



# LEE WILDER MARTIN

MAR 12, 1944 - SEP 19, 2022



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## **LEE WILDER MARTIN**

MAR 12, 1944 - SEP 19, 2022

**P**ERRY – Coach Lee Wilder Martin, 78, passed away peacefully on Monday, September 19, 2022, after an extended illness. Memorial Services will be held on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at The Way Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 10:00 until 11:00 a.m., and the Service will begin at 11:00 a.m. Reverend Mike Britt and Reverend Bob Powell, Coach Martin's son-in-law, will be officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial contributions to Kindred Hospice, 105 Jim Mason Court, #100, Warner Robins, Georgia 31088.

Lee was born in Perry on March 12, 1944 to the late Wilson and Una Wilder Martin. He became a star athlete at Perry High School as the football quarterback during his freshman year. He played tennis and was a state champion doubles player. While all sports attracted the talented young player, it was basketball to which Lee devoted most of his time. While playing on the Perry High School team led by the spectacular Coach Eric Staples, Lee developed his skills and became an excellent basketball player. He was a member of the state champion basketball teams and accepted a full-ride scholarship to the University of Georgia. Upon graduation from Perry High School in 1962, Lee moved to Athens where he continued his basketball career and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. Soon after he returned to Perry in 1966, he began his basketball coaching career at Northside High School. He spent a few years at the Westfield School and at River North Academy, and returned to Georgia Southwestern College for his Master's Degree in Physical Education. Coach Martin eventually found his niche as Basketball Coach, Athletic Director, and Assistant Headmaster at Windsor Academy from where he retired after over thirty years as a teacher and coach.

Soon after leaving education, Lee accepted a position as Event Coordinator at Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agri-Center. He met many friends and helped establish numerous annual events held at GNFA through his ten years of service with them. After officially retiring, Lee enjoyed working in his yard, nurturing and grooming his plants and flowers, as well as planting a garden



## Obituary

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in which to grow vegetables to be able to share with his family and friends. He spent time at the Family Hunting Club and could often be found watching his grandchildren play ball or watching football on tv, particularly high school football games and his Georgia Bulldogs. Lee was a member of Perry United Methodist Church.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents.

Left to cherish the memories of Lee are his loving and devoted wife of fifty-one years, Dohnna Collins Martin of Perry; his daughter and son-in-law, Ami Lee and Rev. Bob Powell of Douglas, Georgia; his son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Jennifer Martin of Kathleen; his grandchildren, Hannah Lee Powell, Eason Martin, and Maddie Grace Martin; his siblings, Wilson Martin (Mildred) of Inverness, Florida, Joe Martin (Pattie) of Brentwood, Tennessee, and Jean Martin Davis (Bobby) of Perry; and several nieces and nephews.

Condolences for the family may be left in the online guestbook at [www.watsonhunt.com](http://www.watsonhunt.com). Watson-Hunt Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.






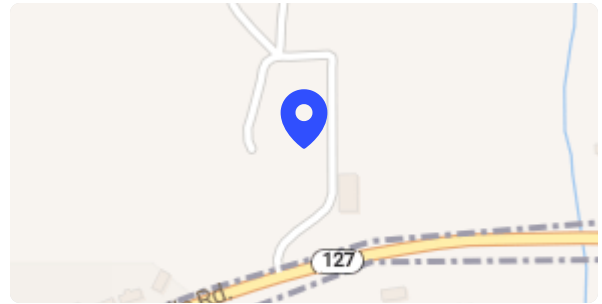
# Events

**LEE WILDER MARTIN**




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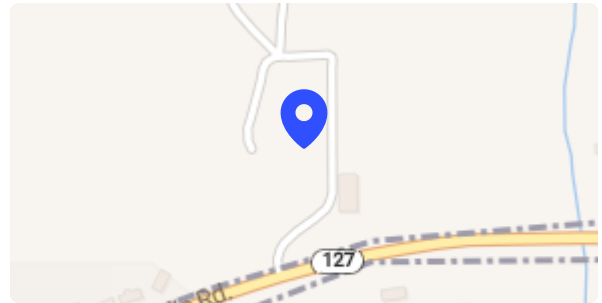
## Visitation

-  **Thursday**, September 22, 2022
-  10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
-  **The Way Baptist Church**  
1964 Marshallville Road, Perry GA 31069



## Celebration of Life

-  **Thursday**, September 22, 2022
-  11:00 AM ET
-  **The Way Baptist Church**  
1964 Marshallville Road, Perry GA 31069





## Tribute Wall

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BP

**Barron Pilgrim** posted:

I ,Barron Pilgrim,played basketball for White co Hi in Cleveland ga and we played in state tournament in Macon . I was impressed with the great team from Perry snd the star of the tournament Lee Martin. I called him years ago and we laughed about our moments I scored first baskets at two colleges and Lee said he scored first basket in new Ga gym!

October 21 at 1:24 PM

BP

**Barron Pilgrim** October 21 at 1:28 PM

My two colleges were Truetmconnell university and the new gym at West Ga

CM

**Charlie Mathews** posted:

I was very sad to hear the news about Coach Martin. My thoughts and prayers are with the Martin family during this time. Thank you for all that you taught me and others, Coach Martin. We appreciate all that you did for our school.

September 27 at 10:07 AM

MH

**Mary Jane Hunt** posted:

What great memories I have of watching Lee play basketball for Perry High School! He was a legend who was thought of so highly both on and off the court. My condolences to all the family.

September 23 at 1:38 PM

SL

**Shelia Laws** lit a candle in honor of LEE.

Dohnna and Family, I am so sorry about Lee, he was a legend. Praying for God's peace and comfort. Hold tight to your precious memories. Hugs.

September 23 at 1:27 PM



EA

**Eddie Arnold** posted:

Condolences for the intire Martin Family . EDDIE ARNOLD

September 23 at 10:03 AM



## Tribute Wall

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JT

**Jeanie Thames** lit a candle in honor of LEE.



September 23 at 5:56 AM

TJ

**Tamara Joiner** posted:

Ami Lee and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of loss. Prayers for peace and comfort in the days ahead.

September 23 at 4:20 AM

SL

**Shelby Lane** posted:

Some of my fondest memories are watching Lee play and coaching basketball. He was THE BEST and a good friend to Gene and me. Shelby Peyton Lane

September 22 at 10:25 PM

GL

**Gerald Layson** posted:

What great great memories we had growing up and watching Lee Martin and that Perry team !! Lee was the best basketball player I ever seen at Perry ! There are quite a few others that came close, but he was the best ! Another Perry icon has left the building but never forgotten! RIP Lee

September 22 at 2:40 PM

EN

**Ellen Cadden Nagy** posted:

I remember the great glory years of Perry Panther basketball, and certainly the state tournaments in the Macon Coliseum with roaring capacity crowds. Fond memories!

September 22 at 1:35 PM



## Tribute Wall

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DP

**Dwayne Powell** posted:

I was shocked and saddened to hear of Lee's passing. I have many fond memories of playing basketball with Lee in the back yards of Perry, at Perry High School and at the University of Georgia. Lee's accomplishments as an athlete, as an educator and coach as well as at the Georgia National Fairgrounds will long be remembered. To Dohnna and family, Wilson, Joe, and Jean I extend my deepest sympathies. To Lee Godspeed.

September 22 at 8:14 AM

CC

**Carolyn Collins** lit a candle in honor of LEE.

Thoughts and Prayers For the family 🙏🙏🙏



September 22 at 4:12 AM

TC

**Tommy Cain** posted:

Knew Lee for many years. Coached against him many times. He was a great Coach but better person.

September 22 at 3:07 AM

BH

**Bobby Harrison** posted:

Coach Lee Martin was a boyhood idol of mine and loved and respected by my family and so many others in Perry. He was such a legendary athlete and I remember how excited we all were when we got the news that he was coming to Westfield. It was an honor to have been coached and mentored by him my senior year. So many great memories of that season. My heartfelt condolences and prayers to you and your family, Dohnna. May God bless and comfort you. Bobby Harrison

September 22 at 2:34 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Saralyn Smith** lit a candle in honor of LEE.

So many fond memories of Coach Martin! He was such a sweet and friendly man and shared his many talents with so many, he was definitely one of a kind. Mrs. Dohnna and family, I know your hearts are broken and you each are in my loving thoughts & prayers. 🙏❤️ I know "Coach" is loving his time now playing on the Heavenly court in the sky with Jesus. RIP my sweet friend, I will see you on the other side one day. ♥



September 22 at 2:00 AM



**Cindy Bellew** posted:

I'm so glad I got to work with Mr. Lee - I loved people coming in and asking for Coach Martin! We knew we had a celebrity working there. My thoughts & prayers are with you all.

September 21 at 4:40 PM



**Brannen Smith** posted:

GENERAL LEE..A great coach..colleague and friend..You were loved and you will be missed..RIP

September 21 at 3:17 PM



**Gayle, Frank And Brandon Borah** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Gayle, Frank and Brandon Borah Byron, Ga

September 21 at 1:56 PM



**James Suber** posted:

One of the finest persons and ball players Perry ever saw on the fields and in the gym(s), old and new. Idolized by younger boys and a delight to most all Perry people for years for his spectacular feats and his good looks and his friendly temperament and gentleman-like demeanor. He was a real-life "Chip Hilton" storybook athlete and a very nice young person and then a fine citizen. He was a "man-child" and demonstrated great courage to overcome injuries that would have taken lesser men out of the games. He was a true hero for anyone who needed someone to look up to at the times, and I was one of those people. He never let me down, and later on we would smile and just know each other with love and understanding. Jimmy Suber.

September 21 at 1:20 PM



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**Laney Green** posted:

Mrs. Dohnna, Ami Lee, and Chris I know there are no words to ease the pain of a loss. Please know that you all are in my prayers and that much love will surround you during this time. So thankful to have known Coach Martin! May all the great memories bring you joy!

September 21 at 12:59 PM



**Danny Brown** posted:

During my time on the Board at the Fairground, I worked with Coach Martin on many projects and events. A very sharp and great man. He will be missed. Danny Brown, Sandersville.

September 21 at 12:16 PM



**Linda Smith** posted:

My prayers, thoughts and love are with all of you! May the Lord give you the strength you need to help you deal with this great loss! God bless!!

September 21 at 11:50 AM



**Janis Tripp** posted:

Oh I'm so sad for you all. Lee was a great guy and an inspiration to some many people and athletes. Hugs and prayers Jean and for all of your family. Janis Tripp

September 21 at 11:35 AM



**Anonymous** sent a European Sympathy Dish Garden to the MARTIN family.



September 21 at 11:04 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring LEE by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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