



Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr.

November 11, 1934 - October 13, 2019

On Sunday, October 13, 2019, Robert (Bob) Alexander Williams Jr. went home to be with the Lord at the age of 84 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Bob was preceded in death by his parents Robert Alexander Williams Sr. and Mary Swift Williams, his sister, Merry Nita Still. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Olivia Burrell Williams and his son, Robby Williams III. He is survived by his daughter, Joy Williams Joiner (David), and granddaughter, Kerianne. He is also survived by his brothers, Bill Williams (Kelli) and Mike Williams (Pam), and several nieces and nephews.

Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Bob was born on November 11, 1934. He graduated from Messick High School and went on to earn his Bachelor's degree in Organ Performance from Memphis State University (University of Memphis). Sensing a call to ministry, he continued his education by earning a Masters in Sacred Music from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. His first ministerial job out of seminary was as Minister of Music at First Baptist Church of Waycross, Georgia. It was here where he met his wife, Olivia, as they served together on the staff of First Baptist Church. Eventually, they moved to Newnan, Georgia where Bob served as the Minister of Music at Central Baptist Church until they surrendered to God's call on their lives to foreign missions.

On June 23, 1970 Bob and Olivia Williams were appointed as missionaries to Honduras through the Foreign Mission Board (International Mission Board) of the Southern Baptist Convention. Bob was appointed as the first Music Missionary to Honduras. Together they served in Honduras for almost 30 years. They saw God move in many wonderful and miraculous ways while serving on the field. In 1975 they walked the road of tragedy when they lost their son at the age of 5 in an accident during their first stateside assignment. A year later, they celebrated the birth of their daughter, Joy. Bob and Olivia fiercely loved the people of Honduras as well as their mission family. Serving the Lord in Honduras was the joy of their lives.

After retiring from the field, they moved to Rome, Georgia where Bob continued to use his

gifts serving in the local church playing the organ and piano for churches such as New Armuchee Baptist Church of Armuchee, Georgia and First Methodist Church of Calhoun, Georgia. In 2013, Bob and Olivia moved to Albany, Georgia to be near their children and granddaughter and joined Sherwood Baptist Church. In Albany, Bob continued to use his musical talents to play for First Baptist Church, Acre just outside of Albany. After losing Olivia, Bob moved to Monroe, Georgia with David and Joy and joined Prince Avenue Baptist Church in 2016. As was his desire, Bob found another church where he could use his talents and began playing the organ for First Baptist Church, Jefferson, Georgia. He would attend Wednesday evenings, and Sunday School at Prince Avenue and then drive to Jefferson to play the organ for their services each week. In the summer of 2019, God moved the family to First Baptist Church Indian Trail outside of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Serving Jesus and others was the essence of Bob's life. He lived his life constantly thinking about how to reach others with the good news of Jesus. This was never more evident than while in Athens, as a man in his 80's, he would drive to the University of Georgia campus regularly to witness through an evangelistic program called "The Great Exchange" as well as spending time with international students who were learning to speak English. It was not uncommon for Bob to stop on the side of the road in a neighborhood and visit with a young family he happened to see while driving home. He so desperately wanted them to know Jesus and come to church that he would visit time and time again. He was known for his quick wit and sense of humor that engaged the people he met leaving them encouraged and with a smile on their face. His heart for service led him to serve at local nursing homes, Winshape Camps and Vacation Bible School each year well into his 80's.

Bob was a man of many talents. He was an avid artist with paintings and drawings hung throughout his home. He enjoyed holding an art exhibit one year at Floyd Medical Center where he sold a few of his paintings.

Bob's life was characterized by his service unto his Lord, his family, and the church. He used the talents given to him to bring honor and glory to his Savior. His life bore fruitful service until the end as he continued to build relationships with others during his final days on earth. He lived his life exemplifying the truth that relationships matter.

The Family will be receiving friends on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 1pm at Mt. Harmony Baptist Church in Mableton, Georgia. The Funeral will follow at 2pm in the sanctuary. The burial will take place at Mt. Harmony Memorial Gardens immediately following the service. Bob has requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Robert A. Williams III Memorial Trust Fund at the Georgia Baptist Convention. This Trust established by Bob and Olivia provides annual collegiate scholarships to missionary kids through the

International Mission Board. You may make those donations by visiting www.gbfoundation.org/give. The account number to reference is 11215 and note in memory of Robert Williams Jr.

Cemetery

Mt. Harmony Memorial Gardens

581 Veterans Memorial Hwy,
SW
Mabelton, GA, 30126

Events

OCT 19 **Visitation** 01:00PM - 01:55PM

Mt. Harmony Baptist Church
561 Veterans Memorial Hwy SW, Mabelton, GA, US,
30126

OCT 19 **Celebration of life** 02:00PM

Mt. Harmony Baptist Church
561 Veterans Memorial Hwy SW, Mabelton, GA, US,
30126

Comments



“ Bobby was and is my first cousin. His dad and my mother were siblings. She died just 8 months before he did. They were 10 years apart. She always told stories about having to babysit him after school when he was around 7-8 and she was 17-18. To her he was like the worrisome little brother because his sense of humor led him to play tricks and such. But as she got older she was so proud of him and Olivia as missionaries, and told everyone she knew about him. After he moved back to the states he came to visit her and my dad as often as he could get there, and when she was in assisted living he came to visit her whenever he could get to Nashville. He was one of the kindest and purest people I have ever known, always worrying about everyone else and going the last mile to extend help wherever it was needed. Just before he was diagnosed, he drove clear across Charlotte to visit with me at my son's house on the other side of town from where Joy lived, even though he didn't know the roads there. I believe he felt some strange urgency to visit me even though he didn't know what was soon going to happen. We had lunch and I didn't notice a single thing wrong. He showed me pictures of the new house and his family (he was so very proud of them), and even some cows from a field nearby!! We laughed (as you always did with Bobby), and I hold that visit so close to my heart, like a diamond. Thank you my cousin for going the extra mile to make sure you saw me one last time. Joy, you are so lucky to have had such a wonderful dad and mother. Even though they're gone from you, your memories of them are treasures you can keep forever, and be so very proud of.

Janie Griffin Gray - October 23, 2019 at 05:52 PM



“ I couldn't have said it better. Such a sweet remembrance. Thank you, Janie.

Mike

Mike Williams - October 25, 2019 at 11:36 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 18, 2019 at 12:57 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 17, 2019 at 09:33 PM



“ A WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL, AND AMAZING FRIEND. GLAD TO HAVE SERVED WITH HIM, OLIVIA AND JOY IN HONDURAS.

Max Furr

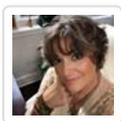
Max Furr - October 17, 2019 at 08:19 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 17, 2019 at 07:51 PM



“ All the saints in the field richly filled my childhood, but Tio Bob was my best, most favorite piano teacher, and so much more. Tio Bob allowed me to be myself, always made me laugh out loud, encouraged my "ear" for a note and a measure, but knew of my temptation to listen then play, so would never play a piece before I first learned it by sight-reading! I particularly remember many attempts to cajole him to play so I could listen and mimic with the Grieg pieces. He gave me free reign for nuance and feeling, though, and my time with him at the piano was so enjoyable. I loved to simply sit and listen to him play...one piece that sticks out in my mind is Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata No. 8, particularly the second movement...he played it in Primera Iglesia Bautista in Tegucigalpa for I believe, a seminary graduation. Tio Bob was easily the most approachable, lovable missionary uncle who blessed my childhood and teenage years in uncountable ways.

Pamela Storz - October 17, 2019 at 02:56 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 17, 2019 at 12:31 PM



“ Bob served as Interim Organist for a couple of years with us here at First Baptist Church of Jefferson, Georgia. As the Minister of Music, it was my joy and privilege to work directly with him. In addition to his skill and talent at both the organ and piano, his kind and loving spirit was always evident.

Spending time talking with him, visiting in his home to share a meal (he was a very good cook as well), and watching as he shared a presentation of his mission work with our senior adult group, impressed me with Bob's character. From my knowledge of him, Bob was a great man!

May God's grace and strength be with his family during these days. In my spirit, I feel assured of God's welcome to this servant - "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Richard Dickson

Richard Dickson - October 17, 2019 at 11:28 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 17, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 16, 2019 at 09:24 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 16, 2019 at 09:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 16, 2019 at 03:51 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Alexander Williams Jr..



October 16, 2019 at 02:25 PM