



## George Baskerville Lancaster Jr.

April 4, 1945 - August 23, 2025

The Life and Legacy of Love Obituary George B. Lancaster, Jr.

George Baskerville Lancaster, Jr. was born to the late George Baskerville Lancaster, Sr., and the late Isabelle Vivian Hamlette Lancaster on April 4, 1945, in Durham, North Carolina.

George grew up in Chase City, Virginia, and attended Mecklenburg County Public Schools. He was a talented athlete who excelled in sports, playing football, basketball, and baseball at West End High School, from which he graduated as a standout in 1962. He furthered his education at Virginia State College (now Virginia State University), joining the basketball team as an accomplished point guard and attaining his Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Education.

George was baptized at an early age at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Chase City. He enjoyed dressing with jackets, ties, and the shoes that spring-boarded his proclivity to Cole Haan. Sunday

mornings were spent in Sunday School and morning worship singing hymns, lifting prayers, and reciting scriptures. As a true and self-professed country boy, he enjoyed gardening and playing all kinds of sports and ball from backyards to school yards.

His intrinsic care for and support of others began in his early childhood years. Every New Year's Day, it was his responsibility to deliver bowls of black-eyed peas that his mother would prepare. Every neighbor would warmly welcome him as the first male visitor to cross the threshold with the tradition of "good luck".

During summers as a teen, George would travel to New Jersey, spending time with his "northern" cousins, and being gainfully employed in customer service industries. Although he enjoyed the summer city life, country living was dear to his heart.

A driven competitor, he would arrange basketball "secret matches" in Mecklenburg during the early 1960s. West End High School and Bluestone High School in Mecklenburg County were not permitted to contend because of segregation. These pick-up games would be discreetly played in an old tobacco barn. The camaraderie might have been legally prohibited, but the passion for the sport could not be banned.

While matriculating as a Virginia State Trojan, Coach Lan earned CIAA All-

Tournament honors, among other awards that earned his induction into the VSU Hall of Fame. After earning his degree, he returned to his hometown in Mecklenburg County to accept his first teaching and coaching positions, working at the middle and high schools. He became a well-loved and highly respected teacher, coach and friend to many. While at West End and Bluestone,, he achieved many notable victories. He always celebrated the opportunities to invest in the community of his childhood home.

He made Richmond, Virginia his home after the birth of his beloved “first born”, which was the tipoff of a lauded career. The consummate athlete, he collaborated to advance many youth recreation programs and summer camps. He taught Health and Physical Education at Huguenot High School, and served on the coaching staff for track and field, girls’ and boys’ basketball, among several other sports.

He enjoyed coaching and building first-class athletic programming, while humbly showcasing his own athletic prowess on the basketball court. Colleagues would often say that his middle initial “B” stood for “Basketball.” Facilitating excellence in the Huguenot Falcon community, numerous gifted players powered the hardwood under his tutelage. He considered guiding and propelling greatness and talent in others as a personal blessing to him. Following his tenure at Huguenot, he was offered, appointed, and named as the FIRST African-American head coach in Henrico County, which was the impetus to a continued career of celebratory acknowledgements and honor.

The Highland Springs High Springer community bolstered his championship mindset, where he humbly served as a front-facing agent of high-quality commitment and fervor. Winning was a mantra. District-level recognition, regional commendations, and state acclaim highlighted across seasons. Under his powerful training and guidance, Highland Springs secured the victories of the Virginia AAA championship in 2003 and 2007.

Coach Lancaster was an intellectual, philosophical, and analytical expert speaker. He shared these qualities with profound delivery and accented with humor. It was never uncommon to see news reports highlighting his side-court quips and quotes. Newscasters, reporters, and journalists would even seek out and highlight Coach Lan's post-game commentary and the dialogue ignited long-term friendships with many of them.

His extensive career in education, serving as teacher, coach, and mentor garnered innumerable accolades and distinctions. Countless athletes attribute their achievements to his tutelage, guidance, and support. He lauded that the skills already existed in his players, he just humbly honed and further developed them. George had the uncanny ability to encourage and captivate people in such a way that the very best in them would emerge. In addition to the various talents and skills that

availed success and excellence in athletics, he had an incomprehensible knack for remembering the birthdates of everyone and would be the first to extend greetings through a call or text. He made everyone feel uniquely loved, remembered, and valued.

Throughout his life, Coach maintained a commitment to humility and inspiration, while building confidence in everyone he encountered. His wisdom touched even those who had never met him. He would frequently share that his mother wanted him to be a minister. One of his fondly remembered quotes is, "Always keep a prayer on your lips".

George immensely enjoyed connecting family and friends. He took great pleasure in jaunts, drives, and journeys up and down the east coast within small and large corridors of fresh air visiting family and loved ones. He relished occasions of "time together" with sometimes only one, or often more than one, always expressing love. He treasured moments with his children and family, and doted on his grandchildren. Holidays regularly included breakfast at Cracker Barrel and lunches and dinners wherever there were fried oysters or red snapper on the menu. The chef, cuisine connoisseur, landscaping horticulturalist, jazz enthusiast, and listening ear displayed an unparalleled swagger on the greens as an avid golfer. He viewed water as a tranquil and restful place to retreat, and enjoyed spending time with loved

ones making

memories in Charleston, South Carolina, Ocean City, Maryland and the Outer Banks of North Carolina

In retirement, Coach Lancaster remained connected to educating, planning, and training through his work in local sports programs and basketball camps. His influence never stopped. When he returned to live in his family home in Chase City, he was asked to consider coaching at the local high school, and he enthusiastically accepted. He coached girls' and boys' basketball teams, the golf team, supported the football team, served as sports announcer, and extended his assistance in any requested capacity. He followed the call, serving with purpose in his life's ministry. It gave him great joy advocating for and mentoring young (and seasoned) people with whom he worked over the years. He will be remembered as a legend who leaves a legacy of love!

In the late night hours of August 23, 2025, Coach George B. Lancaster, Jr. was called by God as a good and faithful servant, off of this earthly court, securing the victory in his home on high. Daddy, George, Dad, Granddaddy, Uncle George, Coach Lan, Coach, Mr. Lancaster - friend to all and stranger to none, peacefully transitioned from labor to reward, surrounded by his biggest fans, his children.

He leaves to cherish his memory his four loving and devoted children, first

born, Kara Lancaster-Gay (Rick), oldest son, Jerrell Boswell (Lynnette), two youngest children, George B. Lancaster, III (Natalia) and Audra Lancaster Boyce and their mother, Patricia B. Lancaster; eight loving grandchildren, Tarik Gay, Tahja Gay, Anthony Boswell, Mia Boswell, Taryn Gay, Jada Kegley, Eden Boyce, and Naliyah Lancaster; his dear sister, Kathryn Lancaster Pettus and her family, Dr. W. Clinton Pettus, Kahlicia, Kharissia, and Khamara Pettus; two great-grandchildren, Ezra and Alia; beloved companion and memory-maker, Linda McCullough and her family, Sherri, Caleb, and Gabriel; stepmother, Martha Lancaster; first cousins, Joy Franklin, Fay Davis, Raynah Adams, III, Paul Lancaster Adams, Sr. Lumaria Blakeney, Donald Pierce, Sr., Bernadine Foster-Nash, Betsy-Jo Aridi, and Victor Williams; godson, Aubrey Fountain, IV, Esq, and host of other relatives, loved ones, life-long friends, prayer partners, “like brothers”, “like sons”, “like sisters” and “like daughters”, golfing buddies, and friends, a list that far exceeds the number of his career wins.

The contributions and the impact of George B. Lancaster, Jr. are immeasurable. He was adored by many who loved him as a father-figure, friend, brother, colleague, and mentor. His legacy of humble tenacity, upright authenticity, steadfast commitment and LOVE will live on through each of us.

“He has shown you, oh mortal, what is good. And what does The Lord require of you, but to love justice, show mercy, and walk with your God.” Micah 6:8

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Wake

SEP 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.  
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23222

### Celebration of Life

SEP 27. 1:00 PM (ET)

Highland Springs High School Gymnasium George B. Lancaster, Jr. Court  
200 S. Airport Dr.  
Highland Springs, VA 23075

*Doors will open for arrival and seating at 11:45 a.m.*

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gone but not forgotten*

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**ASHLEY RICKS** - February 26 at 02:00 PM



“ *Helene P. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*

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**Helene P.** - September 10, 2025 at 05:06 PM



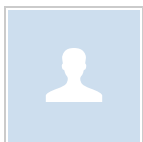
“ *Marian A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*

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**Marian A.** - September 08, 2025 at 10:19 PM



“ *A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*

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September 05, 2025 at 11:31 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*



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September 04, 2025 at 02:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*



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September 04, 2025 at 01:39 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..

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September 04, 2025 at 01:39 PM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*



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September 03, 2025 at 06:20 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*



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September 03, 2025 at 11:33 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*



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September 03, 2025 at 09:23 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..*



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September 02, 2025 at 03:11 PM

RB

“ Greetings!

*A few years ago "Coach Lancaster" and I were together riding through Boydton and the surrounding area. As usual he would constantly encourage me and tell me of the great times we shared at Bluestone Middle School at that time. Originally the name of the school was West End HS where he had graduated from.*

*When I first arrived at the middle school I had no idea that he had attended and graduated from there. Many of my siblings had either graduated or attended West End and I discovered later in life that he knew many of them.*

*"Coach" had the most long lasting impact on my life than anyone because he helped to shape a perhaps undisciplined and needy young man into how he described me as the "best 6th man" he ever coached.*

*Until recently it had not dawned on me that his affect on my life had endured even until today.*

*Many kind words can be written about a man, but when a man writes these everlasting and foundational imprints into your spirit, this is when you know God was with him and now He's with you.*

*"Coach Lancaster's" assignment is complete and the lives Whom God gave him to nurture and teach will hopefully continue to shape many generations to come.*

*God bless*

*Rev. James Bowers*

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**Rev. James Bowers** - September 02, 2025 at 01:42 PM

RS

“ Dear Family, you have my sincere condolences due to the loss of my former colleague, role model and mentor whom I met one Summer at the Beaumont School for Boys. He always expressed an assurance and belief in the youth that he worked with and was a great encourager for his fellow workers too. Just a Great Christian Man! God Bless! Rev. Caroel L. Selby, D. Min.

Rev. Caroel L. Selby - September 02, 2025 at 01:27 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..



September 02, 2025 at 12:20 PM

MB

“ My sincere condolences to the family of my dear friend.  
May the cherished memories bring you comfort and peace during this difficult time.  
My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

With much love,  
Marva Bowers



Marva Bowers - August 31, 2025 at 11:25 PM

LW

“ Leslie “Bucky” Williams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..

Leslie “Bucky” Williams - August 30, 2025 at 01:01 PM

LW

“ Leslie “Bucky” Williams purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of George Baskerville Lancaster Jr..



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**Leslie “Bucky” Williams** - August 30, 2025 at 01:01 PM

MA

“ Coach was one of the greatest men I have every known. He had a positive effect on everyone he met and certainly everyone who was blessed to have him as part of their lives. He will live on in all of us who called him Coach and friend. My deepest sympathy for the family. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers. Martha Sizemore Aitken

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**Martha Aitken** - August 30, 2025 at 11:47 AM

LG

“ Coach Lancaster was more than a gifted coach — he was a class act who truly knew how to connect with people. To know him was to love him. I never once saw him in a bad mood or heard him speak a harsh word. He was a talker, always ready with a joke or a story, and he had a way of lifting people up. He encouraged everyone around him and always saw the best in others. That’s the Coach Lan I’ll always remember. Rest easy, Coach.

*My deepest condolences to his family during this sad time.*

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**Lisa Giles** - August 28, 2025 at 08:57 PM

JN

“ *Mr. Lancaster was my gym coach at Huguenot back in the early 70's. Remember him raining threes from long distance before class started. He was a good guy. Condolences to the family. Jim Newcombe , Class of 74.*

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**Jim Newcombe** - August 28, 2025 at 03:01 PM

DB

*BismillahArRahmanArRaheem,  
I remember my Uncle Tom Bowers telling me stories about this “George Lancaster “ guy who played ball with him, how he was so quick and had finesse, then I had the pleasure of meeting this man at A scrimmage game, where he bought his basketball team from Richmond to scrimmage against Bluestone. I kept hearing him say to his team on defense “make him spin make him spin” and after having the ball stolen many of times it dawned on me what that phrase meant. He would tell his guys to make the offensive man spin around while the other defensive man would take the ball, to this very day I find myself saying “make him spin” and then I'd steal the ball!!! Everytime I held a basketball tournament at the Lancaster court in Chase City, Va, coach was there to lend a hand and to give support. He used to say”Mr. B, keep doing what you're doing it will pay off” so to the family of Coach I'm going to try my best to keep your memories and legacy alive much love much respect. Derrick E. Bowers DEBowersGroupLLC*

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**Derrick E. Bowers** - August 28, 2025 at 06:21 PM



*My mom also graduated there in '74 and told me about how great coach was. I encountered Coach at HSHS in the late 90s*

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**Aaron Bryant** - August 28, 2025 at 09:52 PM

WG

*One of the greatest men on earth He was my gym teacher at Huguenot High School between 74 and78 well respected and admired Good roll model for the. Young as the seasoned adults outstanding coach will be greatly missed family you are in our thoughts and prayers much love job well done rest in peace*

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**Wayne Gilpin** - August 29, 2025 at 12:35 AM

TS

*Was a great Coach and Mentor. Playing for Coach Lancaster (A Legend) is one of my proudest memories. RIP coach!!! We love you!!! Highland Springs Basketball team 1982 - 1984*

**Tom Samuels** - August 29, 2025 at 02:46 PM

KP

*I had the privilege and good fortune to be shaped by Coach Lancaster on the Bluestone Jr. High School basketball team in the early 1970s, which started a relationship that has lasted over 50 years. With the exception of family, he has been the most influential person in shaping who I am today. He was an extraordinary leader who sincerely cared about making the lives of everyone he met better.*

*So complete was our confidence and trust in him that if he had told that young basketball team to run through a brick wall, we would have done it. His lasting influence is evidenced by the fact that if he told that same group of old men today to run through a brick wall, we would try it. But his gift to the world was not only that he was an elite coach, but that he genuinely cared about everyone he met. His legacy is that his influence made this world a much better place. Kelly Puryear*

**Kelly Puryear** - September 04, 2025 at 09:47 AM



*“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

**March Funeral Homes** - August 27, 2025 at 05:18 PM

JH

*Condolences to the family of George Lancaster, Jr-James and Rachel Hicks, Clinton, Md*

**James and Rachel Hicks** - August 29, 2025 at 07:04 PM

TH

*Condolences to the family of Mr. Lancaster, prayers and strength for you in the grieving time .when your earthly strength gives out God will give you strength and comfort from on high. Rev. Keith and Deacon Edith Hickson.*

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**The Hicksons** - September 01, 2025 at 02:51 PM

MT

*My sincere condolences to the Family of Mr.Lancaster {coach}. A job well done on this earth, as you have poured your heart and love for all through many avenues of life, with many students, staff and friends of many backgrounds, you paved a direct path for us to follow, while giving them the blueprint for life to use during those times that we may struggle.but overcome through adversity and the gratitude for all, lending a helping hand wherever it is needed,*

*God grant me the serinity to accept the things i cannot change and the wisdom to know the difference.*

*May God continue to comfort this family from this day , as this is the day the Lord has made.*

*Mario Thornton{coach} and Family*

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**Mario Thornton** - September 04, 2025 at 10:51 AM