



## Wilbur "Will" Lee Garland

November 15, 1941 - August 3, 2020

Aynor.....Wilbur "Will" Lee Garland, age 78, passed away on Monday, August 3, 2020.

Mr. Garland was born in Boiling Springs, SC to the late Marie and James E. Garland. After serving in the U.S. Air Force he earned his degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology and Georgia State University. He taught at York Technical College and later served as financial aid director and bookstore manager at USC Lancaster. He had the opportunity to join the faculty at USC Coastal in 1974. During his tenure at Coastal Carolina University he served as Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, a faculty member in the College of Business Administration, Director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program, Associate Chancellor of Business and Finance and was Senior Vice President of Administration and Financial Affairs. He served on the Coastal Carolina Alumni Association Board of Directors and established scholarships for students attending Coastal Carolina University.

Mr. Garland served on the Horry County School Board for a total of 12 years, 10 of those as Chairman. He was a member of Salem Baptist Church. He was predeceased by one sister, three half brothers, and one half sister.

Surviving are: his wife of 56 years, Audrey A. Garland and two children, Jeffrey Garland and Melissa Gause and a special son-in-law, Jeff Gause;

three grandchildren, Alex and Brooke Garland and Paige Gause; two step grandchildren, Jennifer Jordan (Jason) and Elizabeth Gause; three step great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Robert Garland of Boiling Springs, SC and Thomas Garland of St. Mary's, GA.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM Friday.

Graveside services will be private at Salem Baptist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Coastal Carolina University for the Will and Audrey Garland Scholarship, C/O Coastal Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 261954, Conway, SC 29528.

Sign an online guestbook at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Salem Baptist Church Cemetery

4008 Salem Road  
Aynor, SC 29511

# Previous Events

## Visitation

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

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel  
606-610 Beaty Street  
Conway, SC 29526

# Tribute Wall

JN

“ I am so sorry to hear about Uncle Wilbur's passing. Last person I seen was Uncle Marion a few years back. I don't know if anyone remembers me but my mom was Jane Garland. My name is Jennifer Kelly Freeman. I know this is not the place to reach out but I don't know how to get in contact with any of the family and would really like too. If anyone reads this my email is [kelly1495@hotmail.com](mailto:kelly1495@hotmail.com).

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**Jennifer Nash** - February 26, 2024 at 01:17 PM

WF

“ Today, Will flashed into my mind. Google brought me here.

*I taught with him, during my ten years at Clayton Junior College in the 70s. His sense of humor made many frustrated days bearable, as we navigated a hostile administrative environment. I was fresh out of the military and university teaching, and he helped to smooth my rough edges. His students loved his teaching style, his openness to questions, and himself as a person. He was the source of my most repeated statements to students: "You couldn't bother me, if you tried.", "I will answer that as many times as you need me to, plus one.", and "Don't work for money."*

*I will miss him, on quite a few levels.*

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**Willard (Mike) Field** - March 25, 2022 at 06:53 PM

BH

“ Great man, great professor! Always humble and nice. He had a sharp wit about him that I remember to this day. Sad to hear of his passing. He will be missed by all that had the opportunity to know him. May God bless his family and comfort them with the fact his was a life well lived in service to others.

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**Bill Hinson** - March 01, 2021 at 09:02 PM

JB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Wilbur's passing....he was a kind man with a huge heart! He had the compassion of a saint! He made things possible for me that otherwise could have been devastating, but because of his kind heart, I was/am able to feel secure. My heart goes out to his loving family..i will keep you all in my prayers. Fly high with the angels sweet man.

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**judy bongers** - February 20, 2021 at 02:12 PM

BH

“ Audrey, Jeff, Missy and family,  
It was such a shock to hear of Will's passing. He was truly one of the best. I was blessed by our friendship over the years. Will helped me greatly during my years at Coastal. I loved seeing you when Mary Lou would arrange dinners during my visits back to Horry County. My memory of our gathering last year will be more precious now. My love and prayers will be with you.  
-Beth Haynes

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**Beth Haynes** - August 17, 2020 at 02:02 AM

JJ

“ Audrey I was surprised to read of Will's passing. We shared a huge respect for each other and the good thing is both of us knew it. His many contributions to Coastal and Horry County are immeasurable.

*I always enjoyed seeing the two of you together at so many events. Your love for each other was evident and admired.*

*I will miss seeing him at Donzelle's. He even knew where to find good food.*

*Blessings to you and your family. He has left a great legacy.*

*Jimmy Johnson*

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**JimmyJohnson** - August 12, 2020 at 04:57 PM



“ I was sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Garland. He was always so kind to me.

*Gaye B. Ducker*

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**Gaye Ducker** - August 10, 2020 at 09:15 PM

PJ

“ It was with sadness I learned of Mr. Garland's passing. As a "returning student" I was blessed to have Mr. Garland and the many other great professors at USC Coastal Carolina (and Coastal Carolina University) assist me in every way possible to achieve a long-delayed goal. I pray God's comfort and peace for each member of his family in this difficult time. God Bless. Peggy J Jones

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**Peggy J Jones** - August 07, 2020 at 08:58 PM

RR

“ *Melissa & family,  
I am so very sorry for your loss. My thoughts  
& prayers are with you & your family.  
Becky Reel - GSFE*



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**Rebecca Reel** - August 07, 2020 at 07:58 PM

GB

“ *I was very fortunate to have spent the majority of my work-life working along side Will Garland in the College of Business at Coastal Carolina University. I came to Coastal in 1973, one year before Will. I was chair of the division of business administration (as it was known at that time), and helped recruit Will to Coastal. We saw the business program transition from a two-year extension of USC to offering an MBA degree. We saw Coastal grow from a two-year extension of USC to an independent state university offering graduates degrees. Will played a major role in these transition. He also contributed in many other ways to the development of Coastal. I have so many wonderful memories of these exciting times Will loved his family, was extremely smart yet humble, was passionate about his work and was highly respected by his colleagues.*

*Audrey, Jeff, and Missy, my thoughts and prayers are with you. As you know, I thought the world of Will and have always counted him as one of my dearest friends.*

*Gerald V. Boyles - Thursday, 11:30 PM*

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**gerald Boyles** - August 06, 2020 at 11:46 PM



*I was not fortunate to have met Mr. Garland. My prayers are with Melissa and her family, God bless you all. My prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

*Carmella - GSFE.*

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**CC Anderson** - August 07, 2020 at 04:38 PM

BN

*Will was one of the first people I met when I joined the faculty at Coastal Carolina University (then, USC-Coastal Carolina College) in 1985. I had a temporary office that Summer across from Will and got to know him fairly well. Over the years, he was a good friend and neighbor, and was instrumental in Coastal's growth in several key roles in the University. I am sad to hear of his passing and am thinking of Audrey, Jeff and Missy.*

*Bob Nale*

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**Bob Nale** - August 08, 2020 at 09:11 AM

HP

*Audrey and family, I was so sorry to hear that Will passed away. He was a great friend, as well as Audrey. I know he is greatly missed by many. He was my first friend at Coastal.*

*Helen Peagler*

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**Helen Peagler** - May 07, 2022 at 01:01 PM

DF

*“ I have fond memories of Mr. Garland as my Accounting professor. I always enjoyed talking to him when seeing him around Aynor. The Garland family is in my prayers.*

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**Debbie (Hull) Floyd** - August 05, 2020 at 11:46 PM

CR

“ Clara Rogers lit a candle in memory of Wilbur  
"Will" Lee Garland



Clara Rogers - August 05, 2020 at 09:20 PM

RW

“ Mr. Garland was always very friendly with me when he was on the  
School board. He was a good man and accomplished a lot as the  
Chairman. The entire Garland Family is in my prayers.

Randal Wallace - August 05, 2020 at 03:26 PM

LS

“ Lyn Snyder lit a candle in memory of Wilbur  
"Will" Lee Garland



Lyn Snyder - August 05, 2020 at 01:32 PM

DC

“ Audrey and Family,  
I share my deepest sympathy in your loss. Will added such joy to so  
many of my days at CCU. He worked tirelessly supporting students  
through scholarships and so much more. His work at CCU and his  
service on the Horry County School Board have left a tremendous  
legacy.

Debbie Conner - August 05, 2020 at 09:46 AM

SM

“ So sorry to hear about Mr. Garland’s passing. He was an encourager to me during his years on the school board. Melissa is such a good person and teacher (enjoyed our time together working at Aynor Elementary School) and it spoke volumes to see Jeffrey follow his father’s footsteps into board service. When I went to work as the Supt in Spartanburg 2 (Boiling Springs) 15 years ago, Will made a point to converse with me several times about the transition and the area. Loved seeing him at SCSBA meetings. May the Lord bless you in the days to come....

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**Scott Mercer** - August 05, 2020 at 08:21 AM

LF

“ The memories of your contribution to my life will never be forgotten. You were my mentor. Rest in peace. Linda Ford

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**Linda Ford** - August 05, 2020 at 06:45 AM

NB

“ We are so sorry to hear of Will’s passing. Both of you are such dear friends of ours. He did so much for Liston and was so supportive during Liston’s time in the House of Rep. and we will never forget that. We cherish the memories we have with y’all at ball games, dinner, and your Mountain house. Audrey you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time. We love y’all !

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**Norma J Barfield** - August 04, 2020 at 10:01 PM

LF

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Garland’s passing. Prayers and comfort for the family in the days ahead.

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**Laura Farmer** - August 04, 2020 at 09:42 PM

NR

“ *Coastal was so lucky to have Will as a guiding hand for so many years. I always enjoyed my interactions with Will and Audrey. They were a great team! My deepest condolences to the family.*

Nelljean Rice - August 04, 2020 at 08:42 PM

CM

“ *Chris Martin lit a candle in memory of Wilbur "Will" Lee Garland*



Chris Martin - August 04, 2020 at 08:01 PM

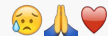
CM

“ *Dear Audrey and family,  
We were so sorry to hear about Will. He was a good friend, my Coastal adviser back in the day, and just nice to talk with. We will miss seeing him at our Alumni football tailgates and retiree gatherings.  
Wishing you peace, comfort, and strength during this difficult time.  
Fondly,  
Chris & Tim Martin*

Chris Martin - August 04, 2020 at 08:00 PM

NV

*My heart is breaking for your family when I received this. Will was such a nice guy and will be truly missed. May God send his angels to surround you and give you comfort and peace during this difficult time.*



Nancy vvkb - August 04, 2020 at 08:44 PM

AE

*Will will always be remembered fondly. He always had a smile for everyone and was always willing to help if you needed guidance. Audrey God bless you and your sweet family. With deepest sympathy. Cookie and Wally Elston*

Arline Cookie and Wally Elston - August 04, 2020 at 09:08 PM

NH

“ *Nila Hutchinson lit a candle in memory of Wilbur "Will" Lee Garland*



Nila Hutchinson - August 04, 2020 at 07:37 PM

DB

“ *So sorry to hear of Will's passing. I remember all the good times at Waccamaw Academy. He will truly be missed by so many. My thoughts are with all of the family.*

De Lis Polatty Browne - August 04, 2020 at 07:17 PM

WU

“ *Thanks for your service Airman !!!  
Wayne Williams  
United States Marine Corps*



Wayne Williams - USMC - August 04, 2020 at 07:17 PM

LC

“ *Larry Canada lit a candle in memory of Wilbur  
"Will" Lee Garland*



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**Larry Canada** - August 04, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss, prayers.*

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**Gregory Johnson** - August 04, 2020 at 06:50 PM

LB

“ *Lisa Bratcher lit a candle in memory of Wilbur  
"Will" Lee Garland*



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**Lisa Bratcher** - August 04, 2020 at 06:39 PM

ES

“ *Elaine Sarvis lit a candle in memory of Wilbur  
"Will" Lee Garland*



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**Elaine Sarvis** - August 04, 2020 at 06:04 PM

RG

“ Prayers and love for you Missy and Jeff. I have nothing but great memories of him growing up. May God comfort you and your mom.  
Love,  
Robin Goff



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**Robin Goff** - August 04, 2020 at 05:51 PM

SG

“ I have so much love and appreciation for Will and the Garland family. Will was a precious man and forever friend. I cherish the many special memories we all shared together.

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**Sallie Glover** - August 04, 2020 at 05:07 PM

SG

“ Sallie Glover lit a candle in memory of Wilbur "Will" Lee Garland



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**Sallie Glover** - August 04, 2020 at 05:03 PM