

Mrs. Jeanne Connell McDonald



Mrs. Jeanne Connell McDonald was born in Nashville, Georgia on March 26, 1936, to Alice and Sims Connell. Jeanne attended all 12 grades of school at the Houston County Board of Education. She developed her love of music and singing early. In 1958 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and minor in music, she graduated cum laude. She earned a Master of Education at Georgia Southern in 1977. She was also named Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.

She married Robert (Bob) McDonald on June 5, 1960, and was a stay-at-home mother for the next six years with her three daughters, Karen, Melanie and Cindy. In the summer of 1966, Mrs. McDonald received a phone call from "Fessor" Staples and began her teaching career at Perry High School. She taught biology for five years, but in 1971 was asked to teach a new subject, CVAE. She began working to help "at-risk" kids. After her husband retired she began teaching biology and CVAE at the alternative school. Mrs. McDonald retired in 1996.

Married to Bob for 51 years, they have four grandchildren - Dillon, Anna, Robby and Monika. They play music and are active church members at the First Baptist Church of Perry. In fact, Mrs. McDonald has sung in her church choir since she was 15, for more than 60 years. The couple is also involved in several clubs and local projects.

"It is impossible to fathom the influence that Mrs. McDonald has had on her students at Perry High School. Her interest, concern, her efforts on their behalf are a constant source of inspiration to them as they aspire to become what she feels they are capable of achieving. She is truly a teacher that feels and cares!" ~ H.A. Hutcherson, Assistant Superintendent

"Good teachers teach- they do not tell. Jeanne McDonald was one of these. She took and invested interest in her students. I truly believe that she saw them as her own and wanted them to be able to live out their hopes and dreams." ~ Dave Crockett, fellow teacher

