



## Sidney Fomby, Jr.

January 24, 1946 - August 29, 2024

Mr. Sidney Fomby, Jr. was born on January 24, 1946, to the union of Sidney Fomby, Sr., and Cora Lee Chatman Fomby in Lincoln, Alabama.

He confessed Christ at a young age and united with Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church. He received his formal education in the Talladega County School System and was a graduate of Talladega County Training School. He furthered his education by attending Gadsden State Community College. Mr. Fomby enlisted in the United States Army, faithfully serving his country before he was honorably discharged. Prior to his discharge, he was the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Sharpshooter (Rifle). Once returning to civilian life, Mr. Fomby embarked on his career with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company as a tire curer. After 34 years of employment with Goodyear, he retired in 2001.

Mr. Fomby was an exceptionally outgoing individual who never met a stranger and served as a prominent figure in his community, and many referred to him by the name, Geech or Jr. He had a profound passion for sports. In the era before cable and satellite television, Mr. Fomby would enjoy watching his football and baseball games on two televisions stacked atop his floor model television, all while tuning into NASCAR races on the radio. Interrupting him during his sports viewing was strictly prohibited, a sentiment that his immediate family members fully acknowledged and respected. His preferred

teams included the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Auburn Tigers, while his favorite NASCAR driver was Dale Earnhardt Sr. Additionally, he was an ardent admirer of blues music, with Bobby "Blue" Bland being his favorite artist in the genre.

In earlier years, he was the manager for both the Sandlot Little Leagues baseball team and the Lincoln Cubs Men's baseball team, where he played as a first and second baseman. He also played as a running back and halfback for TCTS. In addition to serving as an umpire for junior varsity and varsity high school baseball games. Mr. Fomby regularly provided his assistance to the Lincoln High School football team, supporting Coach Brooks as needed. In 1970, he co-founded the Big Nine Social and Savings Club, which hosted annual Christmas parties, an Easter egg hunt for local children, along with quarterly baseball games. He held the position of president of the club from 1976 to 1980.

Mr. Fomby also served as a councilman for the Lincoln third ward in the City of Lincoln for a duration of two years. In 1988, Mayor Lew Watson resigned to pursue a job opportunity in Georgia. Following Mayor Watson's direct recommendation, Mr. Fomby was appointed by the city council to serve as mayor for a two-year term, becoming the first and only Black mayor in the history of the City of Lincoln. Throughout his public service career, Mr. Fomby participated in various committees, including the National League of Cities and the Alabama League of Municipalities. During his time as mayor, he managed one of the city's largest wastewater sewage expansion projects, successfully overseeing its completion without any cost overruns. His leadership also facilitated the successful execution of several city improvement initiatives.

Despite the considerable support from city residents urging Mr. Fomby to seek a second term as mayor, he opted not to pursue a second term primarily

because he was employed full-time in a third-shift position at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company during his entire period of public service. In the years leading up to his health decline, Mr. Fomby had the honor of one year being elected Grand Marshal for the City of Lincoln Christmas parade.

While in the comfort of his home surrounded by his cherished family, Mr. Sidney Fomby, Jr. peacefully transitioned to ancestry on August 29, 2024. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. Sidney Fomby, Sr. and Mrs. Cora Lee Fomby, as well as his brothers, Mr. John W. Embry and Mr. Fred L. Fomby; Brother-in-Law, Mr. Nelson White; Sister-in-law, Mrs. Mamie Embry, and special sister-in-law, Mrs. Geraldine Arceneaux.

He leaves a legacy of love and memories to forever be cherished by his wife of 55 years, Mary E. Fomby; two daughters, Rachel D. Fomby and Fanya C. Curry; three grandchildren, Sidney Lamar Fomby, Gabrielle A. Curry, and Jayden D. Curry; three brothers, Roosevelt (JoAnn) Fomby and Elton (Jimmy Lou) Fomby, Rodney (Vicki) Fomby; one sister, Lorene White; one special brother, John W. Arceneaux; Godson, Sheraton Groce; Goddaughter, Tavia (Elder Ronald) Sillmon; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Pine Grove Baptist Church Cemetery

500 Drew Ave  
Lincoln, AL 35096

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

SEP 5. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

S.M. Goodson Funeral Home Chapel  
217 Coosa St. East  
Talladega, AL 35160

## Celebration of Life

SEP 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

S.M. Goodson Funeral Home Chapel  
217 Coosa St. East  
Talladega, AL 35160

# Tribute Wall

JN

“ *My Condolences to the Family, Mr. Fomby was a very kind and thoughtful individual, Until Valhalla!*

James Nelson - September 07, 2024 at 02:43 AM

CW

“ *Sending our deepest condolences to the family of Mr Fomby. Asking God to console your grieving hearts. Continuous prayer from our family to yours.*

Chris & Erica Woods - September 06, 2024 at 02:31 PM

FH

“ *Frank and Vickie Hill, hoping your memories bring you comfort in your time of loss and that it lifts your heart to know others share your sadness out prayers are with you*



Frank and Vickie Hill - September 06, 2024 at 01:48 PM

MW

“ *Mayor and Mrs. Lew Watson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sidney Fomby, Jr..*

Mayor and Mrs. Lew Watson - September 06, 2024 at 08:12 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Sidney Fomby, Jr..*



September 06, 2024 at 08:12 AM



“ *Freda W. purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Sidney Fomby, Jr..*



**Freda W.** - September 04, 2024 at 06:41 PM



“ *My sincere condolences and Prayers to Elton and the entire Fomby Family*

**Lynda McGraw** - August 31, 2024 at 10:35 AM



“ *Sending love and prayers to the Fomby family. May God be with you all during this difficult time.*



**Tennille Brown** - August 31, 2024 at 09:27 AM

MH

“ Our deepest sympathy for the Family & Friends of Sidney Fomby, Jr. May God give you all comfort & strength during this difficult time. We will keep you all in our thoughts & prayers. 🙏🕊️



Michael & Jewel Huntley - August 30, 2024 at 10:06 PM

LE

Our deepest sympathy to the friends and family of Sidney Fomby. May peace and love for all be with you during this difficult. Thoughts and prayer from claude strown and family.

Laverne embry - September 03, 2024 at 08:33 AM

WJ

“ Prayers and sympathy for Sidney's family. Considering the dual loss to the entire Fomby family over the last week, this must be an especially difficult time. May your Faith in God, and your collective memories, see you through the tough days. It is hard to imagine a Lincoln without [expecting to see] Sidney around somewhere. But we thank God for the years He gave him. God bless each of you.



Winona Jacobs - August 30, 2024 at 06:56 PM

BB

Condolences to Sidney Fomby Family.

Bernice Beckett - August 31, 2024 at 07:59 AM

CF

*Sidney was the cousin of my father, George (Gabby) Wallace Fomby of Birmingham. My father loved to visit Sidney and his family and was very proud of his accomplishments. I remember visiting his home and how I felt a warm embrace. I especially remember the nice words of encouragement at my father's funeral. I am praying for the family and especially his devoted wife, children, grandchildren and siblings. May God grant you peace and understanding in the months and years to come.*

*Carla L Flakes, Fairfield, Alabama*

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**Carla Flakes** - September 04, 2024 at 05:06 AM

PM

*May God be with the Fomby during this double difficult time in their. May God strengthen your to lighten the heavy load that you are carrying. God bless each and everyone. Patricia Moore, Gadsden, Alabama*

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**Patricia Moore** - September 06, 2024 at 12:45 AM