



## Preston Taylor Buchanan

June 13, 1939 - October 24, 2020

Preston Taylor Buchanan, age 81, died from heart complications on October 24, 2020 at the home he shared with his son Ira Buchanan and family in Bland, Virginia.

Born in Rich Valley, Virginia on June 13, 1939 with his twin Patrick, Preston was the youngest son of Raymond “Raybuck” Buchanan, Sr. and Lila Barns “Tiddle” Buchanan, both of whom preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by his twin, Patrick Montgomery Buchanan in 1952, brothers Tate and Richard, and sister Nancy. Most recently, he was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Sarah Arlene Brown Buchanan in 2015, and by their oldest daughter, Laura Ruth Buchanan in 2018.

Survivors include his daughter, Sarah Preston Buchanan Taylor and husband Frank of Rosedale, VA; son Ira Brown Buchanan and wife Janice of Bland, VA and brother Raymond Buchanan, Jr. of Rich Valley, VA. Preston also leaves behind nine grandchildren: Daniel Keith McClanahan and wife Ginny of Vansant, VA, Brittany Nichole McClanahan of Abingdon, VA, Lauralynn McClanahan of Cumming, GA; Frank William Taylor III, Adam Reece Taylor, Bryce Preston Taylor all of Rosedale VA; Ethan Patrick Buchanan, Blake Taylor Buchanan, and Karah Faith Buchanan, all of Bland VA; and five great-grandchildren: Jaidyn Skye Moran, Madisyn Grace Honaker of Abindgon VA; and Claire Elizabeth McClanahan, Caitlyn Danielle McClanahan, and Dylan

James McClanahan of Vansant, VA. Also remaining are nine nieces and nephews: Mark Buchanan, Becky Maus, Tim Buchanan, Lynne Adams, Joe Ray Durham, Rick Buchanan, Jeff Buchanan, Mary Rachel Buchanan, and “Big” Tom Buchanan. Special great-nieces and nephews include Tisha Briggs and husband Eddy, Stacy Taylor, Bo Buchanan and wife Desiree. Preston also leaves behind a special friend who meant a lot to him in his last days of life, Ms. Kaye Cox of Independence, VA.

Preston attended Rich Valley High School and was a graduate of the Tennessee Military Institute in 1957. Graduating from Carson Newman College, where he was a four-year letterman in football, Preston later went on to complete his master’s degree from East Tennessee State University. He loved athletics, playing football, baseball, basketball, and track. Preston began his teaching and coaching career at Honaker High School in 1962, where he started the football program that is still in place today. Many people still refer to him as “coach.” He left Honaker High in 1968 to begin teaching at Richlands Jr. High. Later that year, was offered the position of principal at a vocational school at the Appalachian Learning Center near Honaker, VA. He was very soon promoted to become the Superintendent of the institution that served juvenile delinquent offenders from all over Virginia. He held that position for 18 years. When the institution closed to transition from youth services to an adult camp, Preston left the department of corrections to return to teaching. He finished his career teaching elementary PE at Belfast-Elk Garden Elementary and Honaker Elementary. He retired from teaching in 1991 with 30 years of service. He was always very active in the Honaker and Belfast communities, serving with the PTA and United Way of Southwest Virginia. He loved bluegrass music and square dancing and would often call square dances for community events.

After his retirement from Russell County Schools, he went back to the ways of his boyhood growing up on a farm. Preston farmed on the land in Rich Valley

and in Belfast until his health began to fail in 1999 after a massive heart attack. Preston continued to volunteer in many of the building programs at Community Heights Church, where he and his wife Arlene became faithful members. Special thanks for the prayers and support from the members of Roger Hankins' Sunday School class and the members of Community Heights Church. The love of this church family for both Preston and Arlene has been such a blessing to them and to their family.

Preston will always be remembered for his love of life, enjoying jokes, fun, laughter, and dancing. He had a tremendous will to live life to the fullest and was determined to never give up, despite the numerous health problems he faced. He was generous to those in need, often giving to others more than he could afford. He loved his wife, children, and grandchildren and would always share how proud he was of his family. While it leaves a hole in our hearts to lose him, we have assurance that he is now enjoying being without pain and living abundantly in the presence of his lord and savior, Jesus Christ.

Funeral services for Preston Taylor Buchanan will be conducted at 7 PM on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia with Pastor Tom Maurer officiating. The family will receive friends from 5 PM until the time of the service. Interment will follow at 11 AM on Wednesday at the Rich Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery (3811 Valley Rd., Saltville, Virginia). Grandsons will serve as pallbearers. Those wishing to attend the committal are asked to meet at the cemetery.

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia is in charge of arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at [www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Rich Valley Presbyterian Cemetery

Rich Valley, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 27. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home  
1401 2nd Street  
Richlands, VA 24641  
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

## Funeral Service

OCT 27. 7:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home  
1401 2nd Street  
Richlands, VA 24641  
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

## Committal Service

OCT 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Rich Valley Presbyterian Cemetery  
Rich Valley, VA



# Tribute Wall



“ *Preston Taylor Buchanan*

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Preston Taylor Buchanan*

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of the loss of our friend, Preston. He and I spent many times recalling people and events from the "old days" of S. W. Va. athletics. Preston and Arlene were among the hardest working and most vital members of our Belfast-Elk Garden PTA. They will be missed and remembered by all of us. Shirley and I send our most sincere condolences to the family.*  
*Edward H. Hibbitts*

**Edward Hibbitts** - October 27, 2020 at 03:22 PM



“ *Gail Matney Hooker purchased the Blue Caribbe an Bouquet for the family of Preston Taylor Buchanan.*



**Gail Matney Hooker** - October 27, 2020 at 01:48 PM

GH

“ I send my deepest condolences to the family. Preston employed me and I'll always be grateful to him. Preston was always kind and respectful to me. Prayers for all of the family and may Gods sent comfort to all of you. Gail Matney Hooker

Gail Matney Hooker - October 27, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Preston Taylor Buchanan.



October 27, 2020 at 11:29 AM

CH

“ Daniel, Brittany, Lauralynn, Sarah and Ira. I'm so sorry to hear of Preston's passing. I know you all are hurting. Preston could surely light up a room. I appreciate all the kindness he showed me over the years. He always made me feel welcome. His stories and memories will be carried by all who knew him.

Chris Hess - October 27, 2020 at 11:09 AM

JS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May God bring peace and comfort in the time ahead, and may the memories you shared bring solace.

Judy Stamper - October 26, 2020 at 07:25 PM

BA

“ Sarah,Ira and families-Sincere sympathies to all - Preston will be missed. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers..Barbara Pauley

barbarapauley - October 26, 2020 at 05:01 PM

CK

“ Sarah and family,  
I am so sorry about the loss of your dad.  
Please know that you all are in my thoughts  
and prayers. May God fill the void in your  
hearts. Hugs and prayers.  
Christine Kinser



Christine Kinser - October 26, 2020 at 12:34 PM

MH

“ Mike And Virginia Hart lit a candle in memory  
of Preston Taylor Buchanan



Mike and Virginia Hart - October 26, 2020 at 11:06 AM

CC

“ Dear Family,  
We send our love and prayers for God's perfect peace to surround  
you at this time.  
Friends at Community Heights Church

Community Heights Church - October 26, 2020 at 11:05 AM

SA

“ Sheriff Blake Andis and the Members of the Washington County Sheriff’s Office would like to express their sympathy in the death of Preston Buchanan. If our Sheriff’s Office can be of assistance to you during your time of sadness, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sheriff Andis and Members of the Washington County Sheriff’s Office

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**Sheriff Blake Andis** - October 26, 2020 at 09:48 AM



“ TonyanEdgar Wicks lit a candle in memory of Preston Taylor Buchanan



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**TonyanEdgar Wicks** - October 26, 2020 at 09:43 AM

ST

“ Preston was such a true gift to all who knew him. I remember he was always happy, smiling, laughing, joking. I recall a summer's night at the Demolition Derby at the Tazewell County Fair when he, Sarah, and her 3 boys (all young then) got up and danced the night away flat footin'! He was laughing the whole time, all of them were! Wonderful man of God.



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**sandy tatum** - October 26, 2020 at 09:12 AM

CD

“ *Mr. Preston was a loving person. He played the harp for Senior Citizens and kept our center laughing at his humorous jokes. RIP Mr. Buchanan*



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**Connie DeWilde** - October 26, 2020 at 09:09 AM

DB

“ *David Beavers lit a candle in memory of Preston Taylor Buchanan*



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**David Beavers** - October 26, 2020 at 06:52 AM

KF

“ *Kim Fields lit a candle in memory of Preston Taylor Buchanan*



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**Kim Fields** - October 26, 2020 at 04:22 AM

DH

“ *He was my little league football coach in 1968 and he got me started in Corrections at the Appalachian Learning Center in 1975. I really appreciated what he did for me. Condolences to the family.*  
*Doug Howard*

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**Doug Howard** - October 25, 2020 at 10:40 PM

AJ

“ Prayers for Preston’s family. I always loved visiting with Preston and Arlene with my dad (Bob Raines) and MamMam (Mary Helen Raines) over the years. I also remember having so much fun in middle school when he came to school to teach us how to square dance. I’m not sure how much dancing we managed but there was plenty of smiles and laughter!

Ashley Raines Johnson - October 25, 2020 at 07:37 PM



“ Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Preston Taylor Buchanan.



October 25, 2020 at 04:46 PM

JH

“ Johnny and I were saddened to hear of Preston's passing. We were fond of his good humor and friendly manner. We admire his long service in his church and in education. Our condolences to his family. Johnny and Betty Honaker

Johnny and Betty Honaker - October 25, 2020 at 04:31 PM

ST

Thank you so much. He valued your friendship.

Sarah Taylor - October 25, 2020 at 08:00 PM

GV

*I am very saddened to hear of Preston's passing I had him in elementary school at Honaker as PE teacher then later on I worked on his cars at City Garage in Honaker and me and him got to very good friends over the years it all way bright my day to see him we would set and talk and tell joke's for hours after I closed the garage down I would go by his home and see him and he would call every so often to check on me see how things was going he was more then just a friend to me he was like part of family to me he would go out of his way to help anyone that he could you will never find a finer man then Preston Buchanan it breaks my heart to hear this I will miss you my friend 😭*

**Gerald Vance** - October 25, 2020 at 08:26 PM

AD

*“ I've never known anyone with as much spirit and joy. He was so much fun to be around, and it was my honor to have known him. Sarah, and family, I send you man prayers and lots of love. This will be a very difficult adjustment, but you are strong. May God give you comfort.*



**Anna Damron** - October 25, 2020 at 03:26 PM

ST

*Thank you so much, Anna.*

**Sarah Taylor** - October 25, 2020 at 08:01 PM

SS

*“ Janice and family we are so sorry for your loss. I met Mr. Buchanan once at your house and thought he was such a nice man. May God give each one of you peace and comfort during this very difficult time. Sylvia and Gary Sadler.*



**Sylvia K Sadler** - October 25, 2020 at 03:02 PM



“ 1975-1976 I attended Hamden-Sydney college. This was my first venture not living at home. During that time, Preston travelled across VA a good bit. He would stop in to check on me. The first time he did, he surprised me by showing up next to me sitting at a bar. I was somewhat embarrassed, but so appreciative that he spent the time and effort to track me down. Something I will never forget. Of course, my father gave me some grief over Preston's report!

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**Mark Buchanan** - October 25, 2020 at 02:18 PM



*LOL!!*

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**Sarah Taylor** - October 25, 2020 at 08:02 PM