



Robert C. Futer

February 6, 2018

Robert C. (Bob) Futer, 83, went to be home with the Lord peacefully on February 6, 2018 surrounded by his family where he had been residing at Brightview Woodbury Lake in Woodbury, NJ. He was the son of Cecil M. and Gertrude (Baker) Futer. Bob attended Bridgeton schools having graduated in 1951. He attended the then West Chester College with a B.A. in Elementary Music.

After two years in the Army, Bob was hired by Seabrook Schools as music teacher and taught there for 35 years. He furthered his education by receiving a Master's Degree in 1971. For a number of years he also taught at for a short time at Gloucester County College and 20 years at Cumberland County College. In 1982 he was given the honor of directing the S.J. Junior High Chorus that was held in Bridgeton High School

Many singers were blessed and challenged to perform under the leadership of Mr. Futer. Starting at age 17, he began directing church choirs, many local in this area, and other organizations for the worship of God. He even directed two church choirs on the very same Sunday. He also started a Community Chorus in the Bridgeton area for local singers to enjoy and led a Madrigal

singing group at the Bridgeton Renaissance Faire. Bob had a beautiful tenor/baritone singing voice that he used for church, parties, and weddings. His favorite solo was "The Holy City." He also had the privilege to direct a three octave hand bell choir. Bob truly had a long and wonderful musical life.

Bob is survived by his daughter, Kathryn F. Ackley (Kenny) and son, William H. Futer. Bob was formerly married to Jean (Wells) Futer for 34 years.

All services will be held at the New Hope Presbyterian Church, 65 Hitchner Ave., Bridgeton, NJ 08302. The viewing will be held Monday night, February 12, 2018, from 6 until 8 PM and again Tuesday morning, February 13, 2018, from 10 until 11 AM. A Service will follow the Tuesday morning visitation at 11 AM. Inurnment at Hephsula Baptist Church Cemetery in PA will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers to honor the legacy of Robert Futer contributions can be made in his name to the Cumberland County College Foundation, 3322 College Dr., Vineland, NJ 08362. www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Cemetery Details

Private Interment

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 12. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

New Hope Presbyterian Church
65 Hitchner Ave.
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Visitation

FEB 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

New Hope Presbyterian Church
65 Hitchner Ave.
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Service

FEB 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Hope Presbyterian Church
65 Hitchner Ave.
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Tribute Wall

GW

“ I am so sorry for your loss Mr Futer taught me to play trumpet back in 4th grade 1966 Seabrook school

Grady Williamson - August 04, 2018 at 12:29 PM

PS

“ I loved Mr. Futer. He was a wonderful music teacher. He taught me to play the Cello @ Seabrook School. He was my very favorite teacher ever. If he saw you had a talent & even if you didn't he encouraged you to "step outside the box. He was always so funny & had us laughing all the time.

' He made the world a lot better place to be just because of him. "
Go Rest High On That Mountain" Mr Futer, your work is done.
Patricia A (Stidham) Schaper.

Patty Stidham Schaper - March 01, 2018 at 06:44 PM

JM

“ I have so many fond memories of music with Mr. Futer at Seabrook School. Mr. Futer was so passionate about music. His enthusiasm was so evident. His smile, infectious. His sense of humor, amazing! I have taught my husband and sons many of the songs we learned. We even sing them in rounds, like Mr. Futer taught us. Our favorites are:

C-O-F-F-E-E, A Baked Potato, Drill, Ye Tarriers, Drill, and Hey Ho, Nobody's Home (NOT Hey Ho, Nobody SHOME LOL!). And for the Class of 1976, I AM AN AMERICAN! I can still hear Mr. Futer, singing that anthem LOUD and PROUD! Mr. Futer taught us the history or fun facts about the songs we learned. He also introduced us to classical music, The Flight of the Bumble Bee, Peter and the Wolf, and Popcorn to name a few. Mr. Futer had such a positive impact on my life. He was truly a blessing for all who were fortunate to have known him. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Mr. Futer. YOU ROCK!!!!

*My sincere condolences to Mr. Futer's family.
Janet (Froelich) Morris*

Janet (Froelich) Morris - February 12, 2018 at 05:35 PM

BR

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Professor Futer first as a student at Cumberland County College where he taught "Fundamentals of Music". That was quite sometime ago and I remember how passionate and animated he was while teaching.

I would later have the pleasure of having small conversations with him as a colleague at Cumberland County College and remember his distinctive laugh! The man was surely alive with music and a desire to share his knowledge with anyone willing to learn.

My condolences to his family.

Bill Reyes - February 12, 2018 at 01:14 PM

DF

“ So saddened to hear of Bob's passing. I have such good memories of knowing him. When I was a student at CCC, he was my Music Appreciation professor. It was the most interesting class, and Bob made it so much fun. I too recall his unique laughter and fantastic sense of humor, but I also remember how he was able to capture the attention of the class. Years later, I was able to call Bob a colleague at the college. His personality was always positive, and I don't believe I ever saw a time when that smile was not on his face. A wonderful person . . . God Bless!

Donald Forcinito - February 12, 2018 at 11:31 AM

BH

“ This picture is a perfect example of how we always saw Bob. His huge smile, laughter and positive energy lit up our hallways, classrooms and offices. Bob was like a breath of fresh air and we so enjoyed working with a man that truly loved what he did!
My condolences to Bob's family

Beatrice Hughes - February 12, 2018 at 09:46 AM

CH

“ I have so many memories of music class...at Seabrook School...with Mr. Futer..I wasn't a good singer..but he could bring the best out....Plus, he shared so many different types of music..I came from a southern family,with their kind of music..he showed me..there was a lot more out there.....can't forget the flute lessons!God be with you all at this time.

carolyn hoover - February 11, 2018 at 10:03 AM



“ I met Bob when I became a Music Teacher and went to my first SJ Choral Directors' Meeting. I was afraid of him....because of his great knowledge. Then, I wound up singing in a Chorus in Bridgeton. He was the Tenor Soloist. I got to know him better, and we clicked. Later on in the Late 1980's, early 1990's he attended one of my NJ Alumni Chapter Meetings for West Chester University Alumni. I was the President of the Chapter. From that moment, he attended all of the engagements and became a member of the board. Bob would come to my home for board meetings, and became the unofficial "Uncle Bob" to our daughters Lauren and Heather. He shared his memories of West Chester - Class of '55, as well as share his Love of Toy Firetrucks with my husband, Howard.

Bob was an inspirational man with an infectious smile and laugh. His photo says it all. My heart has a hollow spot now. He is truly missed. Our prayers for his eternal happiness in the choir of Angels up above. Our love and prayers to all of you, Howard, Donna Marie, Lauren (Kean), and Heather Berchtold

Donna Marie Berchtold - February 10, 2018 at 04:11 PM

AS

“ Bob was a dear friend and colleague in the South Jersey Choral Directors Association for many years. We will dearly miss his smile, charm, and wit.

Andrew & Felicia Seigel.

Andrew Seigel - February 10, 2018 at 11:12 AM

TC

“ *Music class at Seabrook School was always a fun experience with Mr. Futer. I still sing some of the songs with my current students! Mr. Futer was a special man and a great teacher. My thoughts and prayers are with him and his family. Rest in peace ❤️ Love, Terri Marino Catalano*

Terri Marino Catalano - February 10, 2018 at 09:12 AM

NB

What great memories I have in music class with Mr. Futer at Seabrook school. Loved our Christmas programs. I must say I know every Christmas Carol there is because of him. Rest in Peace Mr. Futer 🙏

nancy bundy - February 11, 2018 at 04:47 PM

TL

“Mr. Futer was a treasure. His animated facial expressions, dramatic waving hands, and exacerbated shoulder shrugging were his cartoonish signature moves to not only accentuated his passion for music, but also his deep rooted desire to inspire his students. What he did in class was funny, interesting, and inclusive for every student. Whether one had singing skills, showed the potential to be a prodigy on an instrument, or struggled to even play a radio or sing in the shower, he took the time to make music an event. The brief interludes of his playing or singing to demonstrate for the class were merely a sneak peak at the talent this marvelous gentleman had. It was not until witnessing this talented musician and singer outside of a classroom setting that one was able to grasp the full breadth of his talent and why he wanted to share it not just as a performer, but as a teacher so he could pass it on for others to carry forward for more than 30 years. Whether it was Stodala Pumpa, Moon River, Swing Low Sweet Chariot, Surry with the Fringe on Top, or The Star Spangled Banner, his lessons continue to resonate with those who sat in his class and warbled or sang with ease.

To those who were part of my generation of students experiencing Mr. Futer's eclectic assortment of musical numbers in class, I leave you with My Grandfather's Clock.

*It was taller by half than the old man himself
And it weighed not a penny-weight more
It was bought on the morn of the day that he was born
And was always his pleasure and pride
But it stopped, short, never to go again when the old man died.*

The clock may have stopped, but thanks to Mr. Futer, the music never will; even for a warbler like me who struggles to play the radio.

Tom Lake - February 10, 2018 at 09:02 AM

PH

“ *Mr. Futer was my elementary and college music teacher/professor. He taught me a love of classical music and the flute was my instrument of choice. He was stern, when needed but a lot of fun too! I will always remember his smile. He made an impression on my life and I am saddened at his passing but happy to know he knew the Lord! See you in the heavenly choir Mr. Futer!! Condolences to the family!*

Patricia Sanders Harris - February 10, 2018 at 07:43 AM

VW

“ *My memories of "Mr. Futer" are such happy ones. He was my childhood piano teacher for several years, my music teacher at Seabrook School and the choir director at a church I attended. We were always permitted to choose a song or two at the end of music class and we almost always chose "A Capital Ship", a rousing tune that he played with such vigor (and expertise) that we all believed the old upright piano moved up and down on the floor during the numerous verses and, of course, he always let us sing them all!! My condolences to his children and to Jean. He will be missed. . . Vicky (Aldrich) Wayne*

Vicky Wayne - February 09, 2018 at 08:24 PM



“ *Was not part of the "In Crowd" in school. To top it off, I have a strange name. Since Mr. Futer had a hard time remembering it, he gave me the nickname "Little Flower". He always made me feel special in his class. What a wonderful teacher he was. Rest in peace Sir.*

Zina Peterson - February 09, 2018 at 06:00 PM

CB

“ I'll never forget Mr. Futer. He taught me to sing in "parts" and enunciate, and how to play the flute. He was very patient...but boy he could make some faces! Prayers for his family's peace during this time.

Charlotte Bergantzel - February 09, 2018 at 05:53 PM

PE

“ Jean and Family,
We are so sorry for your loss.
Penny and Toni



Penny - February 09, 2018 at 05:37 PM

KV

“ I had the privilege of having Mr. Futer as my grade school music teacher when I attended woodruff school in the early 90s. He made music class so much fun. Because of him I learned to appreciate classic musicals and I go to see so many productions now. He really opened my eyes to learning to appreciate all forms of music. I am so sorry to hear of his passing. My deepest condolences to his family. He was an amazing man with an amazing voice and I will always cherish the memories I have of him.

Karen Virgillo - February 09, 2018 at 05:31 PM

AN

“ Mr. Futer was my music teacher in the Upper Deerfield Township Schools. His love and passion for music was very evident. He was also very funny. He was a very big part of my childhood and I spoke of him often as an adult. He will be truly missed. Rest In Peace, Mr. Futer.

Anitra - February 09, 2018 at 05:28 PM

SN

“ I’m at a complete loss of words. Dearest Mr. Futer was not only my music teacher, but also my cousins, my moms, and aunts (he taught my Aunt Becky how to conduct a choir). He was also a dear family friend. I have a photo of myself at my very first Christmas in 1977 while my mom is showing me a life sized Santa. That Santa was later given to Mr. Futer. He would have it in class at Christmas time, even when I attended his classes many years later. My family was always very fond of Mr. Futer. He holds the key to the love music in our family history. May the angels welcome you to the Kingdom of Heaven with wings wide open. How sorely missed you’ll be, Mr. Futer.

Shannon Noy - February 09, 2018 at 04:11 PM

KB

“ Dear Futer family,

I was so sorry to learn of Mr. Futers passing. Mr. Futer was my Seabrook school(s) music teacher from 1977 -1984. His passion for music and teaching music brought a new world into many of his students lives. I can vividly remember many of his lessons and today, teach many of the songs he taught us to my child. He had clever wit and a wonderful laugh. I send my deepest sympathy to you all.

Sincerely,

Karin Lowe Beals

Karin Lowe Beals - February 09, 2018 at 04:04 PM

BP

“ It was because of Mr. Futer , that I fell in love with music.. His love for music was contagious. I will always be grateful to him. I will also never forget my Tuesday morning flute lessons, after his onion sandwich breakfast



Becky Westcott Puff - February 09, 2018 at 02:47 PM

MW

“ My beloved music teacher and wonderful family friend. My heart hurts. My whole family was taught by you. The Westcott family was touched by your talent, your crazy laugh, your onion sandwiches and your appreciation for all things musical. What a giant impact you have made on our lives.



MARY WESTCOTT-VINEYARD - February 09, 2018 at 02:44 PM