



## Wilbur Maurice West

January 8, 1944 - August 24, 2021

Wilbur Maurice West, a respected and trusted figure in the Cocke County School System for more than four decades, passed away on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at the age of 77, having begun life on January 8, 1944 as the son of Dorothy Sauceman West and Maurice Moore West. Mr. West's total career as a Cocke County educator spanned forty-five years, including service as teacher, coach, guidance counselor, and principal before he became the supervisor of curriculum and instruction.

During his high school years at Cosby, 1958-1962, he became an accomplished basketball player, lettering all four years and named co-captain his junior and senior years. He also participated in a variety of other school activities, and graduated as an honor student.

After high school, Mr. West entered Hiwassee College in Madisonville, Tennessee, graduating with honors with an Associate of Arts Degree. Mr. West completed his Bachelor of Science Degree at East Tennessee State University and returned to his alma mater, Cosby School, to begin teaching. During his time at Cosby, he also coached the Cosby Elementary School girls' basketball team and served as assistant coach for the Cosby High School girls' and boys' basketball teams.

Mr. West became Cosby High School's first full-time guidance counselor. During his time as counselor, he completed his Master's Degree at East Tennessee State University, and reached the teacher certification level of Master's Degree plus forty-five graduate hours. He continued as counselor until fall 1977, when he became principal of Cosby School. After two and one-half years as principal, he was asked to fill a mid-year vacancy as supervisor of curriculum and instruction in the school system central office.

Mr. West and his wife Brenda cared for his father, Mr. Maurice West, in the English Creek Community of Cocke County until the elder Mr. West's death in 2002. They then moved to Greeneville. Mr. West remained active in the Cocke County School System and also took up a variety of activities in Greeneville. He volunteered three days a week at the City Garage Car Museum following his retirement in 2011. He served as a greeter, guide, loyal volunteer and a "Special Friend to Many" at the museum.

He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church, where he served as head usher, co-chair of the Serve Team, and teacher for the Seekers Sunday School Class. He enjoyed

hosting his friends at Greeneville's minor league baseball games and at Tusculum University basketball and football games. He was a member of Alpha Eta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International and the ESA Foundation, serving as Chaplain for many years and participating in many philanthropic projects

But Mr. West's most lengthy career service was as Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction in the Cocke County School System for thirty-one and one-half years, his tenure being the longest ever in the school system's chief supervisory position. During his career he gained the esteem of his colleagues as a person of exceptional integrity, industry, attention to detail, good will, and acceptance of responsibility. Such adjectives as kind, gentle, caring, comforting, listening, and helping were often used to describe him throughout his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Maurice and Dorothy West, and his grandparents, Rev. Wilbur and Mae Sauceman and John and Julia Kyker West. Survivors include his wife of 29 years Brenda Renner West, sister and brother-in-law Susan and Mickey Blazer, sister-in-law Debbie Renner and special cousins and long-time friends: Russell (Pat) Holloway, Anna (Dr. Karl) Kapoor, Julia (Steve) Brady, Jesse (Vickie) Sauceman, Dottie (Gary) Ford, Billy (Sandy) Sauceman, Dr. Jennifer Sauceman, Dr. Amanda Ford, Rickie Jo Shepherd, Sheila and Luther Pruitt, Lonnie Butler, Charlie Seehorn, Dave Ritter and Ron (Benna) Bennett. Also many other cousins, nieces, nephews and friends, and his beloved fur baby Lucy.

Pallbearers: Russell Holloway, Jesse Sauceman, Billy Sauceman, Gary Ford, Tony Blazer and Kevin Blazer.

Honorary Pallbearers: Seekers Sunday School Class members and ushers at Trinity United Methodist Church; employees of Bewley Properties, Inc.; and exhibitors and patrons of the City Garage Car Museum.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Brenda and Wilbur West Endowed Scholarship Fund. Checks need to be made to the ESA Foundation and mailed to Sheila Pruitt, 210 E. Carpenter Road, Parrottsville, TN 37843, Trinity United Methodist Church Serve Team, 524 Tusculum Blvd., Greeneville, TN 37745 or to the charity of your choice. The family will receive friends from 4:00 pm – 7:00pm Saturday, August 28, 2021 with funeral services following at 7:00 pm in Manes Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Sarah Varnell officiating.

Burial will be held 2:00 pm Sunday, August 29, 2021 in Union Cemetery.

Family and friends may sign the guest register online at: <http://www.manesfuneralhome.com>.

Arrangements by Manes Funeral Home.

# Events

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**AUG 28**   **Funeral**   07:00AM

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Manes Funeral Home Chapel  
363 East Main Street, Newport, TN, US, 37821

**AUG 28**   **Receive Friends**   04:00PM - 07:00PM

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Manes Funeral Home Chapel  
363 East Main Street, Newport, TN, US, 37821

**AUG 29**   **Burial**   02:00PM

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Union Cemetery Inc  
420 Mineral St, Newport, TN, US, 37821-3900

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Manes Funeral Home, Inc.** - August 27, 2021 at 03:16 PM

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“ Prayers for your family. Sorry for your loss.

**Tommy amd Carolyn Lillard** - September 06, 2021 at 07:52 PM

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“ I was so sorry to hear of Wilbur's passing. I did not know him well, but he was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed.

Lynn Carter

**Lynn Carter** - September 04, 2021 at 04:12 PM

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“ It saddens me greatly to hear of Wilbur's death. I seem to have known him ever since I can remember. He was extremely hard-working, devoted to education and unfailingly courteous to all.

**Kay** - September 03, 2021 at 01:46 PM

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“ Deepest condolences. Mr. West was a wonderful mentor during my time with the Cocke Co. School system. He will be greatly missed but warmly remembered.

**John Henderson** - August 30, 2021 at 02:20 PM

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“ Wilbur was one of the kindest and most caring persons I've ever known. I was honored to work with him and to call him friend and even family.. May God's peace and comfort surround all we ho loved Wilbur snd mourn his passing. Love and prayers, Phyllis Blazet

**Phyllis Blazer** - August 30, 2021 at 02:19 PM

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“ So sorry to hear about Wilbur. Keeping everyone in my thoughts and prayers

**Lisa Giles** - August 29, 2021 at 11:40 PM

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“ You are in my thoughts and prayers. Wilbur was such a “special “. He was always kind and considerate of everyone. I have been in quarantine since last Tuesday and unable to get to the visitation. I know you have precious memories of your lives together. May God continue to give you comfort and peace  
Love, Danny & Kathy Myers

**Kathy Myers** - August 29, 2021 at 07:06 PM

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“ Cindy Hasterlik lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Maurice West



**Cindy Hasterlik** - August 29, 2021 at 03:29 PM

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“ Wilbur was always so kind to me and my family when they came to visit Will miss him very much My sincere condolences to Wilbur's family

R.I.P. Wilbur

**Cindy Hasterlik** - August 29, 2021 at 03:28 PM

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“ Brenda, I am so sorry to hear of Wilbur’s passing. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.

**Tammy Reed** - August 29, 2021 at 12:46 PM

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“ Our heartfelt condolences to all Wilbur's family and loved ones. His dedication, professionalism, and sincerity will always be remembered. He shared his kindness & enthusiasm with so many. He will be missed. Our prayers are with you.

**Terri & Tommy Denton** - August 29, 2021 at 12:30 PM

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“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. West was a very special person, always willing to help others. May family and friends find peace and comfort in the days to come. Thoughts and prayers with all.

**Paula Bearden** - August 28, 2021 at 10:10 PM

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“ My sympathies to Brenda & family. I first met Mr. West when I was a seventh grader at Cosby Elementary. He ask me to play basketball for the team and I played until I graduated. He always wanted the best for everyone. He will be missed.  
Teresa Ford Webb

**Teresa Ford Webb** - August 28, 2021 at 08:26 PM

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“ My deepest condolences and sincere sympathy to your family. Wilbur was an example of dedication, professionalism, kindness and integrity. He will be missed by all who knew him.

**Debbie Fullington** - August 28, 2021 at 04:16 PM

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“ Brenda and family, we are so sorry for your loss of Wilbur. He was one of the sweetest kindest men I know. He will be sadly missed. God gained an angel when he passed. Steve and I will always remember his kindness.

**Emma Lee Balch** - August 28, 2021 at 04:04 PM

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“ Condolences to family and friends! May you treasure memories of times spent with this kind gentleman.

**Pauline Proffitt** - August 28, 2021 at 03:58 PM

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“ Annette and I are so blessed to have known Wilbur and we pray for comfort to the family. What a tremendous life this man has lived and we can only hope to follow his .lead. Love and sympathies are offered.

**Donn and Annette Berney** - August 28, 2021 at 03:57 PM

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“ Sincere sympathy to all Wilbur's family and loved ones. Such a wonderful, faithful servant.

Matthew 5:4

Prayers!



**Linda Dawson** - August 28, 2021 at 03:31 PM

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“ We are sad to hear about Wilbur passing  
He was the same person every time anyone seen him. He will be missed

**charlie & Lana williamson** - August 28, 2021 at 02:21 PM



“ We remember Wilbur's welcoming smile both at church and at the car museum. A fond memory is when we took our great grandson to the car museum. Wilbur was so welcoming and patient with him as he asked question after question about the cars there. Wilbur will be greatly missed.

**Rick and Cathy Hatcher** - August 28, 2021 at 12:21 PM

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“ Paula And Dewey Evans Sends Love And Pra sent a virtual gift in memory of Wilbur Maurice West



**Paula and Dewey Evans sends love and pra** - August 27, 2021 at 03:54 PM

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“ 92 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Manes Funeral Home, Inc.** - August 27, 2021 at 03:11 PM

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“ Dear Brenda, Sheila and family - my heart is breaking for you all as Wilbur was such a kind & sweet gentleman. He had such a giving and loving spirit to all who knew him, he was so passionate about helping students and the community. He will be missed and fondly remembered by so many. My thoughts and prayers are with you as you celebrate his wonderful life, sending many prayers in the time ahead.

**Jamie Atchison** - August 27, 2021 at 03:01 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Mr. W. West Family. There are no words to say that would let you know how missed he will be. One of the best men I have meet in my life. It was an honor.

**Vickie Maner** - August 27, 2021 at 02:27 PM

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“ Judy and I both loved Wilbur West; he hauled her to Cosby School in a 65 mustang to shoot ball when she was little, was Principal of Cosby when I began teaching there. What a FINE man! He was crucial to the Central Office for many years, coming in early, leaving late, always kind to everyone, just a CLASSY man. We still cherish letters he sent us through the years. Condolences to his family, but lord you were blessed and so were we for knowing him.  
Paul and Judy Webb

**Paul Webb** - August 27, 2021 at 12:45 PM

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“ Wilbur was such a kind man. As a young educator, he was always supportive and very encouraging. As I grew in the profession, he would always come over to me (if we happen to be in the same meetings), just to check on me and offer kind words. Prayers for this family as they mourn and celebrate the life of Wilbur.

**Dennis Wilds** - August 27, 2021 at 11:16 AM

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“ Wilbur was the kindest, most respectful person I have ever known. His love for that museum and his passion to make folks feel welcome was unmatched. I will forever remember that smile and the way his eyes would light up when he spoke. I will miss this sweet soul, the entire Greeneville community has lost a great friend.

All my love,  
Tammy Kinser

**Tammy Kinser** - August 27, 2021 at 10:14 AM

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“ Mr. West was truly one of the most compassionate persons that I was ever blessed to know. Thank you for you compassion and service Mr. West.

**J. Maurice Shults** - August 27, 2021 at 07:03 AM

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“ Condolences to all of Wilbur's family and many friends.

**Gary S. and Dorothy J. Kyker** - August 27, 2021 at 01:01 AM

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“ He will surely be missed by all !

**peter hasterlik** - August 27, 2021 at 12:26 AM

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“ Wilbur was such a special caring person and a dear friend. Ron and I will miss him so much.

**Tracie** - August 26, 2021 at 09:48 PM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wilbur Maurice West.



August 26, 2021 at 09:46 PM

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“ Brenda, i have always thought Wilbur was a very special person and so happy to have known him. Have missed seeing him these last few years. Happy he was a part of ESA. All my love

**Betty Jolly** - August 26, 2021 at 09:09 PM

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“ Mr West was an extremely nice man. A real gentleman. He will be missed by all who knew him. I know your loss is great. Praying God will give you comfort

**Sharleen Sane** - August 26, 2021 at 08:18 PM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Wilbur Maurice West.



August 26, 2021 at 08:05 PM

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“ We are sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. God Bless Jerry hall and family

**Jerry hall and family** - August 26, 2021 at 07:40 PM

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“ So sorry for your loss. He was a wonderful honest and caring man. He will be missed! Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Lesa Holt



**lesaholt** - August 26, 2021 at 03:26 PM

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“ Those we love never leave. They stay with us forever in our hearts and memories. May you be comforted by the words of Jesus, "And ye now therefore have sorrow; but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."



**Teresa Martin** - August 26, 2021 at 03:24 PM

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“ Wilbur was my boys Sunday school teacher and they loved him so very much. He was a wonderful teacher for them. He was always so very professional, courteous and kind at work. He always dressed very professionally and treated everyone fairly. There aren't too many men who are as special as Wilbur West. I am glad I knew him and he was my friend.

**Penny Ervin** - August 26, 2021 at 01:08 PM

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“ Connie & I were saddened to hear of Wilbur's passing. He was always a caring & kind man every time we were around him. Connie always said one of the best too have worked with through the many years they shared. Our prayers & condolences too Brenda & all his family & friends. A was a true example how people should be treated.

**Connie & Marsha Ball** - August 26, 2021 at 11:40 AM

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“ So sorry to hear about Mr West!! He was a really nice man. May God bless you all! I worked in the school system for 32 years. ,, Love to you all Debbie Hurst

**Debra Hurst** - August 26, 2021 at 10:10 AM

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“ I'm so sorry to hear about Wilbur. I loved him so much. He was the nicest man I ever met. He will be dearly missed.



**Melissa Sisk** - August 26, 2021 at 10:09 AM



“ Wilbur was one of mine and Larry's dearest friends. We treasured the time CCD we worked with him. He was an exceptional caring educator who helped do many. May Gods comfort and peace surround Brenda and all those who loved Wilbur snd mourn his passing.

**Phyllis Blazer** - August 26, 2021 at 03:53 PM

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“ I want to extend my deepest sympathy to Wilbur's extended family and especially to his wife (Brenda) in the loss of a great man. Wilbur and I attended Cosby High School during the same time frame and was there I came to know him for the special qualities that set him apart. Later in time, Wilbur woud ride with me frequently to/from East Tn State University where we were both students pursuing our college degrees - those long rides are worthy of note because it was during those times I begin to really know and appreciate Wilbur for the special person he was. His long and distinguished career as an educator and manager within the Cocke County School system is well known - a career built on his Christian character and a unique quality (missing in many) of genuinely caring for others. He will be missed by the many who either knew him or knew of him and the positive influence from him upon both students and others during his long career. We are all blessed by having known Wilbur. May God's grace and peace be upon those most close to him - his family.

Roger A Butler  
Maryville, TN

**Roger A Butler** - August 26, 2021 at 09:52 AM

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“ Brenda and Family:

It was my good fortune to begin my teaching career at Cosby High where 'Mr. West' was already a revered staff member. In later years, I continued my working relationship with Wilbur when he came to the Central Office. He set the bar high for the rest of us, both expecting and giving excellent work. Always a gentleman and a gentle man, he led hundreds, if not thousands, of students to successful careers. He will be missed.

Duay and Kay O'Neil - August 26, 2021 at 09:34 AM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Mr. West made a huge impact in countless lives with all of his educational endeavors. He left this world a better place with his love and presence in our lives. The love lives on and never dies. Until we meet again.

Kay Keener  
Duay O'Neil  
Nancy Keener Hansel  
Marty Keener

Kay Keener - August 26, 2021 at 08:59 AM



“ I send my condolences to all who loved Wilbur. I worked closely with him at the Central Office during his tenure there. I can say that his work ethic was exemplary and the teachers and students of Cocke County greatly benefited from his service. He was always a trusted and valued friend to me. He will be missed, but will be remembered for his endeavors to make this world a better place. May he rest in peace.

**Barbara O. Davis** - August 27, 2021 at 12:27 PM



“ sorry for your loss may God comfort you all

**Aggie Holt** - August 28, 2021 at 12:31 PM