



Mr. Earl Bailey

September 8, 1921 - November 10, 2014

RETIRED BAND DIRECTOR AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Earl H. Bailey of Acra, NY passed away on November 10, 2014, at the age of 93 after a number of years in retirement from employment at Cairo Durham Central School. Born September 8, 1921, he was the son of the late Earl Parker Bailey and Inez Higgins Bailey, formerly of Hinsdale, NH and then Delmar, NY.

Mr. Bailey's early interest in music began with trumpet-cornet lessons at age ten. He became child soloist with New England area bands including Brattleboro Vermont Military Band, Keene City Band, and Turners Falls Military Band in Massachusetts. He also played with the 172nd Vermont National Guard Band in Brattleboro, VT.

When Mr. Bailey entered the music department at Ithaca College, he was selected as Cornet Soloist with the Ithaca College Concert Band in 1939. He graduated with a B.S. degree in Music Education in 1942.

World War II brought him into military service in April 1943. At first he was assigned as a member of the 393rd and then the 736th Army Air Force Bands in Syracuse and Rome, NY. Because of conditions in the European theater, he was shipped overseas as a combat infantryman in the Central Europe and

Rhineland Campaigns during the Battle of the Bulge. Shortly after that, he was pulled from the ranks and sent to serve as a cornet player with the United States First Infantry Division Band (The Big Red One).

After being honorably discharged from the Army, Mr. Bailey secured employment at Madison Central School in Madison, NY where he taught instrumental and vocal music, directing the band and orchestra from 1946-49. While in Madison he was a member and soloist with the Oneida Silver Company band and orchestra. He also attended Trinity College of Music in London, England.

In August of 1949 Mr. Bailey left Madison to accept a position in Instrumental Music at Cairo Central School in Cairo, NY. He organized the first band and within a few years took his band to contests. The band played at the New York World's Fair and for the opening of the Harriman to Catskill section of the New York Thruway. The band played for many local parades and gave a series of summer lawn concerts for several years. In 1952 he received his M.S. degree in Public School Administration from the University of New York at Albany.

Following the 1962-63 school fire, Mr. Bailey was appointed Supervising Principal, a position he held until his retirement in 1976. He supervised a large part of the reconstruction of the school building including the addition of temporary trailer classrooms, and also implemented split sessions due to an increase in student enrollment. Mr. Bailey was involved in the centralization with Durham Central School, as well as construction of the new Cairo Durham Central School building, which opened in 1975.

Mr. Bailey's lifetime avocations included cabinet making and horticulture.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Maude McIsaac Bailey. He is also

survived by two sons, Robert E. Bailey (Marianne) of Glenville, NY, an engineering manager retired from Bechtel Marine Propulsion Corporation—Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, and Loren T. Bailey (Janet) of Stanley, NC, a Senior Geoscientist retired from Chevron-Texaco in New Orleans, LA. He is also survived by three granddaughters, Allison Bailey of Enfield, CT, Meredith Bailey (Michael MacLeod) of New Bedford, MA, and Erin Bailey Meyer (Michael) of Charlotte, NC.

At the convenience of the family, there will be no public funeral or services. Burial in the Round Top Cemetery will be private. Condolences may be made at www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net.

Tribute Wall

AV

“ I remember meeting Mr. Bailey,I was in 6th grade band. I then constantly saw him almost every week till I graduated (if you know what I mean). I would see him latter at the Cairo post office with Mrs Bailey we would always say hello and smile to one another, I used to drive by there house and look at the flowers and in their glass hot house .I will miss both of them, but I will remember what they taught me. Allen Veverka

allen veverka - December 17, 2014 at 05:49 AM

FP

“ Francesca P. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Mr. Earl Bailey.



Francesca P. - December 13, 2014 at 07:46 PM

KM

“ Dear Maude and family, As a first -year teacher in1972 I had a phonograph that was not working. After meeting Mr. Bailey in the office, he said he was on his way to a meeting but would stop and look at the phonograph. To my surprise he opened his briefcase and there was a large set of tools. Mr. Bailey fixed the phonograph and then went on to his meeting. Please accept my sincere condolences on your loss. Sincerely,
Kris's Monteverd

Kriss Monteverd - November 15, 2014 at 01:00 AM

VA

“ *Mr. Bailey was my first Superintendent when I started my career a school counselor. He taught me so much and I had such awe and admiration for him. He had quite a challenge in my eyes because that was the first year of split sessions and the beginnings of the current building. He somehow managed to keep the ship on course! My respect and condolences.*

*Virginia Ambrose
School Counselor, retired*

Virginia Ambrose - November 14, 2014 at 11:00 AM

EM

“ *One of the nicest people I've ever known. My condolences to his family. I was privileged to be part of the Solo and All-State bands during his time at Cairo. My thoughts are with your family.*

Ed Moran - November 13, 2014 at 04:54 PM

JD

“ *My condolences to Mrs. Bailey & family.*

JoAnn Dorpfeld-Buel - November 13, 2014 at 07:29 AM

PP

“ *Dear Mrs. Bailey, Bob, Loren and family, Husband, father, musician, educator, and a genuine role model, Mr. Bailey leaves a wonderful legacy. David and I were fortunate to be at Cairo Central when he transitioned from Band Director to Principal. We have great memories. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. David and Patty Patterson*

Patty Patterson - November 12, 2014 at 10:09 PM

JO

“ Dear Maude, Bob and Loren, Earl was a true gentleman, much like my dad, well respected, of the highest integrity and always a friend to those who needed his guidance or assistance. Our road trips in the band to Saratoga sectionals, to the World's Fair in 1964, or the annual Memorial Day parades down Main Street will always be special memories of my days with Earl at CCS. He lived a full life and I am glad I got to share part of it with him. Jim Van Orden

Jim Van Orden - November 12, 2014 at 06:48 PM

NP

“ I took my very first clarinet lessons from Mr. Bailey. He was always firm but fair allowing him the discipline and respect required of a truly excellent band director. He carried these same outstanding characteristics into his tenure as principal of Cairo Central School. He will be truly missed, and I will always carry the memory of him in his dress white band uniform leading us with enthusiasm and professionalism. My condolences to the entire Bailey family.

Nancy Prosser-Marshall - November 12, 2014 at 05:29 PM

DP

“ I remember Mr Bailey very well. He was a fabulous cornet player and was the one who first taught me to play the cornet!!! He was the ideal roll model as he was such an inspiration to all of us in the high school band and he inspired us to practice our instruments to constantly elevate our musical talents to the limits!!! May he rest in peace, his work is now done!!!

Doug Persons - November 12, 2014 at 05:13 PM

DP

“ With sympathy to Maude, Bob, Loren and the extended Bailey family during your time of loss.

Daniel Pugsley & Jo-Anne Scandaliato, Jacksonville, FL

Daniel Pugsley - November 12, 2014 at 04:27 PM

KB

“ Sorry for your family's loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



Kenneth Bertucci - November 12, 2014 at 09:49 AM

CC

“ I am very sorry for your family's loss. May you find comfort in God's promise to "swallow up death forever" and to "wipe away the tears from all faces" (Isaiah 25:8)

christie c - November 12, 2014 at 07:02 AM

DB

“ A perfect gentleman. A true legend of Cairo Central School. Our sincere condolences to the family.



Diane Berg - November 12, 2014 at 06:34 AM