

Charles Clayton Jr. is known for his significant contributions to the community through the **Think Beauty Foundation**. This foundation focuses on enhancing the natural beauty of Central Florida, particularly through projects like planting native wildflowers along highways. This initiative not only beautifies the area but also promotes the growth of local flora, benefiting the environment and the community.



Would you like to know more about the foundation's projects or Charles Clayton Jr.'s other endeavors?

The Think Beauty Foundation, led by Charles Clayton Jr., has several notable initiatives aimed at enhancing the natural beauty of Central Florida. Here are a few key projects:

1. **Wildflower Planting:** One of their flagship projects involves planting native wildflowers along Interstate 4 from Orlando to Daytona Beach. This not only beautifies the highways but also supports local ecosystems by promoting the growth of native flora.
2. **Community Engagement:** The foundation often organizes community events and volunteer opportunities to involve local residents in their beautification efforts. This helps foster a sense of community and environmental stewardship.
3. **Educational Programs:** They also run educational programs aimed at raising awareness about the importance of native plants and sustainable landscaping practices. These programs are often targeted at schools and community groups.

Charles Clayton Obituary

CLAYTON, JR., CHARLES W., Born in Live Oak, Florida on May 24, 1921, Charles Winston Clayton Jr. peacefully passed away at home on January 9, 2009 to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As a boy, Charles worked shining shoes, delivering milk, selling grapes, being a bag boy at Piggly Wiggly and ushering at the local theater on weekends. Charles began a life of loving work and helping others. This fifth generation Floridian graduated from Suwannee High School in 1939 then attended the University of Florida. Charles graduated with honors from UF in 1943. He joined the army and became a member of the 84th Infantry Division. He flew 88 missions in Belgium and Germany and was awarded the Air Medal with Clusters. Fighting for his country and freedom encouraged him to attend every Presidential Inauguration since John F. Kennedy. After the war, Charles and his first cousin, W. Malcolm Clayton, moved to Central Florida and started Claytons' Realty. Their relationship continued from birth through high school, college, the war and fifty years of business. Throughout their business career, Charles, Malcolm and cousin Edward Fielding built over 5,000 homes throughout Central Florida. The company did it all. They purchased raw land, developed subdivisions, owned and operated water/sewer plants, provided mortgages and financing and owned several motels. They built or developed more than fifty communities within Central Florida

including English Estates, Dommerich, Sevilla and Lake Colony. Charles believed that he could find the good in everything. He was a man of action and a motivator. He always wanted to help others. He gave generously to the community, donating the land for many schools including: Catalina Elementary, Dommerich Elementary and the English Estates. He also donated land or money for churches including the First Baptist Church of Maitland and Glencoe Baptist in New Smyrna Beach. He was one of the original founders of the University of Central Florida. Most recently, he was honored with the naming of the Charles W. Clayton Middle School Campus at Lake Highland Preparatory School. A life long Baptist, he was member of the First Baptist Church of Winter Park. Charles is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Joan Bennett Clayton, five children: Rachel Randell, Charles Winston III (Lisa), Clay Worthington, Cole Whitney (Christy), Elizabeth Hope Roll (Bill), and eight grandchildren: Wesley Elizabeth, Margaret Rebecca, William Carl, and Alexandra Joan Roll; Charles Winston IV and James Matthew Clayton; Emily Rose and Catherine Joan Clayton; sisters: Luranell Tidwell of Maitland, Vonnie Rowena Bryan of Jasper; sisters-in-law: Betty Jane Zorian of Maitland and Laurel Lee Dennis (Mike) of Longwood. He will be missed and we look forward to our reunion in heaven with him. A viewing is scheduled from 6-8PM at the Baldwin Fairchild Funeral Home at 301 North East Ivanhoe Boulevard, Orlando, Monday, January 12, 2009. A celebration of Charles' life will be held at the First Baptist Church of Winter Park at 10AM, 1021 North New York Avenue, Winter Park. Tuesday, January 13, 2009. Internment following services at Palm Cemetery in Winter Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Orlando Union Rescue Mission or The First Baptist Church of Winter Park. (Seersucker suits and bright colors optional)

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