



## Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.

October 26, 1935 - November 30, 2015

### Reflections of Life

Charlie Birdsong, Jr. was born on October 26, 1935 to Charlie Birdsong, Sr. and Lucille Hadley-Birdsong in Statenville, Georgia. He arrived in Tavares, Florida at the early age of three where he was thoroughly spoiled by his great aunt, Mrs. Lucy Shorts and his adopted family, Mr. Warren and Mrs. Zola Glover and family, which continued thru out his married life.

He was a very smart intelligent man. A very accomplished athlete. He excelled in all sports. He earned a black belt in karate and had his own Do Jo in downtown Eustis, which at the time there were only two black owned businesses in down town. He earned an academic and athletic scholarship to FAMU which he attended for one year. Then he decided to serve his Country by joining the Air Force. After serving four years he returned to Pine Bluff A &M in Arkansas, where he received his Bachelors Degree in Physical Ed. He taught school in Stuttgart, Arkansas and had two state championship football teams. Everyone loved him there and still do to this day.

He moved his wife Doris and family to Tavares where he continued his education as well as teaching school at various schools in Lake County until he came to Tavares High School. He received his Masters Degree at UCF. He continued to teach until his health started failing. A total of forty-seven years was spent teaching, coaching and molding young men and women to be

better citizens and encouraging education. He would always say, "a day you fail to learn is a day wasted." He studied music under Minister Darrel Poitier whom he loved very much. He was always at the piano practicing or plucking on the guitar, or flute and playing the harmonica. He also earned certificates in Hypnotism, Red Cross, CPR Instructor and Thi Chi Instructor.

Charlie was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie Birdsong, Sr. and Lucille Hadley-Birdsong, two sons, Trey and Ricky, great aunt Mattie Mae Summerall.

Left to cherish and never forget his memory is: his devoted wife, Doris; three sons, Nelson Adrian Birdsong, Sr. (Angela), Michael André Birdsong, Sr., (Debbie) Darryl Ashley Birdsong; one daughter, Penny Annette Birdsong Isaac (Ellis) was born to this union; grandsons, Nelson Adrian Birdsong, Jr., Michael André Birdsong, Jr., Adarius Rakim Isaac and D'Von Jarvis Isaac; granddaughters, Laytoya Tyree, Simone Meekins, Bryanna Birdsong, Danielle Mullens, Michael Reid and Monique Reid; a special cousin, Robert Kinchen; special godchildren, Kayla Lafleur, Brandon Dudley, Damita, Tanya and Willie (Bill) Wilder, Lenny Meekins; a host of god daughters and god sons, cousins and friends. special friends, Nancy Dudley and Mable Wilder; a devoted cousin, Shelia Shorts who was with him from the beginning to the end. Charles has greatly impacted the lives of many others. Until we meet again dear love. Rest in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Always Love, Your Family

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Olive Cemetery

36601 County Rd 19-A North (Mt. Homer  
Road)  
Eustis, FL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

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

St. John Independent Free Methodist Church  
120 N. Bloxham Ave.  
Tavares, FL 32778

## Service

DEC 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Independent Free Methodist Church  
120 N. Bloxham Ave.  
Tavares, FL 32778

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ *David M Pedersen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



David m Pedersen - September 05, 2024 at 02:06 PM

DA

“ *Good Man & Great Mentor To All He Coached & Taught to Be A Better Person In Life God Needed A Another Angel* ❤️🙏



Daniel Aldrich - September 01, 2024 at 03:39 PM



“ *Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*

October 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM

LC

“ *Louemma Cromity lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



Louemma Cromity - December 10, 2015 at 04:02 PM

TB

*My name is Telow L. Birdsong. And my grandmother was Florence Birdsong and married to Harbart Birdsong , my mother was Olgar Elizabeth Birdsong , im mother son and still looking to find my family on my grandmothers side. Because my Grandmother , Grandfather and Mother has passed away and the only one lifted and don't know my family on my mother's side at all. I was born in the in North east bronx but now live in staten Island , NY. ( this my phone number to get in touch just call me Telow L. Bidsong. At 347 583 7133. God Bless*

**Telow L. Birdsong** - June 20, 2020 at 11:20 AM

MM

“ *Having a very heavy heart the last couple of days. Wish I would have stayed in touch with him and told him how amazing of a person he was to me. I had a lot of respect for that man. I was class of 99, I use to TRY to sneak up on him and put him in a head lock, arm barre...(not maliciously, bc if so, I'd be dead) anything I could do to try to subdue him. Well, I might as well have tried to wrestle a bull. He'd have me on the ground by holding one of my fingers and I'd tapped out so fast. He was 65 back then and still a very very strong man! Such a great guy. I'm glad he had a long life and there's no more suffering. Love you Coach Bird! Till we meet again my friend.*

**mike muenzner** - December 06, 2015 at 10:06 PM



*Coach Birdsong had a great influence on so many young lives. My girls are are in their mid 50s (THS 81) and still speak of him with much respect and appreciation.*

**Judy Peebles** - July 28, 2018 at 02:59 PM

JK

*As a THS class of 82 grad, I did not know Coach Birdsong or Coach Rolle very well, but over the years, and especially after reading Coach Birdsongs journey that I have a whole new respect for both gentlemen. Thank you for sharing.*

**Jeff Keene** - September 01, 2024 at 02:24 PM

SH

“ He will miss very much he was a great teacher at THS and a great coach to. He always have that smile u want every forget but he want have to surfer anymore he is in heavy now. We will all be together one day and we will have a good time when we get to heavy.

sharon Hodge - December 06, 2015 at 06:41 PM

BM

“ Coach Birdsong was such a great coach because he was skilled, effective and patient! He didn't yell, he taught. I appreciated his patience with me as a very green volleyball player. I only played two years in high school but when I went on to college I played club ball on campus and then recreation league for years in St. Augustine. Thanks Coach Bird for how you taught and what you taught! My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Beth Shaw Masters  
THS class of 1983

Beth Masters - December 06, 2015 at 03:02 PM

SA

“ Sandra Andrews lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Sandra Andrews - December 06, 2015 at 12:28 PM



“ I had Coach Birdsong in 1994-98. He was one of the most respected teachers on campus. He had a song for every occasion! His compassion for his students was evident and just being around him was calming. He encouraged everyone and respected all he came across. THS was Beyer bc of him. I'd like to thank his family for sharing him with all of us and send my thoughts and prayers to all of you.

Shelly DeCesare - December 05, 2015 at 02:25 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss..... I have very fond memories of Coach dating back to when I was 6th grade. I also enjoyed my time with him in Karate as well as when I substituted for the school board. He was a wonderful man.....

Tim Sennett - December 04, 2015 at 01:11 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Coach Birdsong's family. He coached and taught at Holman High School in Stuttgart, AR back in the mid 60's. He was our Homeroom sponsor for the Class of 69. He was remembered as Mr. Cool and a no nonsense coach.



Bernistine Brown Kilgore - December 04, 2015 at 01:05 PM



L.C.Johnson with deepest sympathy to the family he was a good man,of all the plays that I learned it was life lessons that I remember him talking about more then anything and I still used them to this very day. Sleep on coach

Lewis Johnson - December 04, 2015 at 09:03 PM

CP

*No one can prepare the loss of a love one; it comes like a swift wind. However, take comfort in knowing that Coach Birdsong made a difference in a lots of people lives in Stuttgart Arkansas, and at Holman High School. I did not play for him, but truly remember him.*

*Now he is now resting in the arms of our Lord. Our/My deepest condolences to you and your family.*

*Calvin Piggie  
Stuttgart High School Class of 1972*

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**Calvin Piggie** - December 07, 2015 at 12:19 PM

SH

“ *Sharron lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Sharron** - December 04, 2015 at 11:22 AM

NR

“ *I first met and worked with Charlie in the Fall of 1968. We both were sent to the Outdoor Education Experience for the Middle Schools in the Lake County School System. Charlie was a Class Act. His humor, compassion, and overall expertise was second to none. To just be in his presence was a fun, joyful experience. I respected his thoughtfulness and genuine kindness to all. He cared and communicated well with his students and fellow workers. The world could use a lot of Charlie Birdsongs! May he rest in peace and continue to be a shining light in the lives of all who were privileged to have known him and his love for mankind. Peace Be With You and Your Family, Nona Plunk Root*



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**Nona Plunk Root** - December 03, 2015 at 09:47 PM

DB

“ *Deidra L Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Deidra L Brown** - December 03, 2015 at 07:59 PM

JS

“ *Out of all the coaches in school that I had the chance to meet. Coach Birdsong was a super individual. He wanted all of us to succeed in school as well as our lives. Coach you will be missed, godspeed to you always.*

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**James Samples** - December 03, 2015 at 07:29 PM

 Patti Mitenius

“ *Coach Birdsong was a wonderful teacher and an inspirational man. Blessings to him and his family. Patti, Class of '74*

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**Patti Mitenius** - December 03, 2015 at 07:10 PM

JE

“ *Jimmy Etienne lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Jimmy Etienne** - December 03, 2015 at 06:08 PM

JE

“ *Bird was one of the best. I'll tell you there won't be any gum chewing "bumpin on that gum" in heaven from now on. This world would be in a much better place if there were more men on it like him. I've never seen a man walk so slow but out run anyone who would challenge him. Miss ya Bird. Prayers for the family of a great man*

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**Jimmy Etienne** - December 03, 2015 at 05:59 PM

BT

“ *"Christ baby boy" We will miss you Coach. RIP see you at the crossroads.*



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**Brian Tibbs** - December 03, 2015 at 04:37 PM

SG

“ *Samuel Gilliard lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Samuel Gilliard** - December 03, 2015 at 04:13 PM

TM

“ *He was cool, soft spoken, said what he meant. He had swagger. RIP Charlie B.*

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**TJ Moreno** - December 03, 2015 at 03:29 PM



“ He always had poblem telling my twin sister Debra n I ,Donna Jones apart. It would frustrated him. U will be missed RIP n God Bless your family.

Donna Jones - December 03, 2015 at 12:34 PM



“ Rose Rice sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Rose Rice - December 03, 2015 at 11:35 AM

DS

“ Coach Birdsong was a gentle soul who helped so many young people go in the right direction with their lives. All four of my children had Coach Bird at some point over the last 30 years and they are better for have known and been mentored by him! God Bless the family and keep doing those pushup in Heaven Coach! Debbie Stivender

Debbie Stivender - December 03, 2015 at 10:47 AM

AG

“ Angelica Garcia lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Angelica Garcia - December 03, 2015 at 05:09 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr..*



December 02, 2015 at 10:21 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr..*



December 02, 2015 at 10:10 PM



“ *Coach Birdsong was a big influence in my life. He was the person who pointed me in the right direction when I needed it most. Coach Birdsong is the teacher/faculty member I think of first whenever I think back to my high school days. Thank you Coach !*

*Shawn Taber*

**shawn taber** - December 02, 2015 at 09:55 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr..*



December 02, 2015 at 08:03 PM

S(

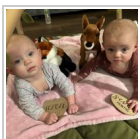
“ Coach Birdsong really pushed all us kids to the max. I respect and loved him. Graduating class 1990.

Stacey Frein (Hager) - December 02, 2015 at 08:03 PM

KK

“ What a great teacher and person! One word describes Coach Birdsong: fun! He had great energy and taught us so much...and I'm not talking about how to do push-ups. I'm talking about being a good person and having great energy about the things you love. I will miss him!

Keith Kimbrel - December 02, 2015 at 07:15 PM



“ Dawn Beck lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Dawn Beck - December 02, 2015 at 06:59 PM

SZ

“ I taught at THS with Bird for 39 years. He taught me so much about helping kids. He opened my eyes to unconditional love for kids that aren't that easy to love at first. We talked and planned together and tried to make it so kids who weren't athletic or didn't fit in, would have a fun time getting fit. He was my hero as a teacher and a coach. I love him and miss him.  
Sissie Zollinger

Sissie Zollinger - December 02, 2015 at 06:50 PM

BT

*Mr.Z I miss him just as much as I miss you! He was amazing man / coach / teacher Thank you Lord that you have an amazing man*

**Brian Tibbs** - December 03, 2015 at 04:43 PM

WW

“ *Wanda White lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



**Wanda White** - December 02, 2015 at 06:34 PM

PL

“ *Piper LaMond-Lynn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



**Piper LaMond-Lynn** - December 02, 2015 at 05:56 PM

PL

*He was so loved and he will definitely be missed. He's up in heaven and no more pain or discomfort. Prayers for all who knew and loved him.*

**Piper LaMond-Lynn** - December 02, 2015 at 05:57 PM

DS

“ *Coach Birdsong you have had such an impact on thousands of students. You are the true meaning of a teacher and a friend. One thing that stuck in my mind for years is when you told a student to stop that jaw jacking lip lacking lolzzzz. You will be forever missed but never forgotten. We love you Bird*

**Del Stamper** - December 02, 2015 at 04:49 PM

CW

“ *I never knew we shared the same birthday.  
RIP.* ”



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**Connie Wang** - December 02, 2015 at 04:45 PM



“ *It was an honor to work with him.* ”



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**Heather Livengood** - December 02, 2015 at 04:14 PM

TP

“ *Tina Peters lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.* ”



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**Tina Peters** - December 02, 2015 at 01:06 PM

PP

“ Coach Birdsong was a mentor, a great coach and a teacher for life’s simple things. He taught us a lot about ourselves and how we can do anything if we put mind to it. A strong man that could not be beat with the reputation to prove it. I remember the start of each year within the first few days some student would try to test him and he would hold out his arm to see if they could pull it down but each time they lost or his magic hold that could bring the biggest guy to his knees. He did not demand respect he earned it with honest true commitment to each student. He had a big heart, a man that truly cared and loved his job and what he did as a coach and as a person. He knew how to motivate you, make you laugh and most of all how to succeed. I was very proud that my kids got the opportunity to have him as their coach and mentor and I enjoyed it when they would come home telling the same stories of things I remembered 30 years earlier.

Love to a special man that will forever live in the hearts of all that knew him.

**THE BEST COACH TAVARES HIGH HAS EVER HAD! Missed but never forgotten. Thank you COACH!**

*My thoughts and prayers go to family and friends.*

*Peter Peebles*

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**Peter Peebles** - December 02, 2015 at 12:28 PM



“ Joe Cullen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**Joe Cullen** - December 02, 2015 at 11:38 AM

CS

“ *Colleen Shorts lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



**Colleen Shorts** - December 02, 2015 at 10:48 AM

BM

“ *Bernessa McNealy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



**Bernessa McNealy** - December 02, 2015 at 10:47 AM

AV

“ *Amy Vanzant-Hodge lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



**Amy Vanzant-Hodge** - December 02, 2015 at 10:22 AM

 Patrick Ritter

“ *Patrick Ritter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



**Patrick Ritter** - December 02, 2015 at 09:23 AM



“ He was my first an last karate teacher in his back yard.

Jason Ellis - December 02, 2015 at 08:43 AM

SS

“ *"Bird", is what I called him. As a family member, he taught me so much, that is why I'm the woman I am today. I thought he was so hard on me in High School, but that was because he cared. He gave so much of his time and he would not let me slack in anything that I did. I can remember playing Volleyball in 1983, we made it one game before the State Championship game and he would always talk about the 15 straight points, I served in the first game against Mulberry High School, he said "he just could not believe it", and I would always remind him that "it was all because of his teachings". He would always remind me that he was not going to let me fall through the crack and not graduate and if, I did not finish High School, "he was going to take my head off", and yes I did believed him, he even made sure I enrolled into College at Lake Sumter, but I felt I just needed to take some College classes and I joined the work force at the age of 21. "Bird" never stopped checking on me. I thank God for such a wonderful family member and person he was, we need more Charlie Birdsongs in this world today. I will always love you, "Bird".*  
*Sheila Short & Family*



Sheila Short - December 02, 2015 at 08:39 AM



“ *Janice Dugger sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*




Janice Dugger - December 02, 2015 at 08:19 AM

SR

“ *Praying for the family.*



Sarah Roschetzki - December 02, 2015 at 08:16 AM

  
Brodreich  
Mosher

“ *The Birdism are a list miles long. Have so much respect for this man. Gym class was always fun with him. I'll remember him standing in the gym with his clipboard taking role. Thanks Bird for the life lesson you taught me and many other.*

Brodreich Mosher - December 02, 2015 at 08:02 AM

GW

“ *It was always a great time coaching against and just running into Coach and talking. He always had something nice or funny to say. He will be missed.*

George Wessel - December 02, 2015 at 07:52 AM

DK

“ *Debbie Kirby lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



Debbie Kirby - December 02, 2015 at 07:52 AM

DK

*Charlie taught me so much. I will miss his energy and his strong, quiet spirit! Prayers for Peace to his family & friends.*

Debbie Kirby - December 02, 2015 at 07:54 AM

KL

“ *Karen Anderson Landy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



Karen Anderson Landy - December 02, 2015 at 07:41 AM

KL

*He touched so many lives! Prayers to his family!*

Karen Anderson Landy - December 02, 2015 at 07:43 AM

CB

“ *Courtney Beckett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



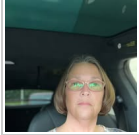
courtney beckett - December 02, 2015 at 06:46 AM

April Stoffel

“ *Coach Bird was one of the sweetest, friendliest, most talented coaches ever. He always had the funniest sayings and was always motivating his students. You will be missed coach. Thanks for everything you taught us.*



April Stoffel - December 02, 2015 at 06:42 AM



“ Tonya Farley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**Tonya Farley** - December 02, 2015 at 06:37 AM



“ Mellisa Shiels lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**Mellisa Shiels** - December 02, 2015 at 05:38 AM



“ Melisa Stutts lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



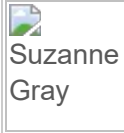
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**Melisa Stutts** - December 02, 2015 at 05:29 AM



“ Cassandra Hicks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**Cassandra Hicks** - December 02, 2015 at 05:21 AM



Suzanne Gray

“ *He was at THS '78 and was the nicest person, so sorry for your loss and prayers to the Family.* ”

Suzanne Gray - December 02, 2015 at 05:14 AM



“ *Sandra Beck Kimpel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.* ”



Sandra Beck Kimpel - December 02, 2015 at 04:39 AM



“ *One of the greatest men I ever knew, I was proud to have been one of his students!* ”

Chad Weis - December 02, 2015 at 04:36 AM



Andrea Rose

“ *I will never forget Coach Birdsong!! Sending prayers to his friends and family. He will truly be missed.* ”



Andrea Rose - December 02, 2015 at 03:03 AM

MS

“ *Mindy Sykes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Mindy Sykes** - December 02, 2015 at 01:35 AM

LM

“ *Blessing on your family and may you rest peacefully in the comfort of God.*

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**Laura McCoy-Bickel** - December 02, 2015 at 12:04 AM

J2

“ *He was a great teacher, inspiring and one of those people whose memory stays forever. Condolences to the family.*

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**Jose Rojas class of 2008** - December 01, 2015 at 11:53 PM

AM

“ *Rest in Peace. He was also smiling. Always had great words of encouragement. Thoughts and prayers with his family.*



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**Amanda** - December 01, 2015 at 11:51 PM



“ Patricia Patty Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Patricia Patty Anderson - December 01, 2015 at 11:11 PM



“ Patricia Patty Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Patricia Patty Anderson - December 01, 2015 at 11:10 PM



“ Patty Anderson And Steve Brasher lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Patty Anderson and Steve Brasher - December 01, 2015 at 11:06 PM



“ Megan Yeager lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Megan Yeager - December 01, 2015 at 10:55 PM

JO

“ *Mr. Birdsong was my favorite teacher at Tavares High School. He talks to you about real life not just what the schools want you to teach. The man could get the biggest guys to cry for mercy with his behind the back wrist lock lol ! Good teacher and great man*

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**john** - December 01, 2015 at 10:51 PM

JB

“ *Coach charlie birdsong touched many lives in a positive way during his long career at tavares high school mine being one of those lives.my heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends. Jim Bridgewater class of 78.*

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**jim bridgewater** - December 01, 2015 at 10:50 PM

MD

“ *Marilyn Douglas lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Marilyn Douglas** - December 01, 2015 at 10:46 PM

PT

“ *Peggy Shafar Thomsson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Peggy Shafar Thomsson** - December 01, 2015 at 10:37 PM

TG

“ *Thelma Grady lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Thelma Grady** - December 01, 2015 at 10:29 PM

MG

“ *Mary Grady lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Mary Grady** - December 01, 2015 at 10:28 PM



“ *In 1973, or maybe 1974, not sure of the year, Coach Birdsong was my PE coach at Tavares High. He taught us lifesaving techniques in the deep end of the pool. Many years later, I vacationed at Marco Island and during the trip was swimming in the ocean at Tiger Tail Beach. I got caught in an ocean current and almost drowned. I fought the current with all my strength and had actually succumbed to its' force and was going down. At the last second, I remembered Coach Birdsong's training and relaxed. It was as if I was back in the Tavares pool again and coach was telling me to relax and everything would be okay. I used the techniques he taught me and survived! I literally owe him my life! He was a very special man and will live on in the hearts and memories of many people.*

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**David Eubanks** - December 01, 2015 at 10:08 PM

LM

“ *LaRhonda McCrary lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**LaRhonda McCrary** - December 01, 2015 at 09:48 PM

CH

“ *Cassandra Hicks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Cassandra Hicks** - December 01, 2015 at 09:43 PM

 Amy  
Lewis

“ *Amy Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Amy Lewis** - December 01, 2015 at 09:35 PM

TF

“ *Teresa Strawbridge Freeman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Teresa Strawbridge Freeman** - December 01, 2015 at 09:35 PM

Amy  
Lewis

“ One of the most inspirational and motivated men I have ever known. Touched so many lives and will be forever the "COACH" of the year..... You will be dearly missed!!!

Amy Lewis - December 01, 2015 at 09:34 PM

NI

“ Nickie sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Nickie - December 01, 2015 at 09:26 PM

NI

He was such an inspiration to all of your students. He will be deeply missed.

Nickie - December 01, 2015 at 09:28 PM

TF

“ Great coach and mentor



Traci Foster - December 01, 2015 at 09:20 PM

MR

“ Michele Renee lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**Michele Renee** - December 01, 2015 at 09:11 PM

RB

“ Robyn Bolduc lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**Robyn Bolduc** - December 01, 2015 at 09:10 PM

RB

*R.I.P Coach Birdsong*

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**Robyn Bolduc** - December 01, 2015 at 09:11 PM



“ John Bultmann lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



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**John Bultmann** - December 01, 2015 at 09:05 PM

TK

“ He will be truly missed and never forgotten by the many students that he taught and inspired. R.I.P. And out the thoughts and prayers are with his family. Nate and Tabitha King



Tabitha King - December 01, 2015 at 09:01 PM

Tara Erkert

“ Tara Erkert lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Tara Erkert - December 01, 2015 at 08:56 PM

Tara Erkert

He was an awesome softball coach and a great man. He will be greatly missed.

Tara Erkert - December 01, 2015 at 08:59 PM

LS

“ Leigh Anne Scott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Leigh Anne Scott - December 01, 2015 at 08:54 PM

LM

“ *Coach Birdsong was the best. He was always enthusiastic - and expected only the best from all of us... and we tried to please him :-)*



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**laurie boggus martin** - December 01, 2015 at 08:53 PM

WH

“ *Wanda Hoff lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Wanda Hoff** - December 01, 2015 at 08:53 PM

TF

“ *Coach Birdsong was part of the staff with Coach Rolle that made the 1972 Bulldogs the best team in Tavares in the previous ten years. He pushed me and others to be the very best. RIP.*  
*Terry Fox*

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**Terry Fox** - December 01, 2015 at 08:46 PM

FE

“ *Frank Ellis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.*



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**Frank Ellis** - December 01, 2015 at 08:46 PM

CS

“ Colleen & Rudy Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Colleen & Rudy Smith - December 01, 2015 at 08:42 PM

JM

“ Jim Messer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Jim Messer - December 01, 2015 at 08:40 PM

JM

RIP "Buddy"...

Jim Messer - December 01, 2015 at 08:42 PM

JM

“ I only knew him as "Buddy", or "Bird"...we had an unusual relationship, I was a smart butt, and he whipped my butt many times...he taught me to shoot a basketball with the proper style, and earned my respect in a short time...he was a good mentor and coach, and will be truly missed...RIP "Buddy"....I was so surprised the last time I saw you, at Walmart in 1998 or so, and you still remembered my name, even though I graduated in 1973...I guess I either got under your skin, or we formed a bond of sorts. You will be missed "Buddy"...

Jim Messer - December 01, 2015 at 08:36 PM

SS

“ Sheri Altman Sebree lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charlie W. Birdsong, Jr.



Sheri Altman Sebree - December 01, 2015 at 08:16 PM

Amy Dalton

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time. Coach was a great man and teacher. His Tavares High students greatly respected him. With love, Christopher and Amy Dalton

Amy Dalton - December 01, 2015 at 08:06 PM

A(

“ Mr. Birdsong taught myself and my daddy, along with aunts and uncles. He was an unforgettable teacher and I'm grateful to have known him. Never will I forget the "baby boy" comments, his internal clock and how we need to use ours, or just how funny he was. What a great person that will be very missed!

Amanda Ritson (Peterson) - December 01, 2015 at 07:53 PM



“ Such a wonderful man that will be truly missed..



Tommi Tschantre - December 01, 2015 at 07:51 PM

GH

“ He will be greatly missed. I believe he has touched many young people's lives. I believe he was a great mentor for young men. He used to call me Hodgee baby when I had him as a P E teacher. My prayers and sympathy to his family.

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**Gerry Hodge** - December 01, 2015 at 07:35 PM

SJ

“ Coach Birdsong was loved by all his students over the years. I was blessed to have had him as a teacher. He always made us laugh. He made me smile everyday when he took roll, with his nickname for me, "Jagged Edge"

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**Shelly Jagers** - December 01, 2015 at 07:28 PM

 Jackie Welch

“ Never forget when I wanted to quit school, he was the only teacher that talked me into giving it another chance. And he taught me how to take someone down with one arm. He taught 2 generations of my family and learned life lessons. Not once did he complain about his job. Thanks coach! You will be missed.

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**Jackie Welch** - December 01, 2015 at 06:55 PM

KA

“ I am a graduate of Tavares, 2001. I had the pleasure of having Coach not only in gym class, but at Soccer as well. He was an absolutely amazing teacher, coach and human being in general. I think I can speak for everyone when I say he had the patience of a saint (trust me, I tested it). He had a way of making people WANT to do better, a trait not many poses or know how to use of they do. Great loss, amazing having known him. RIP

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**Kathryn** - December 01, 2015 at 06:41 PM

SN

“ I worked with Bird at THS from 1990 until he retired. He was a joy. He had the kindest eyes of anyone I've known and his smile would light up a room. He was funny and smart. My sympathies to his loved ones. I can't imagine the loss you are feeling. I just feel honored to have known him.

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**Susan Nielsen** - December 01, 2015 at 06:40 PM