



## Thomas McDaniel

September 5, 2010

### Obituary of Thomas McDaniel

Former Lake County educator, Thomas Fredrick "Coach Mac" McDaniel, 88, died Sunday, September 5, 2010. Born in The Rock, GA, Fred graduated from Tech High in Atlanta before serving in the US Air Force as a B-17 navigator during WWII. Fred received his bachelor's degree from Auburn University and secured his first master's in physical education from Syracuse University as well as a second master's in administration from Stetson University. After teaching in Hamilton County Florida for three years, he moved to Webster where he taught and coached for two years before moving to Leesburg in 1954. He taught, coached, and worked as an administrator for 26 years at Leesburg High School until his retirement in 1980. Mr. McDaniel was a deacon, choir member, and Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church Leesburg; member and past president of the noon Kiwanis Club; and was awarded a lifetime membership in the Florida Athletic Coaches Association.

Coach Mac is survived by his wife of 64 years, Eleanor; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Leland (Charlotte) Roberts, Leesburg, FL; 6 children: Carol (Graham) Selick, Athens, GA; Phyllis (Ron) Anderson, Leesburg, FL; Roberta (Sans) Lassiter, Ormond Beach, FL; Charlie (Teri) McDaniel; Tom (Sharon)

McDaniel both of Fruitland Park, FL; and Stephen (Tina) McDaniel, Suwanee, GA; 13 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In a continuing commitment to education, Mr. McDaniel has donated his remains to the Florida Anatomical Society at Shands Teaching Hospital, Gainesville, FL.

Memorial services will be held 1:00 p.m. Saturday, September 18, 2010, at the First Baptist Church, Leesburg, with Rev. Ron Anderson and Rev. Cliff Lea officiating. For those who wish, memorials may be made to Cornerstone Hospice, 601 Casa Bella, The Villages, FL 32162 or American Diabetes Association, 1701 N. Beauregard Foundation, Alexandria, VA 22331 or National Parkinson Foundation, Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 5018, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5018. Online condolences may be left at [beyersfuneralhome.com](http://beyersfuneralhome.com). Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Leesburg, FL.

# Tribute Wall

GS

“ We were very saddened to learn of Coach McDaniel's passing. I have great memories of playing golf with the coach and, I especially remember the fellowship as he won golf match after golf match (Glenn). He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Coach McDaniel will live on in the hearts and lives of the many students who gained knowledge and spiritual values from his teaching and Christian example.

Glenn & Carolyn sellers - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ I have known coach "Mac" for 50 years. he was my teacher, coach and wonderful example of how to live your life. he is part of a generation we are going to miss deeply. my father was one of the finest men on earth in my opinion. my best compliment to the family is i put coach "Mac" in the same category and have peace knowing he is now sitting on the same pew with dad right now.

tom brooks - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ We were sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. McDaniel. Randy and I will miss seeing him at our games at LHS and having a friendly conversation with him. He was very uplifting and loved LHS and sports. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our prayers are with the family. God Bless You

Randy & Georgette Wilson - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ I have fond memories of Mr. McDaniel from my years at Leesburg High School.

Paul Rykowski - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ *remeberd with grat fondness*

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**Bill Galbreath** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *Charlie and Teri, We are sorry to hear of Coach Mac's passing. You are in our prayers.*

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**Bigfish & Debbie Williams** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Dear Eleanor: Our hearts go out to you and your family - your husband was very special and we both enjoyed getting to know him - we will miss him too. We are visiting our son in Syracuse the day of the memorial so will miss it but you will be in our thoughts. Love to you from us both. M & M*

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**Marilyn & Max** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ *Coach Mac was great influence on my life, I remember watching how he lived compared to the other coaches at LHS, he always set a higher standard. He came to the class of 1957 fiftith reunion and I was priviledged to get to spend some time with him. Fred and Becky Conway*

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**Fred Conway** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ My love and condolences go out to my fellow McDaniels on the passing of Fred McDaniel, who was the brother of my grandfather Glenn McDaniel. Though I never really new my Great Uncle Fred well, I am proud of the things I have read about him here and elsewhere, and happy that he touched so many lives in a positive way. I am also proud to learn that he was an Auburn man, so I suppose it's really no surprise! Best wishes to you all.

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**Andy McDaniel** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ I am so sad to hear of Coach Mac's very full life on earth ending. I got the news today in a very sweet letter from his daughter Phyllis. I want to express my sadness and my joy of knowing Coach Mac to his wife and all of the children, grand children and great grand children. I moved to Leesburg in the summer of 1962 and had the great fortune of being a member of his Leesburg High track and cross country teams for my last two years of high school. I am so glad that I left home a day early last March on my way to Tampa so that I could stop and see Coach and Mrs. Mac and spent two hours with them visiting. I guess I had assumed that he would, of course still be alive. I had not seen him in over thirty-five years. He and his wife were just as I remembered them. Happy people, deeply in love, and made of all the right stuff. It was such a great pleasure to visit with them both. I have always known that Coach Mac will live forever in the hearts and minds of those famous track teams he produced with his knowledge, skill and goodness that we all believe he taught us by example. Thank you Coach Mac and family for being in my life.

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**Dave Piper** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ I am in Our Day of Atonement with my church and will miss the service but wanted to leave this message. Coach McDaniel was always keeping me right in high school. He did not cut corners and always gave me a strong firm word of direction and guidance everytime I went to him for help. And of course he was my friend Tommy's dad. God Bless, Pepper I can still hear his words speaking to me this day.

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**Pepper Penturff** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Though my interactions were brief and scattered throughout the years Uncle Fred was always an inspiration to me and brought a sense of warmth and love to every meeting. Our thoughts and prayers are with all. Gary

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**Gary & Jean McDaniel** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ My deepest sympathy to the family of "Fred" McDaniel. You will find that although you never stop missing a loved one, they become a more constant part of your day. The words they spoke, the wisdom they shared, fond memories ...always in your thoughts. May you find that after awhile a quiet peace will settle into your heart....in God's time. Your memories will get you to that place. My heart goes out to you and your family. My prayers are with you. Sincerely, Nora Brown

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**Nora Brown** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ To The family and especially Charlie So many fond memories of Coach Mac and growing up and playing ball with Charlie. Remember Coach Mac Being a good and gentle person in a situation I had to go to the office for when he was Assistant Principal. so long Coach Mac.

Eugene Dixon jr. - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ I'm so sorry for your loss, my prayers will be with u and your family!

shirley carter-johnson - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ He was a nice man and he was kind to others and Grandmother Eleanor. He loved us very much. --Genesis (6 years old)

Genesis Epstein - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ I love him very much. He was a good man and loved us. -Kelilah (4 years old)

Kelilah Epstein - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I am sorry to hear of Coach McDaniel's death, but know he is now in a far better place. He was one of the most respected teachers and coaches at Leesbur High School during my years as a student and will be missed by all.

Shirley Manes Works - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ *My Great Grandpa was a very very great man. I loved him so much. I pray for him and he is in heaven. Love, Georgie (age 4)*

Georgeanna Ashworth - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ *My Great-Grandpa Fred was a real American hero and nice guy. And I loved him. Bye Grandpa! Hayden*

Hayden Ashworth - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ *I did not know Fred McDaniel well. But he and Eleanor were lifelong friends of my parents since their early days in Webster in 1952-1953. I well remember our two families getting together in subsequent years when we lived in Clermont and the McDaniel family lived in Leesburg. One of my early memories as a 9 or 10-year-old is being in the Leesburg HS locker room in the late 1950s or early 1960s before a football game, as my father had gone to Leesburg to see Fred's team play that night. God bless you, Eleanor, and your wonderful extended family.*

Scott Abrahams - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Our deepest sympathy. You shall be missed.*

James & Sarah Gregg - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *I am so sorry to hear that Fred passed. I am glad it was a peaceful passing, and he will be fondly remembered.*

Susan Hansberry - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Dear Tom & Family, May your cherished memories bring you comfort and may the many prayers of those who share in your loss bring you peace. We understand how difficult it is to lose a parent, during this trying time, Jesus will hold, comfort and walk with you through the grief. With Deepest Sympathy, Joseph & Rita Coleman

Joseph & Rita Coleman - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Coach Mac was an assistant coach in 1954, the year i played football at LHS. He was a great Christain example to all the team members in a quiet but effective way. He was about building character as well as coaching sports. For many years he has been a rock solid citizen in our community and we will miss him greatly.

Bob Moody - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Dear Mrs. Mac & family, I was so sorry to read of Coach Mac's passing. I saw mrs. mac not too long ago in Publix where we visited--& as usual, Mrs. Mac you were so upbeat & had your sweet smile even though Coach Mac wasn't doing so well. I have such fond memories of him at LHS & you both at church. I will keep you & your family in my prayers. Love, Ann Holloway Blackmon.

Ann Holloway Blackmon - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Carol, you are such a dear, sweet lady. I miss you. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Lori Barron - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ I only have great memories of Coach. My deepest thoughts and prayers are with the entire family.

Bill Hayes - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

L1

“ Thank you, Coach. You have touched our lives and you will always be remembered. Thank you and Evelyn for attending our 50th Class Reunion. Our love and prayers to your family.

LHS Class of 1959 - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ My heart felt condolences to the McDaniel family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time. Take good care. Many blessings, Lynn Sennett

Lynn Sennett - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Thomas McDaniel

October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ Coach Mac was the greatest. I will never forget him. He taught me in PE, coached me in track and basketball. He was someone you could go to with your troubles or just a wonderful man to talk with. He was a christain witness to everyone he came in contact with in a nice quiet way. I will never forget him. He had the greatest influence on my life of any of the teachers I came in contact with. God bless coach and I'm sure God will welcome him with open arms.

Ken Padgett - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ We grieve and rejoice with you at the homegoing of brother Mac. He was a great man and mentor to so many. Elenor and children you will be in our thoughts and prayers. You all meant so much to my parents. Gene Huskey

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**gene Huskey** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ Wonderful memories of a great teacher and friend. Coach Mac taught me in Webster and also taught our children in Leesburg. Mrs McDaniel taught one of our grandchildren piano. I visited with Coach several times during the lessons. He will be greatly missed. We would like to extend our Love and Prayers to the Family. Gene and Ginger Leggett & Family

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**Eugene & Ginger Leggett** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ So sorry to hear of Coach McDaniels passing. But we know he is in the presents of Our Lord. So he is in a good place, and feeling sooo Happy. His Family how ever is feeling the lose. But the Lord will send His comforter to you. And you will see him again. I'm praying for you.

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**Jean Bowen Smart** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM