



James Alexander "Sonny" Campbell, Jr.

September 21, 1931 - November 14, 2021

James Alexander "Sonny" Campbell, Jr., 90, died November 14, 2021. He was born September 21, 1931, in Thomasville, GA. He was the son of James Alexander Campbell II and Corlene Hurst Campbell. He grew up near Thomasville, Georgia, spending time in Fitzpatrick, Alabama, with his father's family, and summers in Chillicothe, Ohio, on his mother's family farm. Sonny graduated high school in 1950, from Stark University School, in Montgomery, Alabama. In 1955, he graduated from Florida Southern College, where he pledged SAE fraternity, was President of the Student Body, and was Co-Colonel of the ROTC cadets.

In 1955, Sonny married Joan Elizabeth Lindsey of Thomasville, Georgia, and moved to Thomaston, Georgia. In 1957, they moved to Albany, Georgia, where they resided for over 60 years until moving to Athens in 2020, to be closer to their daughter. Sonny was an Albany entrepreneur who owned several service stations. Long after he officially retired, he continued to work at the station in order to visit with longtime patrons and friends.

Sonny was an avid golfer, learning the game from his father. As a teenager, he played with the legendary Babe Didrikson Zaharias and was on the golf team in college. He was quite accomplished, winning several tournaments, and into his 80's he continued to receive awards for shooting less than his age on multiple occasions. He was a sportsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing and was a member of the B.P.O. Elks Lodge of Albany.

He was recently preceded in death by Joan Campbell, his wife of 65 years.

Sonny is survived by his son, James "J." (Regina) Campbell, III, of Largo, Florida, daughter, Lindsey (Barry) Shiver of Watkinsville, Georgia, grandchildren, Brenton (Stephanie) Shiver, Clayton (Jamie) Shiver, Cutler Shiver, Ali Campbell (Will) Shanahan, Jacob Campbell and one great grandson, Campbell Shiver.

Services will be held Sunday, Nov. 21, at noon, at Kimbrell-Stern in Albany. Visitation will be one-half hour before the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or the American Cancer Society.

Cemetery Details

Crown Hill Cemetery

1907 Dawson Rd
Albany, GA 31707
(229) 883-6600

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 21. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors
1503 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Funeral Service

NOV 21. 12:00 PM (ET)

Kimbrell-Stern Funeral Directors
1503 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Tribute Wall

PM

“ *Sonny and Joan were my back door neighbors on Whippoorwill. We had children the same time and enjoyed going to the pool at Radium Country Club just about every day. Sonny was one of a kind.....his customers at his station were like family.....he would take excellent care of each and every one.....so sorry that he had health problems early on and he and Joan could not spend their later years together....they were a great couple, wonderful friends and I will never forget either of them. God bless the family in their time of grief.....*

Patsy Martin - November 29, 2021 at 08:07 PM

EC

“ *You never know all the connections you have with people. Besides the good care Sunny and J gave my car [still running fine although missing their station on Slappey] do wish I had known his connection to Babe Didrikson Zaharias. My late uncle was the man who found the Olympic track star and took her to first ever golf game- where her natural talent impressed him, He was sportswriter Grantland Rice. That gives me even more reason to be impressed with Sonny. Remembering him fondly. Sympathy to all!*

Elizabeth Champion - November 27, 2021 at 08:30 PM

MP

“ *Loved Mr. Sonny! He had a smile and a great heart for anyone that pulled up at Campbell BP- He and Jay were a great team- Please accept our condolences from Albany General Tire and the Clark Neal and Neal Page family- great customers. friends and golf buddies with my dad, Clark Neal! Hugs to the family and please know all are in our prayers. Love to all!*
Millie and Neal Page

Millie Page - November 22, 2021 at 12:00 PM

PB

“ *Pam Bowden lit a candle in memory of James Alexander "Sonny" Campbell, Jr.*



Pam Bowden - November 18, 2021 at 09:03 PM

JB

“ *J, very sorry to learn of Sonny's passing. He was a very nice man. I remember we had good conversations when I would stop by the station. Your family is in my prayers.*

Jim Brackin - November 18, 2021 at 09:06 AM

VM

“ I Loved Sonny and His Son James. I pulled in to see Them every week and They were like Family to Me. Odd that I was just thinking about Them Yesterday , how wonderful they treated Me and how I had missed them. I live in San Diego , Ca and I am sure anyone would understand My missing them. Fine Folks in Albany, Ga and Not many folks like them. I am sorry James and family for Your Loss. You just can't find better folks than Your Family !!!! Life has changed so much, I want to be back in Albany in the early 70's , guess that can't happen so I will just look up to Heaven and watch for someone from there wanting Me up there also. See you one day and I can just imagine what Your first words will be.....just for fun I hope You do say them ! Love to All of You and Peace!

V. Arlene Macon - November 18, 2021 at 01:33 AM

PJ

Two fine gentlemen.

Pat Johnson - December 03, 2021 at 09:35 PM

MB

“ I never met Mr. Sonny Campbell but my father, the late Tim Blackburn, always talked about dove hunting with Mr. Campbell. As young boys when our daddy would take us dove hunting he would always tell us how when the last dove hunt of the season was over Mr. Campbell would put his double barrel shotgun behind the seat of his truck and leave it there till the first hunt of the next year and how he had pour oil on the gun to get the barrels to open and then Mr. Campbell would proceed to out shoot everyone on the field. In my mind a childhood legend is gone - may Gods grace be upon the family.

Mike Blackburn - November 17, 2021 at 01:55 PM

MW

“ *Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with the family. Loved going to Sonny's for gas. The only place in town that still pumped gas for you. Hated to see them close.*

Melissa Watson - November 16, 2021 at 12:41 PM