



## Ms. Edna Earle Bond

April 24, 1941 - June 13, 2025

Edna Earle Bond, a retired Memphis City Schools teacher, passed away at the age of 84.

For 21 years, she was employed at Central High School as an instructor of Business and Office Technology. She was also Student Council Sponsor, Flag Corps Sponsor, and Secretary of Central High School Leadership Council.

She never married and had no children. She grew up on a farm in Denmark, Tennessee, with eleven siblings and her mother and father. She is survived by one brother, Howard Ernest (Sharlene) Bond of Jackson Tennessee and one sister, Arizona Bond of Denmark, Tennessee.

Edna Earle loved Downtown Memphis and was a proud resident of Indigo Riverview (originally called Lowenstein Tower) for 54 years. She was a graduate of Tennessee State University and The University of Memphis.

She worked for the Dean of Faculty at Tennessee State University, Office of the Chief of the Division of Power Production in Chattanooga, Memphis TVA Allen Steam Plant, and Federal Judge Odell Horton at City Hall during the horrific Sanitation Strike in 1968. Her teaching career included thirty-nine years with Memphis City Schools, including the city's first alternative school called Occupational Emphasis Program.

She was also adjunct faculty for Southwest Tennessee Community College for forty-three years, St. Agnes Academy, and The University of Memphis.

You may have met Edna Earle at a variety of leadership and community service activities that included: Evaluation Team Member for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (Jackson-Central Merry High School; other schools in Huntsville, Alabama; Charleston, South Carolina; and Ashland, Kentucky).

You may remember her as a Faculty Representative and Chairperson for the Human Relations Committee for Memphis Education Association, a board member for Final Net

(an organization for homeless children); a teacher for Memphis Literacy Council (Each One Teach One), a Decisions Training Counselor for Shelby County Correction Center, a Religious Education Consultant for St. Mary Catholic Church, and as RCIA Coordinator and Director of Religious Education for St. Peter Catholic Church.

As my sister Shirley says, "If you ever met Edna Earle as a teacher or your friend, you know that she would have 100 questions. She is known for asking lots of questions, and she has a story to tell for every question you ask her. There are no "Yes" or "No" answers with Edna Earle, and she wants an explanation for everything. No open-ended answers either. A conversation with Edna Earle will always include: Why? How? What If? If then? Even her text messages are long and detailed."

When you look at the earth, you should know that when you die you will leave everything there. Look around you. Each one has his suffering. Let this lesson inspire you to live in union with God and at peace with all men.

If you have received a gift of love from Edna Earle Bond, she wants you to remember the most important lesson she learned during the Pandemic of 2020 is to "Pass It On" and remember these two of her favorite quotes:

1. "And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye." - The Little Prince, Antoine De Saint-Exupery
2. "I saw behind me those who had gone, and before me those who are to come. I looked back and saw my father, and his father, and all our fathers. I looked in front to see my son, and his son, and the sons upon sons beyond. And their eyes were my eyes."- Richard Llewellyn

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# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 5. 3:00 PM (CT)

Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.

807 N. Hays Avenue

Jackson, TN 38301

(731) 427-7411

[info@stephenson-shaw.com](mailto:info@stephenson-shaw.com)

<https://www.stephenson-shaw.com>

# Tribute Wall

BP

“ I will always remember you ...  
Gone, however, never Forgotten...  
You were blessed and it was only by The Grace of God!!  
Love you always! 💕💕  
Bettye Yvonne Patrick



Bettye Y. Patrick - July 20, 2025 at 02:11 AM

SB

“ I met Ms. Bond many years ago on a trip to Hawaii with my parents. I have so many wonderful memories of that trip and our correspondence continued over all these many years. I will miss her letters and postings on Facebook. She was such a lovely, intelligent lady. What a blessing it was to know her. Sending love and prayers to her family. ❤️❤️

Sandy Burke - July 01, 2025 at 01:57 PM

BF

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Edna, when I managed Renew Riverview. Ms. Edna was absolutely an inspiration and the most sweetest angel on earth. I've thought about her so many times over the years and often wondered how she was doing and if she was still residing at Riverview. I would give anything to have one more conversation with her and to receive one more handwritten thank you note. Rest in Peace Ms. Edna, you were absolutely the most precious soul! Many condolences to the family and friends who loved her dearly! Miss you my friend! Benjamin



Benjamin Flatt - June 24, 2025 at 06:56 PM

MB

“ My dearest Edna Earle:

*It has taken me almost two weeks for the reality to sink in of your sudden departure and to realize that you have gone to be with the Lord. I wake up looking for your daily texts and realize that you are no longer here.*

*I met Edna Earle decades ago when she taught my younger daughter, Monica, in high school. I was instantly drawn to her warm smile, soft voice, and kind demeanor. After Monica graduated from “The” Central High School, they stayed in touch. I ran into Edna Earle one afternoon while I was out shopping at our favorite store, Whole Foods. The year was 2008, and she had just retired. I had just retired for a second time. We became instant friends from that moment on. We went to movies, talked about sports, politics, and just life in general. We never missed a birthday celebration. Houston’s was our favorite restaurant. After it closed, she went exploring with us, including Sheila, my older daughter, trying new eating places!*

*Edna Earle found joy in the smallest things; it was not hard to please her. I learned so much from her, and she learned from me since our personalities were totally opposite. I can thank her for being one of my biggest cheerleaders by encouraging me to write my book. She instilled in me that “everybody has a story.” I am so grateful that she lived to see my story published. Her calling was to teach, and she positively influenced thousands of students as well as adults in her lifetime!*

*I thank God that He allowed our paths to cross. I will not say “Good-bye Edna Earle.” I will simply say “See you later!”*

*Love always,  
Martha H. Brown*

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**Martha H. Brown** - June 22, 2025 at 06:19 PM

FT

“ Since being college roommate until you passed away , we were friends, I will miss you.

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**F. Nell Thomas** - June 21, 2025 at 02:53 PM

NM

“ N. C. McIntee lit a candle in memory of Edna Bond



N. C. McIntee - June 20, 2025 at 07:47 PM

TH

“ One of the best to ever do it. She made everyone feel like she loved them the most. Mrs. Bond was always so kind loving.

Timothy Hart - June 20, 2025 at 07:19 AM

GW

“ Gwendolyn G, Wright lit a candle in memory of Edna Bond



Gwendolyn G, Wright - June 18, 2025 at 09:56 AM

HD

“ Mrs.Edna, you will be missed. From the first day we met, I knew you were a special person. I will never forget your beautiful smile and your warm pleasing personality. You will not be forgotten ❤️❤️

Helen Dean Dreher - June 18, 2025 at 09:51 AM

MW

“ Marilane S Warr lit a candle in memory of Edna Bond



Marilane S Warr - June 17, 2025 at 07:36 PM

TF

“ *She always encouraged everyone she encountered. She always helped you see the bright side of any situation. Never did she have a negative words about even bad situations. Her nuggets of wisdom have helped keep me in the profession to this day. For that, I am grateful to her.*



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**Tracey Flowers** - June 17, 2025 at 06:12 PM