

Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker

April 23, 1941 - April 1, 2026

Dr. Woodrow McClain "Max" Parker, age 84, transitioned on April 1, 2026.

A Wake for Dr. Parker will be held on Friday, April 10, 2026 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Greater Bethel AME Church, 701 SE 43rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32641, Rev. Ron Rawls, Pastor.

Kappa Alpha Psi Ceremony from 6:00 to 6:30 PM, with a Reception to follow immediately from 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Greater Bethel AME Church with Public Viewing one hour prior to the funeral service. Interment will follow immediately in Forest Meadows Memorial Park - Central, 4100 NW 39th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32606.

Resolutions may be emailed to wecare@chestnutfh.com before 5:00 PM on Friday, April 10, 2026. In lieu of flowers, please contribute to Stillman College by visiting www.stillman.edu .

If you are unable to attend the services, or would like to view the service online, please visit the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rr67vYxDHMc>

"A CHESTNUT SERVICE"

Cemetery Details

Forest Meadows Cemetery - Central

4100 NW 39th Ave.
Gainesville, FL 32606

Previous Events

Wake

APR 10. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Greater Bethel AME Church
701 SE 43rd St
Gainesville, FL 32641

Reception

APR 10. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Greater Bethel AME Church
701 SE 43rd St
Gainesville, FL 32641

Reception

APR 10. 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Greater Bethel AME Church
701 SE 43rd St
Gainesville, FL 32641

Funeral Service

APR 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Greater Bethel AME Church
701 SE 43rd St
Gainesville, FL 32641

Tribute Wall

JM

“ There is a lot to be said, but I will sum up my thoughts on Dr. Max Parker with these few but powerful words:

Since 1975 . . .
Grateful to have known you
My mentor
My Hero
My surrogate father
My friend

Your memory will live eternally in my heart ❤️
and in the hearts of all who knew you. One day we will all enjoy your company again when we meet up on the other side. God's got you
!!☀️

Everything will be “alright” in the end.
If everything is not “alright”,
then it's not the end.

Peace & Love 🕊️❤️
Juanita Maria Maxwell ☀️💖🙏

Juanita Maria Maxwell - April 19 at 08:33 AM

CK

“ My deepest condolences to Dr. Parker's family and friends. Max was one of my professors in my graduate program at UF and a mentor to me in multicultural counseling. He had a significant impact on my life and forever changed the way I walk through the world. I've never forgotten him and I feel a tremendous loss. He was a truly wonderful human being and teacher. He made the world a better place.

Cindy Kaufman - April 10 at 11:49 PM

YS

“ *Your Nephew, Augustus LeMond Smith purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



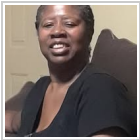
Your Nephew, Augustus LeMond Smith - April 10 at 10:13 PM

MK

“ *Maria Kyser purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



Maria Kyser - April 10 at 02:45 PM



“ *Kathleen Parker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker*



Kathleen Parker - April 10 at 02:10 PM

KM

“ *Kenyetta McDaniel lit a candle in memory of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker*



Kenyetta McDaniel - April 10 at 12:33 PM

KP

“ *Kathleen Parker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker*



Kathleen Parker - April 10 at 12:32 PM

EE

“ *Evangelist Andrea Parker Ejimadu lit a candle in memory of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker*



Evangelist Andrea Parker Ejimadu - April 10 at 12:31 PM

JP

“ *Joan V. Parker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker*



Joan V. Parker - April 10 at 12:31 PM

RP

“ *Rick Parker purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



Rick Parker - April 10 at 06:28 AM

RP

“ Rick Parker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.

Rick Parker - April 10 at 06:28 AM

JP

“ Dear Lord, thank You for the life of my Uncle Max and the fond memories I have of him. I am so grateful for his guidance, his advice and his love. To Eldridge, Torrie, Farha, Liz and Sylvia my heartfelt condolences to you and may God comfort you during this painful time. I will miss you, Max soar with the angels.

Joan V. Parker - April 09 at 02:59 PM

OP

“ Ocala FI Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



Ocala FI Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi - April 09 at 02:53 PM

OP

“ Ocala FI Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.

Ocala FI Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi - April 09 at 02:53 PM

KK

“ Kitty, Andrea, Joan and Kenyetta purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



Kitty, Andrea, Joan and Kenyetta - April 09 at 02:50 PM

MM

“ I send condolences to Sylvia and the Parker family in the passing of this incredible human being whom I knew as a teacher, advisor, colleague and most importantly, as a friend. Max embodied kindness , compassion, and wisdom.

Marilyn Meyers-Arvin - April 09 at 01:56 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



April 09 at 08:48 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.

April 09 at 08:48 AM

FJ

“ Faye and Jim purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



Faye and Jim - April 08 at 09:16 PM

FJ

“ Faye and Jim planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.

Faye and Jim - April 08 at 09:16 PM

JM

“ There is not enough space anywhere to list all of the ways my life has been enriched by my many years of friendship with Max. He could easily have been a true brother to me and was so in all ways except parentally. The simple truth about Max is this: The world has been become a better place because he was in it. I know I will continue to visualize him and feel his warmth again and again. Condolences to Sylvia and all of her and his families. Jim Morgan and Faye Dangerfield.

Jim Morgan - April 08 at 09:07 PM

AM

“ To the family of Dr. Parker, I am so very sorry to hear of his passing, but it was a pleasure to have worked with him and to have gotten know this wonderful gentleman; just full of wisdom and knowledge. My prayers and deepest condolences go out to the family.

Antoinette Miller - April 08 at 01:36 PM

BK

“ Brothers of Atmore Alumni Chapter of KAY purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



Brothers of Atmore Alumni Chapter of KAY - April 07 at 09:45 PM

BK

“ Brothers of Atmore Alumni Chapter of KAY planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.

Brothers of Atmore Alumni Chapter of KAY - April 07 at 09:45 PM

AM

“ Analyn Meyers purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



Analyn Meyers - April 07 at 06:16 PM

AM

“ I am sending my condolences to the Parker family. I pray that the Lord will give you comfort during this tough time. May peace be with you all.

Analyn Meyers - April 07 at 06:09 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.



April 07 at 02:28 PM



“ Heartfelt sympathy strength and love to the entire Parker family.

Kevin/Wendy Golden - Chandler, Arizona

The Golden Family - April 07 at 12:37 PM



Condolences to the family of Dr. Parker.
Veronica Hairston and Family

Veronica Hairston - April 07 at 01:43 PM



“ To the Parker family:
I'm so deeply sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to the family during this incredibly difficult time. Please know that you are in my thoughts, prayers and I hope you find comfort in the memories you shared.

Mr Jimmy Butts



Jimmy Butts - April 06 at 05:18 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



April 06 at 05:00 PM



“ *Tre' Jeter purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



Tre' Jeter - April 06 at 02:48 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



April 06 at 12:24 PM



“ *Max was my multicultural counseling professor in the graduate program at UF. Taking his class, playing racquetball, and sharing meals with him literally changed my life. I am sad beyond words and so sorry for your loss. Rew Woodruff*

Rew Woodruff - April 06 at 11:37 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



April 05 at 12:21 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.

April 05 at 12:21 PM



“ *Epsilon Epsilon FA 99 purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Dr. Woodrow "Max" Parker.*



Epsilon Epsilon FA 99 - April 05 at 11:47 AM



“ *My condolences to his family, my late husband and Max were fierce competitors back in the day ! Many hours of racquetball played in the courts of Northwood, I met him on several occasions, such as soft spoken lovely man.*

Fran Godfrey

Fran Godfrey - April 05 at 08:04 AM

CL

I will always remember Max as a soft spoken Kappa on Stillman College Campus for three years. Carolyn Leggington Stillman College Class of '64

Carolyn Leggington - April 05 at 09:59 PM

WG

Max was cherished as a friend, colleague, and mentor. I enjoyed our times together discussing various theological and social implications for life today. He had a marvelous way of weaving stories from his and others lives to illustrate the power of Hope and love. He helped me understand the meaning of recovery from bias and the impact of goodwill and change. May the family he loves so much be graced with the presence of God's love and peace in the days ahead. Wayne Griffin

Wayne Griffin - April 06 at 09:29 AM

HD

As a neighbor, classmate, fellow farm worker, KAPPA BROTHER and lifelong friend, I wish to express my most sincere condolences to the family of Dr Max. Harold Dailey.

Harold Dailey - April 06 at 10:05 AM

RR

My condolences to Sylvia and all of the family and relations. I did not know Max well. He invited me to read a couple of his last manuscripts and make some suggestions. I was impressed by his openness and his calm dignity. I was honored to read his stories and impressed by his deep desire to tell his story, but most of all I was impressed by his fortitude in face of oppression. He was a good man. — Rhonda Riley

Rhonda Riley - April 11 at 09:30 AM

DM

“Max was cool. Occasionally I would see him cycling through Paynes Prairie getting exercise. And there were the times when he, Harry Shaw and I would meet for lunch and solve all the world's problems. My condolences to his family.

Dale McPherson - April 05 at 12:40 AM

MC

“ *Max was an integral part of the Seekers Sunday School class at Trinity United Methodist Church.*

He had a gentle soul and he spoke with wisdom and strong faith. He made me feel loved because he seemed to love everyone like God loves. We all have missed him during these past months. Every Sunday, I looked forward to seeing him and speaking with him. I am so sorry about his passing, but I realize that our Lord was waiting for Max with arms outstretched to welcome him home.
My love to the family,
Marcey Corey

Marcey Corey - April 04 at 09:37 PM

AG

“ *My sincerest condolences to the family. Max was a valued colleague at the Counseling Center and a formidable racquetball competitor, but most of all a gentle giant of a mentor. I am grateful for the role model that you provided.*

Dr. Anthony Greene

Anthony Greene - April 04 at 05:59 PM

DS

“ *The Harry Shaw family extends our sincere deepest sympathy to the Woodrow Parker family for your loss. May fond memories of Max comfort you in the coming days. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Dr. Harry B. Shaw - April 04 at 04:45 PM