



George Emory Pirkle

Class of 1965

Historian, Communicator, Rotarian

Born in Atlanta in 1947 to Glanna and George Washington Pirkle, George grew up in Cumming, graduated from FCHS in 1965, attended North Georgia College, and graduated from UGA in 1969 with an ABJ in Journalism. In 1971 he earned his MA degree in Mass Communications.

1971-1973: Signal Officer, Department of the Army Motion Picture Service

1973-1978: Public Information Officer for Georgia Revenue Department.

1978-1989: joined the Southern Company as media specialist, later advanced to media coordinator and built a 4-state corporate communications network.

1989-1995: created Talking Rock Productions, serving small companies and non-profits in Alabama and North Georgia that otherwise could not afford quality media communications.

1995: joined the FC Schools District-wide task force, recommending sweeping system-wide technology improvements, all of which were fully implemented. Later provided media services, supporting passage of SPLOST votes.

George is past-president of the Rotary Club of Forsyth County. He is a Paul Harris/Will Watt Fellow, past District Literacy Chair and District photographer. In 2012 he led a month-long Group Study Exchange team to Western Australia.

Board service: Leadership Forsyth, Cumming Parks/Rec, United Way Forsyth County, Bald Ridge Lodge, Rotary District 6910, and the FCHS Alumni Association. He is Historian for the Historical Society of Forsyth County.

In 2017 George joined 319 international photographers recording WW II Holocaust survivors. The result is 2023's "***The Lonka Project: the Power of Life***".

George is married to Karen Horn. Daughter Charity lives in Atlanta with her partner Angie Terrell and granddaughter Emory Leigh McDaniel.

FCHS is proud to induct George Emory Pirkle into the 2025 Class of the Hall of Fame.