



Edward Jerome Anthony

August 27, 1942 - October 24, 2021

Edward J. Anthony was born in Waukegan, IL on August 27, 1942. He was a Graduate of Bethel University and received a Masters of Education degree from Bemidji State University. Always actively learning, his post grad studies included time with Robert Shaw, Charles Hirt, Paul Christiansen, and John Nelson. He was one of the first national music educators to attend Julliard's Aspen Music Festival.

Beginning in 1965 he shared his gift of music throughout Minnesota as the Director of Choral Music at Gilbert High School, Centennial High School, and then finished his teaching career with 28 years of music leadership at Park Center High School directing choirs, small groups and numerous musicals.

His choirs were selected to perform at Disneyland, Disney World, the Air Force Academy Chapel, Annapolis Academy Chapel, Lincoln Memorial, and the John F. Kennedy Arts Center.

Ed also had a passion for the local church and served as Minister of Music in many Twin City churches including Bethlehem Baptist Church (Downtown Minneapolis), and Redeemer Covenant Church (Brooklyn Park).

When not in the church or at school, he was an "american picker" before it was in vogue. He enjoyed spending his free time scouring garage sales and

auctions in Minnesota and Florida finding hidden treasures. He was well loved by the "picker" community and enjoyed bringing a smile to strangers.

Ed loved the outdoors, especially fishing and touring around Lake Minnetonka on their pontoon boat. He cherished time with his grandchildren on the boat exploring, fishing, laughing, and simply enjoying God's creation. He was affectionately known as Papa Fish.

He will be missed by many. What we will miss most are his jokes, laughter, kind words of encouragement, piano ramblings, and witnessing his strong faith in Jesus Christ.

Ed is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Patricia Anthony; Children: Brad (Chris), Barry (Barbara), Amy (Derek) Anderson; and Grandchildren: Shelby, Nathan, Noah, Matthew, Sophie, Isaac, and Caeden.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, please make a donation to Samaritans Purse, a division of the Billy Graham Association, to which Ed was a regular supporter. Livestream available - follow this link: wooddale.org/events

Previous Events

Church Service

NOV 4. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Wooddale Church
6630 Shady Oak Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Tribute Wall



“ I know this is coming late, and I am sorry not to have known about Mr. Anthony's passing. I wish to share with the family how dear Mr. Anthony was as an instructor of music to me. It was in my junior and senior year of highschool, 1972 through 1974. Perhaps it is because of Mr. Anthony that my interest in singing has continued so long into adulthood. A most outstanding thing that Mr. Anthony did was give to each of the class/choir members a Bible with a personal notation. It was a certain sign that he truly cared for each one of us. Some of my fellow classmates were also influential in showing me who Jesus is. Fifty years have passed, but the gift of God's word keeps on giving! Mr. Anthony was certainly key in pointing me to Christ.
Steve Hoffarth

Steve Hoffarth - January 10, 2023 at 01:01 AM

DH

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Ed's passing. He was a great teacher, musician, and man of God. I will never forget his gentle spirit and beautiful piano stylings as he accompanied the men's chorus at Wooddale Church. My condolences to Pat and the family

Dave Hoehl - November 04, 2021 at 07:51 PM

BD

“ Our deepest sympathies to Pat, Brad and family, Barry and Amy's families. Ed always had the biggest smiles, and the best "picker finds" stories. Rest in Peace big Ed, heaven has gained another angel ! Brenda and Rick Dailey DeKalb, IL

Brenda J Dailey - November 02, 2021 at 09:53 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Edward Jerome Anthony.*



November 01, 2021 at 11:25 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edward Jerome Anthony.*



October 31, 2021 at 06:43 PM



“ *I always enjoyed judging large group vocal music contest with Ed. He was very good at it. He brought me back an old trombone from Florida. I'm not very good at it.*

Our deepest sympathy from the Andersons, Rolf & Laurie retired choral director from Litchfield and Willmar

Rolf Anderson - October 31, 2021 at 02:54 PM



“ *Ed was a long time friend and partner in the world of choral music. He was a wonderful teacher and personality and a credit to the lives he touched. My mind is full of wonderful times we had our choirs together and enjoyed each others music. Lee Carlson*

Lee Carlson - October 31, 2021 at 01:03 PM

JC

“ *Though we never met Ed Anthony, we feel we know him through his son and grandson Noah. What a beautiful legacy he leaves of kindness, sensitivity, love for others and family. We pray God’s comfort on all the family.*

*God bless,
Custer family*

janet custer - October 30, 2021 at 07:36 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Edward Jerome Anthony.*



October 30, 2021 at 09:29 AM

JP

“ I was so sorry to hear of the passing of 'Mr. Anthony'. It was a favorite hour in my day to come to choir or have practices for musicals or PC. Folk. Many rehearsals and practices for concerts and trips that would be such fond memories and teach me so many wonderful things. Music has always been a big part of my life and it was his influence that lead me to Bemidji State University and to use my music now in the school where I work and in my church playing and singing on the worship team, and directing the children's Christmas musicals. Although I accepted Christ at an earlier age, my fondest memory was when we graduated. Because we were no longer students of his, he could freely give us all a new testament and shared his love of Christ and challenged us to learn of Him and get to know Him if we didn't already. That has stuck with me throughout my life and I think of it often as I follow Christ. Now I have the opportunity to bless my graduating seniors in much the same way. My prayers are with the entire family. He touched and blessed so many lives and I'm very grateful to him for that!

Julie (Kronen) Puder - October 30, 2021 at 01:26 AM

JE

My son, James Ewing was in PC Folk, directed by Mr Anthony, and also in his choir for four years at Park Center HS. He was a great encouragement to my son as a mentor and leadership in his desire to make music a great part of his life. His role model as a christian was central in life and impacted his students, and my son James. My sympathy to the Anthony Family, and especially Barry (Barb) who directed the choir at the Berean Ev. Church during our attendance there.

Jane Ewing - November 01, 2021 at 02:45 AM

MM

“ Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to all the Anthony family. Ed was a wonderful influence on many young lives, including our childrens’. We have fond memories of all the concerts, musicals and PC Folk events they were involved in. And . . . fantastic memories of all the fun and beautiful music performed on the several spring choir trips we chaperoned.

Monte and Marilyn Miller - October 29, 2021 at 09:50 PM

DB

“ Loved his giggle! He was a wonderful teacher. I have many fond memories of singing and doing musicals under his direction. Much love to his family for lending him to us during all those late night rehearsals.

Donn Berke - October 29, 2021 at 06:34 PM

BE

“ Sincere condolences to Mr. A's family! He made each day at PC better by providing us with opportunities to sing, perform, act, and give. You inspired many, Mr. A!

Beth - October 29, 2021 at 04:43 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Edward Jerome Anthony.



October 28, 2021 at 04:57 PM