



MAXINE H. BURTON

Founder, President, + Chairman of the Board

Maxine H. Burton is the founder, president, and chairman of the board of burton + BURTON®. Established in 1982 and headquartered in Bogart, Georgia, burton + BURTON® is the world's largest supplier of balloons and coordinating gift products, employing a staff of over 300. Maxine actively travels the globe and works tirelessly in conjunction with in-house artists to guarantee all products are on-trend and ensure customer satisfaction.

Maxine earned a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master of Education from the University of Georgia, where she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She continued her education at Harvard Business School, taking executive courses in 1998 and 2001. She is married to Robert E. Burton, COO of burton + BURTON®. They have two children, who both work at the company, and three grandchildren.

Maxine takes pride in working with others in her industry and community and has received numerous local and national commendations for her achievements and service. She has served and continues to serve on numerous boards.

AWARDS + HONORS

- 2025 Recipient of the Gift + Stationery Spotlight Award by *Gift Shop Plus* and *Stationery Trends*
- 2025 Named 2025 Women of Influence by *Gifts & Decorative Accessories*
- 2025 Recipient of The Classic Center Cultural Foundation Impact Award
- 2023 Recipient of the Woman of Distinction Award by the Alpha Xi Delta Fraternity
- 2021 Appointed to Board of Governors for Georgia World Congress Center Authority (GWCCA) by Governor Brian Kemp
- 2019 Inducted into the Forsyth Central High School Hall of Fame
- 2019 Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by Georgia 4-H Foundation
- 2019 Recognized as a 2019 Shining Star Honoree by the Jeannette Rankin Foundation
- 2018 University of Georgia President's Annual Report recognized Maxine and Bob Burton for Outstanding Philanthropy
- 2018 Recognized in the February 2018 issue of *Florists' Review* featuring Women Leaders: Their View and Influence Shape Our Industry
- 2017 Recognized by the University of Georgia College of Education *Insider* magazine in the Alumni Spotlight
- 2015 University of Georgia College of Agriculture Medallion of Honor awarded to Maxine and Bob Burton in recognition of their service to the college and the agricultural industry in Georgia
- 2015 Dianthus flower (Maxine Sweet Dianthus) named in Maxine's honor by the International Floriculture Expo
- 2013 Named University of Georgia Graduate School Alumni of Distinction by University of Georgia
- 2013 Inducted into CEO, an international organization of top business leaders
- 2012 Key to the City presented by the Honorable Nancy Denson, Mayor of the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, upon the 30th anniversary of the company, burton + BURTON®
- 2012 Athens Woman of Distinction by Girl Scouts of Historic North Georgia
- 2009 15 Gifted Women, by *Gifts & Decorative Accessories*
- 2009 Friends of the Extension by Epsilon Sigma Phi in association with Georgia 4-H Foundation
- 2008 Recipient of the Georgia Family Business of the Year Award, Large Category, by Cox Family Enterprise Center, Kennesaw State University
- 2008 Recipient of the William E. "Billy" Hudson Distinguished Citizen Award, Northeast Georgia Council of the Boy Scouts of America
- 2006 Top Emerging Company for Women in the Atlanta Metropolitan Area, *Atlanta Woman* magazine



Maxine appointed to Board of Governors for Georgia World Congress Center Authority by Governor Brian Kemp



Dianthus flower named in Maxine's honor by the International Floriculture Expo

AWARDS + HONORS CONTINUED

- 2006 Ruby C. McSwain Philanthropist Award, Virginia Tech University, by the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association
- 2005 Alan J. McDonald International Entrepreneur Award from Society of International Business Fellows
- 2002 The Leading Women Entrepreneurs of the World by The Star Group
- 2001 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year® for the Retail/Wholesale Category, Southeast Division
- 2001 Outstanding Georgia Citizen by Secretary of State Cathy Cox
- 1999 Named Lieutenant Colonel, Aide de Camp, Governor's Staff by Georgia Governor Roy Barnes
- 1995 Honoree of the Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter of the University of Georgia
- 1994–96 Distinguished Lecturer/Practitioner, University of Georgia Terry College of Business
- 1993 International Balloon Arts Convention (IBAC) Crystal Award
- 1991 National Marketing Award, *Florists' Review* magazine
- 1990 Athena Award for Outstanding Female Achievement in the Athens area
- 1989 Spirit of Georgia Award, Georgia Industrial Development Association
- 1989 Small Business Person of the Year, Athens Chamber of Commerce

BOARDS + COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

CURRENT

Chief Executives Organization (CEO)
 CEO Women's Forum
 Coalition for Responsible Celebration (CRC)
 The Committee of 200
 First American Bank & Trust, Emeritus
 Georgia 4-H Foundation, Emeritus
 Georgia Council for the Arts, appointed by Governors Nathan Deal and Brian Kemp, 2013–2023
 Georgia World Congress Center Authority (GWCCA), Board of Governors; Treasurer, Executive Committee; Chair, Finance Committee
 IFE Advisory Board
 Leadership Athens
 Leadership Georgia
 Society of International Business Fellows (SIBF), Class of 1999
 United Fresh Floral Community
 The University of Georgia Foundation, Emeritus Trustee
 The University of Georgia's President's Club
 Women's Leadership Board (WLB) of Harvard Kennedy School

PAST

Administrative Management Society
 American Cancer Society of Athens
 Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors
 Athens–Clarke County Economic Development Committee
 Athens Junior League Taylor–Grady House, Advisory Committee
 Athens Symphony
 The Baylor School, Board of Visitors
 Darlington School, Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors
 Development Authority of the Unified Government of Athens–Clarke County, Georgia
 Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors
 Georgia Children's Health Alliance, Executive Committee
 Georgia Museum of Art, Friends of the Museum
 Georgia Ports Authority, served three four-year terms under three governors, 2002–2013
 Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, Board
 International Balloon Association (IBA), Board of Directors
 St. Mary's Hospice Professional Advisory Committee
 The University of Georgia Alumni Association, Executive Committee
 The University of Georgia Foundation, Board of Trustees