



Beecher Bell

January 24, 1924 - January 24, 2013

Beecher Bell, 89, of Kingston, died Thursday, January 24, 2013. Mr. Bell was born in Gobi, Tennessee, the son of Robert and Ida Mae Bell. His wife Mary Clemmer Bell preceded him in death. They were happily married for 64 years. Mr. Bell is survived by his children, Lycinda Bell McCormick of Brentwood, TN and Daniel B Bell (Anita); and grandchildren, Collin Bell, Emily Grace Bell, and Robert Tyler Bell of Coronado, CA; brother George Maurice Bell, and sister, Marion Bell Crane of Las Vegas, Nev. He was a member of Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Bell was a member of the US Army Air Corps during WWII, serving as a radio operator on board the B24, Flying Fortress. He completed 30 missions over Continental Europe and as a result of his service, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

At the conclusion of WWII, he attended the University of Tennessee where he earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees. In 1959, he and his family moved to Kingston, Tennessee where he was employed as an administrator and long-time social studies teacher at Roane County High School. After retiring, his interests included genealogy, traveling with his wife, and following University of Tennessee sports.

He will be remembered for his humility and his good heart. He was a loving

husband, father, and grandfather and a friend to many.

The family will receive friends from 5 until 7pm Monday January 28, 2013 at the Kyker Funeral Home in Kingston. Family and friends will gather at the Historic Bethel Cemetery, Kingston, Tennessee at 10:30 am on Tuesday, January 29th for a graveside service with Military Honors by the Roane County Military Memorial Honor Guard. Memorial service will follow at Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church at 3:00 pm Tuesday. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Heart Association 4708 Papermill Drive Knoxville, TN. 37909.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ He was one of the best history teachers I have ever had! He could have chosen to teach at a larger university any where in the world and yet he ended up here in the little town of Kingston, Tn. within the county of Roane! Thank you Mr. Bell for all of the inspiration you gave to your many students as well as the faculty at Roane County High! Yes, it has been almost (40) forty years since I sat in your class but in all these years I've never forgotten you Mr. Bell and I guess I never will! Marc

Mark L Thornton - Kingston, TN - Student - February 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ In Remembrance of my Uncle Beecher, Altho I did not have the opportunity to see him as often as I would have like, I did know him and loved him. I remember he and Aunt Mary came to visit us when we lived in Anacortes, WA in the late 90's. They were driving a motor home;a hose to the radiator leaking, my husband repaired it and told him to get to the nearest gas station and have it replaced; later we got a letter from Aunt Mary saying they had driven all the way home; didn't need to fix the "fix". LOL We felt they had gotten home safely on a wing and a prayer. Uncle Beecher was a true hero and served his country with honor; we are all so proud of him. He was one of the last of a special kind of man. He will be missed!

Sonja Lee McDonald Blancke - St. George, UT - Niece - February 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JT

“Beecher and Mary were special people and will be greatly missed. I met Beecher through Mary. Mary was the founder of the Southwest Point Chapter DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) and Beecher helped her make it a success. They were very active in the preservation of historic sites in Kingston, such as, Fort Southwest Point, Bethel Cemetery, Old Roane County Court House and the home of Kingston's Revolutionary War Patriot, Gideon Morgan, to name a few.

They were devoted to their children and grandchildren.

Beecher and Mary will not be forgotten.

Our thoughts and prayers go to their family.

Jerry and Bobbe Honey - Kingston, TN - January 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AS

“A wonderful teacher and a great human being.

Alice Smith Mullenix - Madison, AL - Student - January 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DS

“I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Bell. I haven't lived in Kingston for 30+ years, but Mr. Bell is an important part of my high school memories. My thoughts are with the family durin your loss.

Dawn Walls Diehl - Louisville, KY - Former student - January 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DG

“One of my most memorable high school teachers. He was the only one that ever made history interesting to me.

My condolences, Cindy.

Dennis Judd - Near Atlanta, GA - January 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. You were an awesome teacher!

Leah McMillan Larkin - McEwen, TN - Student - January 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Hard to say farewell to such a treasure... Prayers and thoughts to the family.. Always good words were spoken if his name was in the sentence. He helped mold so many of the young Roane County students. So glad I was one of them.

Stephanie Castle - Kingston, TN - Former student - January 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Mr.Bell was a great teacher, relating his life experiences to history, and just an all around exceptionally nice person. So sorry for your loss.

Sara Jane Tinker (Jane Stepp) - Knoxville, TN - former student at RCHS - January 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VT

“ Cindy & Dan
I am so sorry for your loss but know you will relish all the memories of your dad.

Valorie Maner - Knoxville, TN - January 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ My brother was a good man and from "the greatest generation". Will miss you brother. Was so proud of you. Will always remember you following me with my high school sports. Rest in peace brother and God bless you, Cindy and Danny.

George Bell - Las Vegas, NV - Brother - January 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Dear Cindy & Danny,
Carol and I will always hold Beecher (and Mary) in a special place in our hearts. They were among our most faithful members of our Sunday school class. i appreciated so much about Beecher's life. He wasn't one to brag about his experiences. I never knew that he had flown 30 missions. We are so sorry that we are not going to be there with you at the services. We will return on February 9th or 10th and if there is anything I can assist you with please let me know.

Blessings,
George & Carol

George & Carol Dilworth - Knoxville, TN - Years long friend - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Cindy
I don't guess I have ever seen a picture of your Dad, but I see you in his smile. I love the name "Beecher". Is it a family name?

You are in my thoughts and prayers. I know the sadness you are feeling. I love you.

Susan B

Susan Bradley - Franklin, TN - Cindy's friend - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Mr. Bell was a great teacher, I had him at RCHS in 1974. May he Rest in Peace.

Pam Cook Eblen - Kingston, TN - student - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Cindy we are sorry we will not be there for the services since we are in Florida for 3 months. However we will keep the entire family in our prayers.
Monty and Mary

Mary and Monty Montgomery - Knoxville, TN - Member, SS Class at CSPC -
January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I had Mr. Bell as a history teacher in high school. He could tell some stories about the war and how it related to our life. He was a great teacher. He will be missed. So sorry about your loss.

Terisa Liles Goebel - Lenoir City, TN - former student - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I'm so saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Bell. He was such a nice man and an awesome teacher! The family will be in my prayers.

Angela Long Nelson - Kingston, TN - former student - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I have many fond memories of Mr. Bell. Have thought of him often throughout the years. My condolences to his family. He was a fine man and will be missed by many.

Barbara Ragsdale Salmons - Kingston, TN - Student - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *I remeber all those mornings in homeroom and history calss and going to the Colonial getting his coffee. I will miss him.*

Tammie Anderson Garner - Rockwood, TN - Former Student - January 27, 2013
at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *So very sorry to hear of Mr. Bells passing ,Fond memories of history class @ RCHS .*

Cynthia Brown Hamilton - Sweetwater, TN - Student of Mr. Bells RCHS - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM