



Samuel McCoy Bass, Jr.

November 28, 1940 - May 2, 2012

Samuel “Buddy” McCoy Bass, Jr., husband of Mary Parks Bass, of 112 Lake Ridge Lane, died Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

A native of Columbia, SC, Mr. Bass was the son of the late Samuel Bass, Sr. and Pauline Armstrong Bass. He was a lifelong educator, and served as the principal of West Oak High School and Tamassee-Salem High School. He was a member of Salem First Baptist Church where he served as a deacon, and taught “Growing in Faith” Sunday School class. Mr. Bass was a past member of the Salem Lions Club, where he won the Melvin Jones Award. He was also a recipient of the Governor’s Award for Contribution to Arts.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Bass is survived by a son, Coy Bass of Greenville, SC; Daughter, Joy Bass Conley and her husband, Mike, of Inman, SC; four grandchildren, Mary Kate Conley, Rosa Conley, Kendal Conley, and Cindy Conley; Brother Gordon Bass of Sonora, CA; sisters, Marilyn Stevens of Waynsville, NC, and Paulette Bass of Fayetteville, GA.

A funeral Service will be held Saturday, May 5, 2012 at 10:00 AM at Salem First Baptist Church. Burial will follow at 4:00 PM at Parksville Baptist Church Cemetery in Parksville, SC.

The family will receive friends Friday, May 4, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at

Davenport Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to Salem First Baptist Memorial Fund, PO Box 89, Salem, SC 29676, or Parksville Baptist Church Building Fund, 131 Parksville Street,
Parksville, SC 29844.

The family is at the home.

Tribute Wall



“ Samuel McCoy Bass, Jr.

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ I extend my deepest heartfelt sympathy to the Bass family. My father passed away when I was very young. When I needed a mature male figure in my life the most, Mr. Bass was the friend, mentor and father figure that literally changed my outlook on life. For that, I will be forever gratefull and will always love and cherish his memory. Go rest high on that mountain my friend until we meet again. Godspeed to Mary, Coy and Joy. Mr. Bass will be truely missed by everyone who was so fortunate to have known him.##imported-begin##Eddie Moore##imported-end##

May 11, 2012 at 11:53 AM



“ Im So Sorry For Your loss Mr Bass Was A Good Man He will Dearly Be Missed My Prayers For His Family
Rebecca gilstrap##imported-begin##Rebecca Gilstrap##imported-end##

May 10, 2012 at 04:41 PM



“ I will always remember west-oak, and Ryan's. I will truely miss you.
Class of 93##imported-begin##Shawna Nix##imported-end##

May 09, 2012 at 06:58 PM



“ We are very sorry to hear of Sam's passing.
Your family will be in our prayers.
Sincerely
Sandy & Max Wigington###imported-begin##sandy
wigington###imported-end##

May 09, 2012 at 05:01 PM



“ Mrs.Bass,

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours during this time.
Sam was a wonderful man who truly cared about kids. He was
always there to help our sons in many ways and kept up with them
many years even after graduation. We always enjoyed seeing and
talking with him and we will surely miss those converstions. May
God bless you and yours.R###imported-begin##Mark and Donna
Burns###imported-end##

May 08, 2012 at 12:53 PM



“ Mary, Coy, Joy, Mike, and family,

We are thinking of you, and keeping you all in our prayers. Sam was
a special person to many people, and certainly to us.
Love you,
Squeak, Victoria, & Naomi Crider###imported-begin##Steve,
Victoria, and Naomi Crider###imported-end##

May 08, 2012 at 11:13 AM



“ *Whispers From Heaven*

*When I left this world without you, I know it made you blue.
Your tears fell so freely, I watched; I know it's true.*

*... While you were weeping, days after I passed away,
While all was silent within me, I saw you kneel to pray.*

*From this wonderful place called Heaven, where all my pain is gone,
I send a gentle breeze to whisper, "My loved ones, please go on."*

*The peace that I have found here goes far beyond compare,
No rain, no clouds and no suffering...just love from everywhere,*

*You need not be troubled, just stay close to God in prayer,
Someday we'll be reunited-my love, His love surrounds you
always...everywhere.##imported-begin##Darlene Cassell
Sentell##imported-end##*

May 08, 2012 at 10:24 AM



“ *Mary, Having had 3 boys at West-Oak you know I had a lot of
contact with Sam over the years. I tried to think of a word to
describe Sam as I reflected. The word I came up with was integrity. I
found many meanings for it...sincerity, honesty, candor, character,
decency, goodness, not artificial, not shallow... Any and all of these
describe Sam. He has touched so many in a positive way and we all
will miss him. May God comfort you in this time of separation as we
wait to see Sam again.##imported-begin##Mike Foster##imported-
end##*

May 07, 2012 at 10:39 AM



“ May the love of Christ embrace your family in this difficult time of loss. Mr. Bass was a wonderful man. I consider myself fortunate to have been a student under his guidance at West-Oak High School. He may have departed this world, but his lessons and legacy continue forward within the thousands of students he impacted.##imported-begin##Kyle S. Brown & Family##imported-end##

May 06, 2012 at 08:15 PM



“ Mary and Family,
My prayers are with you all during this time of great loss. Mr. Bass will always hold a very special place in my heart.
TSH Class of 1990##imported-begin##Stephanie Addis
Brewer##imported-end##

May 06, 2012 at 03:03 PM



“ Bass family
so sorry to hear of his passing tho the pain is great here the joy will be overwhelming there. now will be the time mrs. mary needs to learn to take care of her. we will continue to pray. i have heard many great stories about Mr. Bass and how things went in high school from David. He made school enjoyable for alot of people. He will be missed.
David, Becky and Matthew##imported-begin##Medlins##imported-end##

May 06, 2012 at 12:35 AM



“ Mrs. Bass, You and the Family are in our thoughts and prayers. You and Mr. Bass have touched so many and changed lives for the better without even knowing!!

~ Ye shall reap a great reward in the kingdom of heaven ~

May God give you strength and Comfort in this time of Loss ~ Erline & Michael Sims##imported-begin##James Michael & Erline Cannon Sims##imported-end##

May 05, 2012 at 08:31 PM



“ Sam was always so nice to me and the boys, we are so sorry. He will surely be missed by many of us salemnites. Love in Christ,

Rick, Ricky @ Steven##imported-begin##Rick TuckSr.##imported-end##

May 05, 2012 at 02:56 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Bass was my principal. He was a wonderful man. He helped kids instead of punishing them for their mistakes. Sweet, sweet person. He is in a much better place now with his Lord and Savior. You have a wonderful husband and father. God Bless all of you!##imported-begin##Christen##imported-end##

May 05, 2012 at 01:42 PM



“ We will greatly miss you!!!##imported-begin##David and Sonya Holbrooks##imported-end##

May 05, 2012 at 11:57 AM



“ *Mary, Coy, and Joy*

I am so sorry for you loss. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers daily.

Mr. Bass was a very special man, and will be missed.

Love, Donna Waites##imported-begin##Donna Waites##imported-end##

May 05, 2012 at 10:48 AM



“ *Aunt Mary,*

Michelle, Ryan and I are surrounding you with love and prayers at this difficult time.

*May we find peace in knowing according to Psalm 116:15-
“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”*

Love you much##imported-begin##Joey Parks##imported-end##

May 05, 2012 at 09:15 AM



“ *May God bless and keep your family during this sad time. Rejoice in knowing that Mr.Bass touched so many lives as our high school principal. He is surely being rewarded beyond what we can imagine! Praying for you all. Sincerely, Julie Rholetter Rogers West Oak High School Class of 1993##imported-begin##Julie Rholetter Rogers##imported-end##*

May 05, 2012 at 08:14 AM



“ *Mary and family,
We know this is a hard time in your life. You all are in our prayers.
Mr Bass was such an inspiration to so many people. He lived his life
serving others and he loved every minute. What a legacy to leave
behind. Now he is getting his reward in heaven!##imported-
begin##Tony and Brenda Heaton##imported-end##*

May 05, 2012 at 07:42 AM



“ *Dear Mary and family, Sam was one of the most generous, loving
educators that ever existed. The students adored him, and he us. I'll
never forget him busing the whole school to Clemson to see ET. He
helped shape a lot of lives along the way. Heaven has truly gained
an angel with him!! Love and prayers to you all!##imported-
begin##Susan Oliver Polimeni class of 87##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 11:28 PM



“ *I wanted to send my condolences. I just heard about Mr. Bass today
and out of all my teachers and principals, he was always my
favorite. Mr. Bass made sure to check on me when I was out having
my back surgery and always made sure I was ok and didn't need
anything at school. He was truly a wonderful man. My prayers are
with you all during this time. I wish I could have came up for the
services, but Mr. Bass will always be in my heart, and I know
Heaven has definitely gained another angel.*

*Shelly L. Sanders Celli
W-O Class Graduating of 1997##imported-begin##Shelly Sanders
Celli##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 11:17 PM



“ *Mary and family;
I am so sad to hear that Mr. Bass passed away. I will never forget the love and compassion that the two of you always showed me when I was a student at D.A.R. I will never forget the smile and hug that always greeted me wherever he saw me. He will be greatly missed but never forgotten. May God shower you all with his amazing grace, comfort, love, and mercy during this time. May God Bless you all!##imported-begin##Tonya Bowen Cain##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 09:54 PM



“ *Where to begin... What a great man he was. Not only was he my Principal, Sunday school teacher, he was my friend. Words cannot express the sadness I feel in his passing. I was never afraid to talk to him about anything. I loved him and will miss him greatly. My thoughts and prayers go out to his children, grandchildren, and his lovely wife. RIP my dear friend. I will see you again one day. Ill bring the coke and crackers!##imported-begin##Tony Moss##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 09:50 PM



“ *Mary we are so sorry for your loss. It's a loss for everyone who new Mr. Bass. Our family loved him dearly. He became part of our family when our kids were all at West-Oak. So many good memories I can't began to tell them all. May God be with you during this time of sorrow. Love and prayers to you and your##imported-begin##Curtis and Rachel Branch##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 09:42 PM



“ *Mr. Bass had such a positive impact on all of his students. I never saw him when he wasn't smiling and laughing. He knew all of his students by name and always made time for them. He made sure that they knew he really cared. I have so many good memories of Mr. Bass. What a wonderful principal he was. He touched the lives of so many people that will carry his memory. We all loved him.*

Rebecca Glenn Lawson (West-Oak Class of 1992)

May 04, 2012 at 05:14 PM



“ *Mary, Coy, Joy, & all the family, please know that you have my deepest & sincerest sympathy, upon hearing of Sam's passing. He was a very well liked, & respected administrator during his years as our principal at Tamassee-Salem. He will be greatly missed.*

May 04, 2012 at 04:46 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. We have always considered the Bass family our friends. Buddy was a special person and we have fond memories of times we spent together in Mars Hill, MeBee, Holly Hill, and here in the Upstate.*
We Love You All,
Larry and Martha

May 04, 2012 at 04:14 PM



“ Sam will be greatly missed. He was a wonderful principal and taught us right from wrong. I have used his wisdom throughout life and have benefited. Rest in Peace.

Timothy Scott Donohue
USMC

Davie Police officer, Davie Fl.

CEO of iSmart Repairs Inc.##imported-begin##T. Scott
Donohue##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 03:40 PM



“ Aunt Mary,Coy,Joy and Family...So Sorry 4 your loss and I love you all.Heaven definitely received a Wonderful Man....Uncle Buddy will be Missed.See Ya'll SOON.##imported-begin##Tammy
Swann##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 02:10 PM



“ Our family's heart goes out to you all. He will be so missed. We rejoice in that he is now made whole and you will see him again one day!##imported-begin##John and Tina Wilson##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 01:34 PM



“ Mr.Bass will be greatly missed. He was always a very nice person that treated everyone with respect. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.##imported-begin##Donice & Gary
Kelley##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 12:05 PM



“ Dear Mary and Family,
We are so sorry to hear of Sam's passing. Brian has be reliving all the times that Sam was kind and forgiving to him as his principal, as I have been reliving all those moments that Sam was influential to me as a graduate student, teacher, VBS director, etc. Meanwhile, Matthew and Anna have also shared moments in which Sam had an impact on them at church just by being so strong in his faith and so positive in his demeanor. We have all been so blessed by knowing him and pray for your comfort until you see him again.
Sincerely,
The Rogers##imported-begin##Brian, Angie, Anna, and Matthew Rogers##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 11:50 AM



“ Our hearts are broken but Heaven is rejoicing!! We love you all!##imported-begin##Tim, Lynn and Whitley Moore##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 10:37 AM



“ I send my deepest sympathy.

Sherry Beth Rogers Moore
Tamassee-Salem High School
Class of 1987##imported-begin##Sherry Beth Rogers Moore##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 10:05 AM



“ *What a wonderful man Heaven has gained. Mr. Bass made such a positive impact on me during my high school years. That warm caring smile and embrace each time he seen any of his students. Although it's been 18 years seen I last saw him that same sweet smile will forever be my lasting memory of him. My thoughts and prayers go out to each of you. He will forever be missed. May God Bless each of you. Melissa Gibby Gibson West Oak High School Class of 1994.##imported-begin##Melissa Gibby Gibson##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 10:03 AM



“ *I am sorry for your lose. Mr. Bass was a great mentor and encouraged every student he come in contact with. He was an inspiration beyond what he knew. If not for him many students would have fallen by the way side and have been forgotten.##imported-begin##Erica Adams Cofield##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 09:27 AM



“ *Mary,
Our prayers are with you and your family.
Love,
Mark and Tricia Burgess6##imported-begin##Mark and Tricia Burgess##imported-end##*

May 04, 2012 at 08:44 AM



“ Dearest Mary and family,
You and Sam always made me feel so blessed! I know God is
welcoming home a diligent and faithful servant! I love you,
Rushie##imported-begin##Rushie Sorrenti##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 08:27 AM



“ ##imported-begin##Curtis and Rachel Branch##imported-end##

May 04, 2012 at 06:49 AM



“ Such a wonderful, kind, & caring person. He will be greatly missed.
Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.##imported-
begin##Randall Lusk##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 11:51 PM



“ Heaven gained a special angel when Mr. Bass passed. He left a big
impression in my life. He will be missed by many but will never be
forgotten. The family is in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-
begin##Amanda Roach Cromer##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 10:14 PM



“ Mrs. Bass, I'm so sorry to hear about Mr. Bass. Though I know he is in Heaven. I'm sure he will walk tall in Heaven like he walked the halls of WOHS. I loved to hear him laugh. He will forever be apart of my life his words of wisdom still live strong in all of the lives he touched. May God strengthen and comfort you now and the years to come. ---Thanks Mr. Bass.... You will be missed!!###imported-begin###Jennifer Honea Fuller###imported-end###

May 03, 2012 at 09:01 PM



“ Principal...Sunday School teacher...Friend... To me, Sam Bass was all of those things, and so much more... I am DEEPLY saddened to learn of his passing, but I am a better person, and forever grateful, for having known him. In the short 3 years I was a student under his leadership at Tamassee-Salem High School, he not only helped me on a professional student-principal level, but his continuing advice, guidance, and genuine friendship through the years since have meant more to me than words can express. Mr. Bass wore many hats, but none greater than that of Christian brother and friend. I loved and respected him very much. He will be greatly missed. RIP "Mr. Bass." Thanks for all you did and for the wonderful memories!###imported-begin###Wayne Reid###imported-end###

May 03, 2012 at 08:22 PM



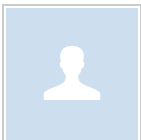
“ Dear Mary and Family,
We were so saddened to hear of Sam's passing. We both had such a great respect for him as an educator, friend and Christian. We know that when he took his last breath here on Earth, he took his first in Heaven and the angel choir is rejoicing his homecoming. You are in our prayers.
Blessings,
Chuck, Rebecca and Camdyn Evans###imported-begin###Chuck and Rebecca Evans###imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 08:20 PM



“ Dear Bass family,
I wanted to express my condolences to you. Mr. Bass was my principal at Tamassee salem High.... 1983-85. He was a good man, with a true concern in all areas of each student's life. The light of the Lord shown from him...he shall be missed, but we will see him again!###imported-begin###Robin Herms Diamaduros###imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 07:35 PM



“ Mrs. Mary, Joy, & Coy...Please accept my condolences on the loss of your loved one. Mr. Bass was more than just my high school principal, he was my friend. Even after graduation if I was to see him & Mrs. Mary out somewhere, he always greeted me with that warm smile & a hug. I will forever cherish my memories of him & the impact he made on my life. May the Lord bless & keep you in His saving grace & abiding love, giving you peace & comfort during this difficult time. Sincerely, Denee Gibson Payne West-Oak High School Class of 1992###imported-begin###Denee Gibson Payne###imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 07:22 PM



“ Mary, my family and I will be keeping you and your family in our prayers. Sam was a good man and great friend to many.##imported-begin##Lydia Scoggins##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 06:37 PM



“ We loved him, and lots of other people thought so very highly of him. His worldly troubles have passed, and he is free of the chains of disease and discomfort. His life and accomplishments will be rejoiced for years to come. Peace and love to his family.##imported-begin##Robert Whitney##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 05:25 PM



“ Hi Mary and Family, So sorry to hear about the loss of Mr. Bass. He was a wonderful man. I was the secretary at TS Elementary under Principal Brown. When Mr. Brown was away from school one day and I had a problem with one of the teachers there, he came to my rescue. He was always friendly and had very positive things to say about my troubled teen when Mr. Bass was principal at W-O. That teen has grown into a fine man. Thank you Mr. Bass for all the things you did for education and our children. You will be missed.##imported-begin##Steve and Dianne White##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 05:24 PM



“ You are in our thoughts and prayers.

I owe so much to Sam for believing in me for my first band job. I enjoyed teaching Coy in the band and loved to hear Joy play in the orchestra.

He was always so upbeat and jovial and such a wonderful Christian man. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Roger & Sue LeCroy##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 05:10 PM



“ Mary, Coy, Joy & Family,

Our hearts are saddened to hear of Sam's passing. He was a wonderful man & we know that our loss is truly Heavens gain. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. May God's peace & comfort surround you all.

James, PJ & Family##imported-begin##PJ Collins Watkins & James Watkins##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 04:38 PM



“ It has been 17 years since the last time I saw that warm, welcoming smile at graduation. Mr. Bass was always a pleasure to talk to and such an awesome principal. My deepest sympathies go out to his family during this most difficult time. May he rest in peace.##imported-begin##Tina Burns##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 04:21 PM



“ *This world lost a great man in Mr Bass. He was a blessing and inspiration to more people than I'm sure he would take credit for. He touched each of his students in a way that only he could. He seemed to know what each one needed and always knew the best way to help each one.*

Ms. Bass, Please know that you and your family will continue to be in my prayers.##imported-begin##Darlene Cassell Sentell##imported-end##

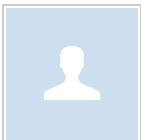
May 03, 2012 at 04:12 PM



“ *Mrs. Mary words can not express the hurt my heart feels right now, my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time.. God has truly got him 1 beautiful angel, i just know every time i look in the clouds I'm going to see that beautiful smile, and knowing every morning he is saying "good morning folks".*

R.I.P. MR.BASS YOU ARE GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN...##imported-begin##Connie Patterson##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 03:53 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies.*

Becky Johnson

(retired Walhalla HS)##imported-begin##Becky Johnson##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 03:15 PM



“ To the Bass family,

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family during your loss. Mr. Bass served as my high school principal, who did every thing with gladness in his heart. Take comfort in knowing that you will see him again one day.##imported-begin##Karen Leard##imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 03:04 PM



“ *Mr. Bass is the most precious man ever!!! He always gave 110% to everyone!!! He leaves a wonderful legacy and will be greatly missed!!!##imported-begin##Tracie Collins Goss##imported-end##*

May 03, 2012 at 02:52 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to you during this difficult time. Mr. Bass was a great man and will be missed by many. God's has gained a great angel!!!##imported-begin##Adam & Amanda Blackwell##imported-end##*

May 03, 2012 at 02:46 PM



“ *Your smiling face will be missed by so many Mr. Bass. You were a special person. You truly cared about each and every one of your students and friends. You aren't in pain anymore and you are in a much better place than we are sitting at the feet of our Lord Jesus. I shall see you again one day, but until then, I will pray for Mary, Coy, and Joy, and the rest of your family. We all love you Mr. Bass!##imported-begin##Sheila Galbreath Thornburg##imported-end##*

May 03, 2012 at 02:43 PM



“ Mary, I was very sad to hear that Sam had died. I was in cardiac rehab with him and with you at Curves. I love you both. Our prayers are with you and your family.
Bobbie & Jerome Ledford###imported-begin##Bobbie Ledford###imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 02:36 PM



“ Mr. Bass was a precious man. He was more than a principal to me and all other students - he was our friend. You could tell that he truly cared about each of us and our future. He will be GREATLY missed!###imported-begin##Alisha Scott###imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 02:33 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Mrs. Bass, Joy, Coy, and family. Mr. Bass was a wonderful man who touched so many lives - including mine. His legacy he left at Tamassee-Salem High School will live on as the students whose lives he touched are living memories.

May God bless you and keep you and know that one day you will see him in Heaven - where he truly belongs.###imported-begin##Julie Dilley###imported-end##

May 03, 2012 at 02:11 PM