



Donald Murphy

February 14, 2011

Conway--Donald Loren Murphy, age 80, of Moss Circle, passed away Monday, February 14, 2011 at Conway Medical Center. Mr. Murphy was born in Sapulpa, OK, the son of the late Dewey Carl and Duffie Dees Murphy. He served in the U.S. Army, graduated from Central State College and earned his Master of Music degree at the University of Oklahoma. Mr. Murphy served for 32 years as an educator at Damascus High School in Maryland, where he was named Maryland Outstanding Young Educator in 1967. He also served for 24 years as organist and choir director at Damascus United Methodist Church. After "retiring" to South Carolina, Mr. Murphy served 22 years as organist and choir master at Marion Presbyterian Church, where he was devoted to his church family and choir. Mr. Murphy was a kind and gentle man who had a love for music, family & friends. He walked with quiet faith and gave that cherished gift to his children. Surviving are his wife, Nancy Steckman Murphy of Conway; a sister, Doris Ann Rudd of Denver, CO; two daughters, Kathleen Murphy of Crofton, MD and Lauren Murphy of Knoxville, TN; two sons, Wilson Murphy of Kennebunk Port, ME, and Patrick Murphy and wife Kim of Mt. Airy, MD, and their daughters Kaitlin, Emily and Meagan, who will miss their "Poppy." A Memorial Service will be held at Marion Presbyterian Church in Marion at a later date. Memorials may be sent to Marion Presbyterian Church Music Fund, 208 S. Main Street, Marion, SC 29571. Sign a guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ Mrs. Nancy, I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Know that God will hold you in His loving arms and carry you and your family through this sad time. God bless.##imported-begin##Debbie Blackwell##imported-end##

February 23, 2011 at 10:59 PM



“ Mr. Murphy gave me six wonderful years of memories. I especially remember 7th Grade homeroom where he would begin each morning by reading us a Psalm.##imported-begin##Debbie Linthicum##imported-end##

February 22, 2011 at 11:28 AM



“ Don was a wonderful mentor and musician. He touched my life and so many others in such a positive way. We all admired him and know he will be missed by everyone who were honored to have known him. Mike##imported-begin##Michael Isaacs##imported-end##

February 22, 2011 at 10:04 AM



“ It is with great sadness that I write these words today. Having heard of Don's passing days before travelling to sing with the National Christian Choir at Shell Point Retirement Community in Fort Myers, FL, I have not thought of anything except Don and his music and what he has meant to me. Don was my piano and organ teacher for my early years. As a budding musician, he was my mentor, my spiritual leader and I think, my dear friend. I sang in high school chorus with Don, and for more than 20 years in our church choir. He gave me opportunities that I will never forget and taught my more than, as he said, book can ever teach. Words cannot express my love for him and my deep appreciation for his guidance and example in my life. I am who I am today because of this man. Although I tried to say in my cards to Don and Nancy each Christmas the thankfulness for all he has meant to me, I regret I was not able to hear him play, just one more time. There has never been, and will never be, a musician or person like him, and I cherish our time together on this earth. I know I will see him again on the other side in Heaven, and I pray in some way he is proud of the person and musician I have become, with God's grace and Don's guidance. God Bless you, Don, for your life and gift of music, to this world and especially to me. With much love!###imported-begin##Sharon Warfield##imported-end##

February 21, 2011 at 04:34 PM