



Dr. Norman Padgett

February 19, 1934 - August 2, 2022

Dr. Norman Lewis Padgett, of Bowdon, Georgia, passed away at his home on August 2, 2022. He was 88.

Norman was born on February 19, 1934 in Gadsden, Alabama to the late Franke Lewis and Crystal Padgett. He attended Emma Sansom School and entered the U.S. Navy and served from 1951 to 1955 during the Korean Conflict. After his time in the Navy, he attended Jacksonville State University and majored in Music and participated in the marching band. While there, he was responsible for naming the JSU band, "THE SOUTHERNERS." It was also at Jacksonville where he met and married his wife of 65 years, Cecelia Peters Padgett. After graduation, they moved to Bowdon, Georgia where he took a position as a music teacher and band director. He served as band director from 1958 until 1969. While in that position he was chosen as the school's Star Teacher four times and as the Star Teacher for the state of Georgia. His bands were always well prepared and earned countless Superior ratings during his tenure.

As one would expect, Norman was a proponent of education and continued his own by earning his Masters degree in Music Education from Auburn University in 1964. He returned to the plains and received his Doctor of Education in 1981. In 1970, he was asked to be the Principal of Bowdon Elementary School. He served in that position with the "best and smartest faculty in Carroll County" until 1988.

Norman was also an active member of his community. He was a member of

Bowdon Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon and taught the men's Fellowship Sunday School Class for over 30 years. He was also Sunday School Director and served as Chairman of the Building Committee for the church's new sanctuary. He was a member of the Bowdon Lions Club for 35 years, was a charter member of the Bowdon Sertoma Club, and was Past Master at Bowdon Lodge No. 206 F&AM. He was named Carroll County Citizen of the Year by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce in both 1984 and 1996.

He served as mayor of Bowdon for two years and, while in office, the new Bowdon Hospital was built, the first City Manager was employed, and the city's Public Library was built. The city's recreation department was also formed and a retirement program was put in place for city employees. But his civil service didn't stop there. He also served as the Chairman of the Carroll County Board of Education, Chairman of the Carroll County Water Authority, Chairman of the Bowdon Development Authority, Vice-Chairman of The Bowdon Hospital Authority, and as Executive Secretary for the Georgia Association of School Faculty Administrators. He was also hired to develop a purchasing system for the Carroll County Schools and served as its first director.

But throughout his career, he never lost his love for marching bands. Norman served as Judicator of Bands in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida. He donated his time to teaching private band lessons in his home. He volunteered his time to the Temple High School Band and, to honor him, the students named the band room THE DR. NORMAN L. PADGETT BAND ROOM FOR OUSTANDING SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TEMPLE BAND PROGRAM. He was a clinician for Bowdon, Mt. Zion, Bremen, Central, Villa Rica, and Douglas County bands. More recently, the band room for Bowdon High School was also named in his honor for his many years of service.

In addition to his parents, Norman was preceded in death by his sisters, Nancy Mackey and Cora Jean MacMillan; and his father-in-law and mother-in-

law, Willie Richard and Queen Hardy Peters.

He is survived by his wife, Cecelia; his children, Pat Padgett of Auburn, Alabama and Pam Padgett of Bowdon; his grandchildren, Trey and Morgan Padgett of Little Rock, Arkansas and Nancy and Ben Story of Dawsonville, Georgia; and his brother-in-law, Richard Peters of Newnan, Georgia.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, August 7, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at Bowdon Baptist Church. Rev. Justin Richards will officiate and eulogies will be offered by Mr. Hal Lovvorn, Mr. Neil Ruby, and Mr. Pat Padgett. Interment will follow in the Bowdon City Cemetery. Prior to the services, his body will lie-in-state at the church from 2:00 p.m. till the funeral hour.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Saturday, August 6, 2022 from 4:00 till 7:00 p.m. and again on Sunday from 12:30 till 1:30 p.m.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Cindy, Kirstin, Eric, and Jessica at Amedisys Homecare and to Robin, Ashley, Melissa, Christopher, Heather, and Rev. Kenneth Brown with Amedisys Hospice.

For those who wish, memorial contributions can be made in Norman's memory to the Dr. Normal L. Padgett Music Scholarship Fund (Carroll County BOE, c/o Mr. Neil Ruby, 164 Independence Drive, Carrollton, GA 30116)

Cemetery Details

Bowdon City Cemetery

Johnson Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

AUG 7. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bowdon Baptist Church
205 Mill Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall



“ Rainwater Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett



Rainwater Funeral Home - August 06, 2022 at 09:58 AM

RF

Dr. Padgett was such an important part of the lives of all who knew him. To many of us who pursued musical careers, he was a mentor, a life-long supporter, and a great friend. He could be as tough as a drill sergeant or the most compassionate friend you could ever have - and you loved him for both sides because you knew he was right.

Dr. Norman Padgett is always at the top of my list for people who inspired me both musically and in life. I will also always consider him one of the very best human beings I have ever known.

God bless the wonderful Padgett family in this difficult time. Dr. Padgett, I will always have deep love and respect for you. Rest in peace, my friend.

Rick Fowler - August 07, 2022 at 10:20 AM

SB

Coming from families that are musically inclined,He opened up a whole new world to me. Of structure And Music.I'll treasure that and his friendship always. The BandRoom was often a place of refuge,he felt that with no questions asked. I will forever be grateful for his understanding and kindness. TUFF? Indeed he was! But Also a Heart of Gold.🕊️

sheila Barrow - August 14, 2022 at 06:39 AM

MH

*My mother, Marilyn Shelby Hutchins Suchanec, who started the band in the early 1950s always spoke highly of him.
Martha Hutchins*

Martha Hutchins - April 07, 2025 at 10:32 PM

LE

“ *Laura Crews Evans lit a candle in memory of
Dr. Norman Padgett*



Laura Crews Evans - October 07, 2022 at 06:26 PM

KS

“ *Kim Yates Stovall lit a candle in memory of
Dr. Norman Padgett*



Kim Yates Stovall - August 30, 2022 at 12:35 AM

SA

“ *I am eternally grateful for Dr. Norman Padgett and the positive influence he had on my life. It was amazing the confidence he instilled in me as I began my life at Bowdon High School and as a member of his band. He was the ultimate great teacher: full of enthusiasm, respectful of students, talented and knowledgeable in his field, with unwavering energy and a desire to bring out the best in his students. I am convinced that he started me on the path to success in school and in life by believing in and supporting me in my four years of band at Bowdon High School. My sympathy to his wife and family. May God bless you. Sharon Crawford Alford*

Sharon Crawford Alford - August 16, 2022 at 09:00 PM

BL

“ *Bart Loftin lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Bart Loftin - August 08, 2022 at 07:59 AM

EH

“ *Condolences to the Padgett family. Once a neighbor on Sally Ann Circle. Ed (Wallace) and Marie Harvell, Wichita Kansas.*

ed harvell - August 07, 2022 at 12:27 PM

TB

“ *I have the utmost respect for Mr. Padgett. He was a great man, teacher and mentor. He will be missed! Prayers to the family at this time of grief and loss. Tony Baker*



Tony Baker - August 06, 2022 at 02:39 PM



“ *55 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Rainwater Funeral Home - August 06, 2022 at 09:50 AM



“ *There are so many memories, conversations, and so much more I can say about Doc! I am so thankful to have known him and for him to have been part of our family for so many years! He has done so much for all of us! We love him dearly and will miss him greatly! ❤️*

Amanda N Wilson - August 06, 2022 at 04:05 AM

TG

“ *Norman was a very accomplished and special person. The family is in my thoughts and prayers. May beautiful memories sustain you during this difficult time of loss.*

Teresa Prince Gilson - August 05, 2022 at 08:59 AM

NH

“ *Dr.Padgett was the best Band Director Bowdon ever had.Prayers for Family*

ned Harman - August 05, 2022 at 02:59 AM

KS

“ *One of the sweetest men ever! You will be truly missed!*
Tommy & Kay Smith



Kay Smith - August 04, 2022 at 11:13 PM

DW

“ Dr. Padgett was every bit the gentleman, the humanitarian, and a superior teacher and musician. His years of encouragement and direction will never be forgotten by both educators and students. I remember when Mr. Norman first arrived at Bowdon Grammar School, searching for musical talent for the high school band. As a teacher, he was compassionate with a good sense of humor, but did not suffer bad manners nor laziness well. His paddle is probably still remembered by those of us that saw it in action and we always wondered what the engraved O M A stood for! Mr. Norman will be missed by all that knew him and we students are far better for having known him. Heartfelt sympathy for his family.

Dwain Word - August 04, 2022 at 10:21 PM

RC

“ So many memories, all good. Our family sharing the top of the old college dormitory. We had come back to Bowdon on a Friday night for a football game, Norman had retired as BD, but he knew which clarinet had missed a note, from the parking lot as we were walking to the car. he had such a good influence on so many people.

Robert Holmes Cunningham - August 04, 2022 at 09:12 PM

RB

“ We love our Sally Ann Circle family.

Judy Browning Lovvorn
Ryan Browning



Ryan W Browning - August 04, 2022 at 09:00 PM

JM

“ Sending prayers for Cecelia and family. He was such a friendly, jovial person and such a blessing to the community.



Joan Madaglia - August 04, 2022 at 08:15 PM

TS

“ When Norman was in the nursing home at the. Oaks he was the .most kind man ever o matter if he didn't feel good he always had a smile on his face

Tammy szpak - August 04, 2022 at 03:42 PM

DC

“ Sending prayers and love to Dr. Padgett's sweet family. I don't think this site could hold all the good things we could list about this man. He was simply the best and I was honored to have known him.



Dottie Grizzard Cavender - August 04, 2022 at 03:20 PM

AW

“ Norman wore lots of hats during his career! Most of them related to service to his community. I was fortunate to work with him as a colleague (principals) with the Carroll County School System during the 1970's and 1980's. RIP my friend!

Anthony Wilkins - August 04, 2022 at 12:59 PM

SM

“ I send my Love and Prayers to the Family. You all have a very special place in my feelings for my adopted hometown. Norman was always eager to help others including me. Thank you all for your Friendship.

Sue Medeiros - August 04, 2022 at 12:43 PM

KS

“ Karen Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett



Karen Smith - August 04, 2022 at 12:25 PM

JC

“ As a teacher, friend, and mentor Dr. Padgett affected my life in a very positive way and I am forever grateful. Jim Calhoun



Jim Calhoun - August 04, 2022 at 09:41 AM

MH

“ Mike & Lee Haynes lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett



Mike & Lee Haynes - August 04, 2022 at 09:34 AM

JS

“ *Jan Stitcher lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Jan Stitcher - August 04, 2022 at 09:29 AM

JH

“ *Janie Meadows & Peggy Hewitt lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Janie Meadows & Peggy Hewitt - August 04, 2022 at 09:21 AM

CH

“ *Connie And David Hyatt lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Connie and David Hyatt - August 04, 2022 at 05:49 AM

JD

“ *Judy Wilson Dixon lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Judy Wilson Dixon - August 04, 2022 at 12:16 AM

SW

“ *Susan Williamson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Susan Williamson - August 03, 2022 at 11:03 PM

SG

“ *Susan McCaghren Gibbs lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Susan McCaghren Gibbs - August 03, 2022 at 10:13 PM

SS

“ *A great man with a kind soul. Always showed compassion for his students. Thank you for the wonderful memories. You will be missed.*



Samantha Simpson - August 03, 2022 at 09:43 PM



“ *Norman was my best friend through high school and way beyondthe absolute "gold standard".... Tyree Landers*

Tyree Landers - August 03, 2022 at 07:30 PM

PH

“ *Paula Hall lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Paula Hall - August 03, 2022 at 07:01 PM

SH

“ *What a honor to have Mr Padgett as a friend and neighbor. Prayers to the Padgett family for peace and comfort during this most difficult time...RIP Chief*

Stan Holloway - August 03, 2022 at 05:42 PM

CJ

“ *Charles And Sherry Jackson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Charles and Sherry Jackson - August 03, 2022 at 05:17 PM

JH

“ *My deepest sympathies to the Padgett family in their loss of Norman. We were fellow principals in Carroll County many years ago. I always enjoyed his company, his conversations and many a round of golf.*

John Hooper - August 03, 2022 at 05:02 PM

SP

“ *Susan & Clyde Patterson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Susan & Clyde Patterson - August 03, 2022 at 04:33 PM

BM

“ *Love and prayers for the family such a great man*



buck / tina meherg - August 03, 2022 at 04:30 PM

TC

“ *Tina Croft lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Tina Croft - August 03, 2022 at 04:21 PM

SS

“ *Sullivan Billy & Sue lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett*



Sullivan Billy & Sue - August 03, 2022 at 04:09 PM

SG

“ Sara George lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett



Sara George - August 03, 2022 at 03:40 PM



“ He's the reason I learned to love "Georgia ON My Mind."



Kay Driver - August 03, 2022 at 03:25 PM

CM

“ I had Dr. Padgett as a principal at Bowdon Elem. He was always kind and would give hugs anytime he saw me. You will be miss. Sending prayers to your family.



Cyndi Benton Meade - August 03, 2022 at 03:16 PM

MN

“ He will truly be missed! Great man!



Melinda Cole Newton - August 03, 2022 at 03:00 PM

TC

“ Tommy&Judy Cantrell lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett



Tommy&Judy Cantrell - August 03, 2022 at 02:49 PM

LF

“ LaDonna Fryar lit a candle in memory of Dr. Norman Padgett



LaDonna Fryar - August 03, 2022 at 02:43 PM