



## Joe Louis Cunningham, Sr.

September 7, 1935 - October 14, 2023

Born on September 7, 1935, to the late Ernest Cunningham Sr. and Clara Bell Mitchell, Joe's life was one of love, dedication, and service to his community.

A man of unwavering faith, Joe committed his life to Christ at an early age in Vincent, AL. Later in life he united with Greater Thankful Baptist Church faithfully serving as a dedicated Trustee. As the years went by, Mr. Cunningham continued working in the Lord's vineyard when he became a devoted member of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Hobson City, AL. His dedication to his church and his strong spiritual beliefs were evident to all who knew him.

Joe's life was marked by hard work and a commitment to excellence. After graduating from Calhoun County Training School in Hobson City in 1954, he proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. Following his military service, Joe was employed by Anniston Foundry for many years until their closure. Joe found his calling in cabinet making and automotive skills. To better provide for his family, he attended Ayers Technical College, where he honed his craft, eventually becoming a skilled craftsman. Once he graduated and received his certification, Joe was gainfully employed with Anniston Army Depot where he retired after 20 years and began to enjoy the fruits of his labor. His talent and passion for woodworking were exemplified in the countless beautiful cabinets he lovingly built, gracing homes throughout Calhoun County making him well-

known as "The Cabinet Man".

Beyond his professional achievements, Joe was deeply involved in his community. He served as a respected councilman for the Town of Hobson City during the 1970' and 1980's and again from 2010 - 2021, tirelessly working to make a positive impact on the lives of its residents. His dedication to civic engagement extended to his active involvement in numerous organizations including T.A.W. Elks Lodge #1668, the American Legion, WAMS, Hobson City Senior Citizens, and the Biz Whist Club. Joe's commitment to service and betterment of his community was truly unparalleled.

Outside of his commitments, Joe cherished time spent with family and friends. Whether he was exploring the Georgia line with his buddies Renfroe Caver and Stanley McGrue, cruising around Hobson City, or sitting on the corner, offering a warm wave to passersby, Joe's joy radiated through his presence.

As Joe travelled his 88-year earthly journey, he was united in holy matrimony to the former Ms. Gladys Nunn. To their union came the blessing of seven loving children and one adoptive grandchild. Joe loved his children and enjoyed spending time with his family taking them on summer trips to Cleveland yearly, to visit his mother.

Joe Lewis Cunningham peacefully departed from this earthly realm on October 14, 2023, at the age of 88, in the loving embrace of his daughter's home in Oxford, Alabama while surrounded by loved ones. Once receiving the Master's call, Joe was reunited with his father Ernest Cunningham Sr., his mother Clara Cunningham, his sons, Joe Louis "Moosie" Cunningham Jr. and Larry McCrimmon, his brothers, Ernest Cunningham Jr. and Clayton Cunningham Sr., and his sisters Bernest Hargrove and Sandra Cunningham.

Joe will be forever remembered for his unwavering love as a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His legacy lives on through the mother of his children, Gladys Cunningham; daughters, Dianne (Stanley) Jones, Gloria Jean (Alphonso) Newton, Teresa Webb, Anita Jackson, Bonita (Cedric) Mason, Tonika Cunningham; son, Tracy (Vanessa) Cunningham, grandchildren; Tara, Katrina, Shontell, Amanda, Travokeo, Delrekus, Tracy, Jermaine, Deidra, Jessica, Desmond, Cedric Jr., Quentin, Jessie, Roderick, Quinita, Antonio, Demetrius, and Dominique; forty-five great-grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren, each one a testament to his love, wisdom, and guidance; his siblings, Opal Thomason, Denise DeRamus, Cora (Larry) Stamps, Anita Cunningham, Ricky (Wanda) Cunningham, Kenneth (Deneise) Cunningham, Jerome (Daphne) Cunningham; sisters-in-law Louise Cunningham and Sara Cunningham; and a host of nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends.

His memory will forever be held in our hearts, and his legacy will endure through the lives he touched.

Rest in eternal peace our dear Joe Louis Cunningham, Sr. You will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

# Cemetery Details

## Hobson City Memorial Gardens

715 Martin Luther King Dr  
Hobson City, AL 36201

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

OCT **19**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Goodson Funeral Home / Anniston  
830 Noble Street  
Anniston, AL 36201

## Celebration of Life

OCT **20**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Oxford Civic Center  
401 McCullars Lane  
Oxford, AL 36203

# Tribute Wall

WB

“ *William Bryant @ Exa Bell lit a candle in memory of Joe Louis Cunningham, Sr.*



William Bryant @ Exa Bell - October 19, 2023 at 01:19 PM

DP

“ *Doris L. Bolton and Tonie Pruitt purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joe Louis Cunningham, Sr..*



Doris L. Bolton and Tonie Pruitt - October 19, 2023 at 11:48 AM

TH

“ *My deepest condolences to the family I met Mr. Joe on one of our class reunion trips he had us all laughing. He will be missed. He left a great legacy for his family.*

Tommie Head - October 17, 2023 at 08:20 PM

CS

“ Granddaddy,

*I love you beyond this whole world, this is tough for me but I'm so grateful and thankful for the amazing memories we had together . You are the main reason I frequently talk about my childhood .I appreciate you loving me , coming to pick my sister and I up at the halfway point so that we could spend the summer with you all in Bama, teaching me how to play dominoes and talking junk in the process ( That's probably why my mouth so slick now lol) , the many wrecks ( you couldn't drive granddaddy) , building my playhouse to match your shop, never telling me NO ( my dad and you made things hard on my husband with that one ) I could go on and on but to sum it up you were an absolutely amazing human being granddaddy ! The love from a grandparent is unmatched ! I know we all have to leave here one day but my heart is broken knowing that you are no longer here. You definitely lived during your DASH (1935-2023) Get your rest granddaddy , Well Done !!! See you later Big Joe and when we do we are going to sit down and eat a can of sardines with crackers and hot sauce .*



---

**Ceanitria Simmons** - October 17, 2023 at 04:29 PM

EM

*Great Times, Laughts, and Dancing (No one done like you). Will all be shared with Love Forever ❤️  
Evelyn McCrimon Hale (Ms.E)*

---

**Evelyn M.Hale** - October 19, 2023 at 08:00 PM