking and praising God for the blessings of his family. His family will always remember the enormous blessings that he bestowed on them in every way over the course of his long and happy life.

He was preceded in death by three sisters, Lora Lee Coley Wiggins, Mary Alice Coley Woodall, Dorothy Coley Griffin, and Ellen and Glenda Coley (in childhood); one brother, Paul Coley; and a grandson, Adam Luke Coley.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Bessie Edmondson Coley; his five children, Laura Jane Coley Edgerton (James) of Atlanta, Rebecca Coley Ashford (Clint) of Athens, GA, Philip Burton Coley (Kitty) of Bowdon, GA, David Levi Coley (Julie) of Victor, MT, and Juliet Eileen Coley of Charleston, SC; and his survived by 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two brothers, William Ray Coley (Gladys) of Atlanta and Joel Judson Coley (Elza) of Carrollton, GA; and two sisters, Mavis Coley Watts of Carrollton, GA and Lucille Coley Jacobs of Heflin, AL.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at Bowdon Baptist Church. Interment will follow the funeral services at Bowdon City Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday, April 18, 2011 from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m.

Cemetery Details

Bowdon City Cemetery

Johnson Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rainwater Funeral Home
317 North Carroll Street
Bowdon, GA 30108
(770) 258-7239
info@rainwaterfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rainwaterfuneralhome.com>

Service

APR 19. 1:00 PM (ET)

Bowdon Baptist Church
205 Mill Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall



“ *My sincere sympathy to all the Coley family. I have so many wonderful memories of visits in the Coley home while growing up...from Blue Stocking events to sleep-overs to performing plays in the back yard, we always had so much fun. Dr. Coley was a warm, hospitable, true Southern gentleman. May your years of family memories bring comfort in your loss. Kathy Smith Earley*

Katherine Smith Earley (Kathy) - April 18, 2011 at 09:40 AM