



## Lester A. Bagley, Jr.

March 1, 1934 - March 24, 2017

Lester Albert Bagley, 83, lifelong resident of New Britain, played his last hand on March 24, 2017. Born March 1, 1934 in New Britain to the late Lester A. Bagley, Sr and Vera (Carswell) Bagley. He was married for 50 years to his beloved wife Patricia Nan (Glidden) Bagley until her passing and was predeceased by his precious daughter Elizabeth.

Lester will be missed by his sons, Craig Bagley and his wife Lisa of Unionville and Jonathan Bagley and his wife Karin of Burlington and by his grandsons, Steven, Erik, and Matthew. Lester was predeceased by his brother, Kurt Bagley and leaves behind his brother Lance Bagley of Fort Meyers, FL and his two sisters, Sherryl Bannon of Plantsville, and Judith Taricani of Wolfeboro, NH. Lester leaves behind many loving in-laws, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and was best known by family and friends for his generosity.

Lester was a graduate of CCSU and began his teaching career in 1958. He taught US History, Geography and Civics to middle schoolers in Bristol, retiring in 1994. He especially loved taking his students on his annual trip to Washington DC as well as to Boston's Freedom Trail and Yankee Stadium. Lester founded the New Britain Area Conference of Churches Softball League in 1973 serving as president for many years. He also founded the Ecumenics service organization in 1971 and brought the Summer Olympics to New

Britain residents in 1972 and 1973.

Calling hours will be held from 5-8 pm on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, kindly make donations in Lester's memory to the Boys and Girls Club of New Britain, 150 Washington St., New Britain, CT 06051. Please share a memory or note of sympathy with Lester's family at [www.carlsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

120 Smalley Street  
New Britain, CT 06051

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAR **29**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home  
45 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051  
(860) 225-6361  
carlsonfh@aol.com  
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

MAR **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home  
45 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051  
(860) 225-6361  
carlsonfh@aol.com  
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

KP

“ I'm glad to have many family memories of Lester. He was a kind soul, who always had a funny story to share.

Katje Pearson - March 28, 2017 at 08:58 PM

KP

“ I am so sorry to hear of Lester's passing. Burt used to enjoy visiting him and the family reunions so much now they are together talking about the good times.

Katie Pearson - March 28, 2017 at 08:46 PM

GD

“ It's a small world, I had Mr Bagley when I was in 7th grade at South Side School in Bristol. He was a great teacher, I really liked him and I did well in his History class. And in April of 1994 he was at my oldest daughter Melissa's wedding, I talk to him and turned out to be he is related to my Son-in-law Darren Pearson. I'm very sorry for your loss 🙏🙏🙏

Greg Duclos - March 28, 2017 at 06:43 PM

RS

“ So many great memories of Uncle Lester. He was a staple of Bagley family Christmas Eve celebrations. He was civic minded and was always involved with his community. As a kid, I remember running errands with him around New Britain and it felt like everyone knew him and loved him. I remember all the trips with him to Beehive Field to watch the New Britain Red Sox play and then to Guida's Dairy afterward for ice cream. Years later, he came Walnut Hill Park to watch me compete in my first bicycle races. He was smart and curious and caring. I always enjoyed talking with him about military history and the Coast Guard, and he loved hearing about Elaine and our kiddos. He was just a great guy -- the kind of person I'd like to be more like. And we'll all miss him. Fair winds and following seas to you Uncle Les.

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**Rob Stiles** - March 28, 2017 at 11:58 AM

JT

“ Judith Taricani lit a candle in memory of Lester A. Bagley, Jr.



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**judith taricani** - March 28, 2017 at 08:44 AM

JC

“ Sorry on your loss. Mr. Bagley was my 7th&8th grade teacher at the old SouthSide School in Bristol. My memories of Mr. Bagley still stay with me today. He was an inspiring teacher who motivating his students in a positive manner.

*I remember Mr. Bagley teaching us music. I still remember him bringing in his Harry Belafonte albums , teaching us about Caribbean music. Also, Mr Bagley started a flag football team for South Side and we played against other schools.*

*Once again , Sorry about your loss, John Chapulis  
Bristol*

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**John Chapulis** - March 28, 2017 at 07:59 AM

JJ

“ John Larson Jr lit a candle in memory of Lester A. Bagley, Jr.



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**John Larson Jr** - March 27, 2017 at 05:52 PM

JJ

“ What can you say about Uncle Lester... He was the best! He was the glue that held our extended family together. He seemed to always be in service to others, his family, his students and his community. If we weren't singing together at Christmas we were taking fun trips up to VT, visiting museums nature trails and alpine slides on the way. And then of course the dog track in the evening. The world was a better place with Lester Bagley Jr in it and I have no doubt that he is now with his maker in Heaven.

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**John Larson Jr** - March 27, 2017 at 05:51 PM

HN


*The Norman Rockwell museum and Lake Compounce too! Such wonderful memories!*

Heather Nelson - March 27, 2017 at 07:06 PM

JT

*Yes, Les also took us too many places to mention them all, however , most had either artistic, historic, scientific or geography helping us to also get some knowledge as well as fun, at concerts, carnivals, water falls hiking, etc. etc.! He was always doing wonderful trips for our children! As well as his boys! We all Love and appreciate him! He earned all our Love!*

judith taricani - March 28, 2017 at 08:43 AM

 Krissi Bannon

“ *Krissi Bannon lit a candle in memory of Lester A. Bagley, Jr.*



Krissi Bannon - March 27, 2017 at 05:19 PM

HN

“ *Heather Nelson lit a candle in memory of Lester A. Bagley, Jr.*



Heather Nelson - March 27, 2017 at 04:41 PM

HN

“ My Uncle Lester was a great man. I have wonderful memories of him and his brothers and sisters singing Christmas carols together at our Christmas Eve parties. He had a way of making us feel connected despite living far away and not always being able to have an annual visit. He was a wonderful listener and had a genuine interest in what was going on with me and my family. In the past few years, I really began researching our Bagley ancestry. I think he was as excited as I was with each new discovery. Above all else, I will always be grateful for the close relationship he had with my mother (his sister, Judith). He was always there for her. He was her rock, her confidante, and her best friend. He was loved and will be missed terribly by us all. Rest in Peace, My Beloved Uncle. <3

Heather Nelson - March 27, 2017 at 04:41 PM

JT

“ Lester(Sooky) was the finest person that I've ever known, in my lifetime! So fortunate to have Les, as my brother, best friend, and mentor! He has always been there for me, and we shared conversations on the phone every day, for as long as an hour or more, since I moved to Wolfeboro, N.H. Before moving, we spent many days a week, sharing fun, in so many ways, for example we went fishing, picknicking, visiting friends, dining out, playing cards, and talking for many many hours! We laughed at the same jokes, and shared our politics and religious beliefs along with most everything in our lives! We had some fantastic times together, alone, as well as with family! I am certain that Les, is now my heavenly angel watching over me always, and will continue to bring out the best in me forever! Thank you Lester, for being there for me, always and forever, with All My Love, I will continue to talk and sing with you forever! God Bless You, and Have the brightest stars, and Heavenly Peace that you so deserve!



judith taricani - March 27, 2017 at 04:15 PM

AK

“ THE KOTLER FAMILY OFFERS THEIR CONDOLENCES ON LESTER'S PASSING.I STILL TELL STORIES TO MY CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN ABOUT OUR TIMES TEACHING AT THE OLD SOUTHSIDE SCHOOL.WE USE TO PLAY BASEBALL ALL MAY AND JUNE OUTSIDE BECAUSE IT WAS TOO HOT TO TEACH INSIDE WHICH CAUSE QUITE A CONFLICT WITH THE OTHER TEACHERS.WE WERE THE ONLY MEN TEACHERS AND THE AVERAGE AGE OF OTHERS WAS ABOUT 80.I COULD WRITE A BOOK ABOUT OUR ADVENTURES. AL KOTLER AND FAMILY

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**Alvin & Josephine Kotler** - March 27, 2017 at 10:34 AM

HN

“ 2 files added to the album Lester A. Bagley



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**Heather Nelson** - March 26, 2017 at 09:53 PM

CW

“ Les was just like his father, Lester Sr. and of course his mother, Vera The nicest people, always ready to help people when needed and always having fun and trying to live life to it's fullest. I really got to know them soon after getting out of the service and somehow finding the 'Mannechoir Social Club" on Glen street in New Britain that Sr. was in charge of. I immediately felt a very close attachment with them all and it was almost like i had found a new family. Always lots of fun, going places like Lake Pocotopaug for the weekend, cookouts and the like, and of course Dragonwyck Inn in Westbrook Ct. Unfortunately shortly after that i sort of fell "out of the loop" and pretty much lost contact ( my sincere apologies ) to all including their sweet daughter Judith, one of a kind.



Therefore, without any further rambling on my part, it is with Sincere Sadness to have learned just a short while ago of Les's passing. He lived a very full life and i'm sure will be missed by all. He is finally at peace."May he rest in peace"

Chuck Wosilis  
Bloomfield Ct

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chuck wosilis - March 26, 2017 at 11:49 AM

CP

“ Who loved us like Lester? We were all amazing and beautiful in his eyes. Never ever heard any gossip nor unkind word out of his mouth.

He was brilliant and taught us all so much....we all kept our fingers crossed to get him on our Trivial Pursuit team! He could easily write the answers...I liked when he made up questions and let us try to answer...always the world's best teacher and friend.

Family was everything to him. He made every party better, making us all dance and most certainly Sing! (even if we couldn't do either). He prayed with us, laughed and sang with us, and always loved us. Bryant wouldn't be alive today if not for him saving him from drowning via brother Barry!

He's like our family's George Bailey.

Jon and Craig and all of you, we are so sorry for your loss and share in your grief.

But you all better sing and have a party soon....'cause we know that's what Sooky wants!!!

Our love and prayers, Bryant and Cindy

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cindy pearson - March 26, 2017 at 11:20 AM