



William "Bill" Glover Edwards

June 1, 1933 - March 12, 2025

William Glover Edwards, age 91, died on March the 12th, 2025 at Four Seasons Hospice in Flat Rock. He was born on June 1st, 1933, in Tarboro, North Carolina to Soloman Edwards and Elizabeth Petteway. He served as Rector at Grace Episcopal Church on Merriman Avenue in Asheville from 1968 until 2000. Bill Edwards is survived by his wife, Margaret Murphy Edwards; his daughter, Anna Edwards-Gaura and her husband Josh, of Horse Shoe, NC; and his son, William Andrew Murphy Edwards and his wife, Rachel, of Weaverville; and his five grandchildren, Emma Edwards, Elliot Gaura, Will Edwards, Jacob Gaura, and Amber Edwards.

Bill attended Davidson College and received his BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His Masters of Divinity was from the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church and his Doctor of Ministry in Spiritual Direction was from the Graduate Theological Foundation. He served churches in Charlotte, Rutherfordton, Spruce Pine, and Asheville.

Father Edwards was elected and served as a Deputy from the Diocese of Western North Carolina to the Episcopal Church's General Conventions from 1969 until 1997. Following his retirement, he served on staff of the House of Deputies of the Convention until 2009. He served as chair of the Diocesan Commission on Ministry for 17 years, as well as Secretary of the Diocesan Convention. In the community, he was instrumental in founding the first

Asheville Buncombe Mental Health Association and ABCCM. In retirement, he especially enjoyed serving in choir of the Cathedral at All Souls and serving as a clinical Chaplain at Craggy Correctional Center.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at 2:00 pm, with The Rev. John Rice and The Rev. Timothy P. McRee officiating.

Previous Events

Memorial Celebration

MAR **29**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Grace Episcopal Church
871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804
graceparish@bellsouth.net
<http://graceepiscopalchurch.us/>

Tribute Wall

TB

“ Bill and I had a million laughs (maybe more) when he brought the Enneagram to our group on pilgrimage to Iona. Luck of the draw made us roommates, although we'd never met. Following some get-acquainted conversation over dinner the first evening, he looked off, gave a deep sigh and said, “wouldn't you know I'd get a thoroughbred 5!” That was the first of many times he doubled me over with his dry wit and astute perception. Loved the man, and learned much from him, i.e., when he'd quietly comment on something I'd said or done by saying, “fiving again are we?” On to Glory, Fr. Bill -tom+

Tom Bowman - June 11, 2025 at 01:41 PM

SH

“ Father Edwards was always a beam of light for our family when we moved to town in 1970. We were always grateful for his kindness compassion and love for the world. The Henry family will always be grateful for his part and allowing people to be themselves and find their path to make the world a better place.

Stephen Henry - March 30, 2025 at 07:45 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Glover Edwards.



March 26, 2025 at 04:55 PM

IT

“ My husband and I were married by Bill in 1973 at Grace Church. I was introduced to him by a friend while looking for a church, since i was new to Asheville. My future husband, Steve was immediately accepted by Father Edwards, even though he was Baptist. What a great sense of humor he had since we were, at the time, part of the "hippie" generation. My husband had long hair and didn't want to wear formal attire to be married. Bill was so very understanding and allowed us to have a reading from the Buddhist bible at our service. Following the wedding, my husband knew that he should give some sort of compensation gift to Father Edwards so he brought him several beautiful, freshly caught and cleaned, trout. He left them on Bill's doorstep and as far as I know, just rang the bell and drove away. I never found out what Father Edwards thought about that but several years later, my mother met him again at some retreat and mentioned the fact that we were still married after all those years. My thoughts have often gone to wonder where he went and what he was doing because at the time, I believe he was a bachelor. How wonderful to read about his family and his other work over the years. Indeed he was one of the most sincere and kind people that I have ever known. I am sorry to hear about his passing but just thrilled to hear about all of his family. How lucky you all are to have had this wonderful man in your lives. I will always remember him.

isabel Taylor - March 23, 2025 at 12:29 PM

NB

“ Father Edwards was at St. Francis from when I was in the sixth or seventh grade until I graduated from high school. He was great with the young people. The EYC was packed every Sunday. While I was in high school the EYC along with other church high school groups started the Four Rafters a dance hall for youth. This was Father Edwards idea. It was still going when I graduated high school. We had the popular beach bands of the day as well as rock bands.

Nancy A Bole - March 18, 2025 at 03:26 PM