



Bronson family honors octogenarian patriarch

C.W. Gilbert hugs his great-granddaughter Darbi Davis, 4. There were four generations of family members at the event on Saturday.

Story and Photos

By Jeff M. Hardison © May 2, 2017 at 7:37 a.m.

BRONSON -- The dining hall at Bronson United Methodist Church was abuzz with activity Saturday afternoon (April 29) as family and friends came to celebrate the 80th birthday of C.W. Gilbert.



C.W. Gilbert and his wife of 38 years Bobbie Gilbert.

Every seat was filled to honor the guest of honor, who is known as for being a watchdog of Levy County politics. This staunch Levy County Republican Party member also observes and occasionally comments about politics

in the Town of Bronson.

C.W. Gilbert, who actually turned 80 the day before (April 28), said the reason for his

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success in life is his wife of 38 years, Bobbie Gilbert.

C.W. has had six children during his lifetime. Five are still alive. All five were at his birthday party – Chuck, Mandy, Mary, Alan and Beau.



Beau Gilbert and his lifelong friend Mike Weinar.

Beau Gilbert, 34, the youngest son of C.W. and Bobbie, organized the party. Among his friends attending the party to show respect for C.W. was Mike Weinar, 32, of Dallas, Tex. He works for the NBA team -- the Dallas Mavericks. Weinar is special assistant to Coach Rick Carlisle.

Weinar said he came to celebrate the 80th birthday of C.W., who he sees as patriarch of the Gilbert family and of the community.

Beau Gilbert said his father is known to be "a county agitator."

Former County Commissioner Carroll W. Gilbert is C.W.'s father. C.W.'s first name is Charles. Among his five children at the party was C.W. "Chuck" Gilbert, 60, his oldest son.

C.W. Gilbert is known for calling them like he sees them. And he thinks people in office should be held accountable.

As for his birthday party on Saturday, a good time was had by all.

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Servers from BubbaQue's provide food to guests. BubbaQue's and Bell's Catering are among the locally-owned interests that cater for parties in the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties.