



George Edward "Bo" Evers

November 2, 1944 - May 10, 2024

IN MEMORY OF:

George Edward "Bo" Evers

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – CAIRO
4815 Sycamore Street, Cairo, Illinois

George Edward "Bo" Evers, 79, of Villa Ridge, passed away on Friday, May 10, 2024 at Union County Hospital with his children by his side.

These are Bo's words:

Let me tell you a little about my life. I was born on November 2, 1944 into a family of five. It was a very loving and caring family. My mother and father were the most important factors in shaping my life. They were strong disciplinarians but always tempered with love. Early on they taught me about the importance of strong family bonds which I always carried with me. They taught me the true values in life and how to interact with my fellow mankind. I owe them so much.

I had two great older brothers, Harry Owen and Charles David, and a beautiful

older sister, Martha Ellen, although she will tell you she is younger. My father loved to read and my mother taught us reading in our formative years before starting school. I attended Lowell Elementary School in Mound City. There, the teachers did a great job of impressing the value of the “3 R’s” and the importance of education.

My high school years were at Mound City Central High School. Those four years were filled not only with a lot of learning, but also with fun. For a small school, there were many activities for all the students including sports, music, plays, and other recreations. I was fortunate to be involved in many of these.

Strong bonds were formed with many classmates. During the summer of my junior and senior years, I was accepted into a National Science Foundation Program at SIU. Learning the latest in science and being able to interact with high school students from across the nation was a fabulous experience.

After graduation, I attended SIU on a teachers training scholarship. I double-majored in anthropology and biological sciences. I had not really planned to follow in the footsteps of my father, brother, and sister, and go into teaching as a career, but a teaching and coaching position at Meridian was available.

Coach Jim Byassee, who I played basketball and baseball for and taught me biology talked to me about filling the position. This started my 38 year career as an educator, principal, and teacher at Meridian High School. Later, I also worked at Shawnee College as an assistant basketball coach and night class teacher of biology.

I truly loved teaching and coaching. To help students understand science and even enjoy it was my goal. I hope I succeeded. All my coaching was with Coach Byassee, who I came to feel as if he were another brother. Thanks Jim.

Again I was fortunate to be in the National Science Foundation for science teachers. For three summers I attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and six summers at SIU. It was enlightening, education, and fun.

I married and was blessed with two children, Jessica Nicole, and Jeremy Kyle. I am so proud of both of them and they fill my heart with exceptional pride and love. They continue to be the greatest achievement in my life. I have three grandchildren, Joshua Lee, Lillian Faith, and Jude Evers that being sunshine in my life every day. The time I spent with them was always so much fun.

In my later years I began to play golf and became a member of a great gang called "The Possee" who terrorized the Egyptian Country Club. Thanks for all the fun, fellowship, and great games gang, it was a blast. I also enjoyed going to high school basketball games with a great friend and fellow coach, Mitch Haskins. We traveled many miles and watched numerous games.

Finally, if I have touched the life of but one person and made it in any way brighter or better, then my stay here on this East was not without purpose. For it is not so much what we have done while here, but what we have done that lives on in others after we are gone that is a true test of the worth of a persons life.

My time here was filled with many things, happiness and sadness, good times and bad, love and heartache, success and failure, all of which were a part of me. Remember, it takes all of these to make a life complete. So I hope that when you think of me, it will not be the happy times but also the sad moments we shared. All I ask of you is to remember that death is not the end of my life as long as those who remain are still unearthing memories of me. So sometimes if you like to take a moment or two and take a stroll down memory

lane, I will be there to meet you. I love you all. Bo.

The cremation of Bo will be personally handled by the staff at Crain Funeral Home.

Crain Funeral Home in Cairo is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

JH

“ We spent soooo many hours together, traveling to games, both of us still coaching from the bleachers. He was a great teacher, friend and father. I will miss him every time I walk by his old classroom. RIP , Big Guy....

J Miotch Haskins - May 15, 2024 at 02:30 PM

JG

“ Education is an important undertaking to every individual who wants to better themselves. But to make it a success one has to have good, caring teachers who love to teach, enjoy their subject area, and love to share their knowledge with others. Not all people are made to be teachers.



Fortunately some families are blessed with the gift of teaching and administration. Mr. Evers was one of them.

Our father had Mr. Evers father (Owen) as his teacher/principal in high school at McKinley back in the 1940s.

Then in the 1970s, Mr. Evers (Bo) became our biology teacher in high school at Meridian.

That was our first lab experience in his class.

The dissection of frogs were eye openers for us girls who never touched a frog before. lol

It definitely was an experience! 😊

The lab was kind of cold— meaning not a normal classroom. Each work station was high and had a sink and counters were cold stone. Each student had to sit on a high stool .

Mr. Evers believed in discipline but had times of laughs and jokes during the class period.

Mr. Evers was one of many good teachers we remember and learned from in our school days in southern Illinois.

We thank you, Mr. Evers , and your family for the giving of your time and talents to so many generations of students and their families.

Rest in peace. God Bless .

The Edwards Twins

Julie Glascock, Joni Copeland

julie glascock - May 14, 2024 at 07:28 PM

CD

“ Like many, Mr. Evers touched my life as an educator. He was a strict, but fair teacher who found ways to work in his humor. I know he will be deeply missed by friends and family.

Crystal Dillard - May 14, 2024 at 05:28 PM

EW

“ I have so many happy memories of Bo and others at MCCHS. As he said, it was a small school but we were always busy. We were in music groups, we practiced and sang in all sorts places; school musicals, community activities, etc. What fun we had, Bo was our faithful bass. I will always treasure my memories of high-school all of which include Bo. Thanks for the memories!!!

Elaine (Mitchell) Wild - May 14, 2024 at 03:30 AM

RG

“ Where to start is not easy. My neighbor in Mound City, my tennis coach, baseball and basketball coach, teacher. Most important than any of those, my friend!! I have always looked up to Mr. Evers and he would always stop me when I called him that and say, I am "Bo" to you. I last spoke with Bo when another mutual friend passed away, Jim Byassee. He told me then, Randy I am going down fast. Lots of health problems but he always stayed positive.
RIP my friend.
Randy and Carol George

Randy George - May 13, 2024 at 09:27 PM

RM

“ I was a student and friend of Mr. Evers and fell very fortunate to have been both. I had Mr. Evers in high school for Biology and Anthropology/Archaeology...and baseball coach my freshman year. He was, without a doubt, one of the best teacher’s Meridian ever had. Several years later, my Dad was part of the golf gang referred to as “The Posse”. I played with them many times and that is where the teacher/student relationship became a friendship. Many times, he tried to get me to call him “Bo”, but I couldn’t bring myself to do it. It never seemed right. He even sent Christmas cards and always signed them “Bo”, but in my mind, even though we had become great friends, he earned and deserved the respect from a former student to continue calling him Mr.Evers. He could’ve had a second career as a baker, as he made delicious desserts...especially his butterscotch coffee cakes! Mr Evers will never be forgotten!

Robert Moore - May 13, 2024 at 08:37 PM

JT

“ My condolences to the family of the man we called Mr Evers our science teacher. Mr Evers had great presence very intimidating at times he was firm but had a very soft kind way of making his point. A great man who contributed so much to many many students who attended Meridian. Mr Evers will be missed but remembered by all.

Joey Thurston - May 13, 2024 at 08:23 PM