



## Mr. William "Bill" Thomas Stanfill, Sr.

January 13, 1947 - November 10, 2016

William "Bill" Thomas Stanfill, Sr., 69, of Albany, GA, died peacefully on Thursday, November 10, 2016, at the Willson Hospice House.

His memorial service will be at 2 PM on Monday, November 14, 2016, at Albany First United Methodist Church. The Rev. Thad Haygood will officiate. The family will receive friends prior to the memorial service on Monday from 12-2 PM in Ford Hall at the First United Methodist Church.

Bill Stanfill was born in Cairo, GA. At Cairo High School he was a three-sport star who excelled in football, basketball, and track with achievements unmatched in each. In 1964 he was selected the Class Double-A Lineman of the Year. In 1965 he led the Cairo basketball team to the state championship and was named MVP of the state tournament. He added three state Double-A discus championships and one shot put title to his list of accomplishments.

After high school Stanfill was awarded a football scholarship to the University of Georgia. As a defensive tackle at UGA, he played on two SEC championship teams in 1966 and 1968. In games that he started, the Bulldogs were 25-6-2. He was second team All-American in 1966 and 1967. In 1968 he was elected permanent team captain, was a consensus All-American, and became Georgia's first and only winner of the Outland Trophy, which is given annually to the nation's outstanding college lineman. He also earned

Academic All-American and Academic All-SEC honors in 1968.

Bill Stanfill was drafted in the first round with the eleventh overall pick by the Miami Dolphins in the 1969 draft. He was named AFL Rookie of the Year runner up in 1969. He was a starting defensive end on the 1972 undefeated Super Bowl champion Miami Dolphins and on the Dolphins 1973 Super Bowl team. In 1973 he recorded 18 ½ sacks, a single season Dolphin record that still stands today. His career sack total stands at 67 ½, which places him among the greatest Dolphins' pass rushers of all time. He was selected to the Pro Bowl in 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974.

Stanfill was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1998, the University of Georgia Circle of Honor in 2000, and the Miami Dolphins Ring of Honor in 2010.

Bill Stanfill was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Albany and served as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Monk Thompson Sunday School Class. More than a football player, Bill Stanfill was a Gentle Giant, who loved his family, loved his Lord, and loved life. He was preceded in death by his parents, Noah William Stanfill and Muriel Stanfill, and a sister, Edith Roddenbery.

He is survived by his wife: Gail Dozier Stanfill, Albany, GA; 4 children: Stan Stanfill (Apryl), Athens, GA, Jake Stanfill, Athens, GA, Kristin Stanfill, Athens, GA, Scott Stanfill (Amber), Albany, GA; 5 grandchildren: Cole Stanfill, Jack Stanfill, Samuel Stanfill, Grace Stanfill, and Luke Stanfill, 2 sisters: Beth Clay (Jack), Douglas, GA, Tommie Indence, Thomasville, GA; and numerous nieces and nephews who thought he was the greatest uncle in the world.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Albany Birthday Fund, 307 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **14**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Ford Hall First United Methodist Church of Albany  
307 Flint Ave.  
Albany, GA

## Memorial Service

NOV **14**. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
307 Flint Ave  
Albany, GA 31701

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. William "Bill" Thomas Stanfill, Sr.*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mr. William "Bill" Thomas Stanfill, Sr.*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mr. William "Bill" Thomas Stanfill, Sr.*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Hi Ms Gail, I just wanted to send my love & prayers to u & it wad always a joy to see Mr Bill in the coumdin clinic. Hope u r well, love u, Sheryl Nichols*

**Sheryl Nichols** - November 17, 2016 at 06:57 PM

LC

“ I’m very saddened by the news of Bill Stanfill’s passing. Bill was much more than a fellow teammate. Over the years, we hunted together many times. Manny Fernandez, Jake Scott, Bill and I shared a love of the outdoors that saw us together on many deer, hog and bird hunting trips. I also spent some time around Bills hometown in Georgia and got to know most of his expansive immediate family. Many times, I sat after breakfast listening to hunting, fishing and farm stories being told by Bills uncles and great uncles. Great stuff! Often, we’d leave right after a Dolphins game to rush out to the woods for just one day of hunting before being back for practice on Tuesday. Bill always came through. Whether it was planning a hunting trip or making the winning tackle in the game, you could count on him....and always with a grin on his face. I wish him peace. I already miss him.

ZONK



---

Larry Csonka - November 15, 2016 at 10:03 AM

OH

“ Bill has always been a caring neighbor who was willing to share and help others. It is sad that he is gone and he will be missed.

Ouida Henderson

---

Ouida Henderson - November 14, 2016 at 09:22 PM

MO

“ *RIP Bill.  
Marty Oxman,UGA 1973  
Charlotte,NC*

---

**Marty Oxman** - November 14, 2016 at 04:37 PM

DR

“ *When Bill & I were being recruited at UGA we shared a room at the contained Ed. Building & I thought he was the biggest man I had ever seen but a true south ga. Country boy. With all his success he always remained that way. I,m recovering from 2nd hip replacement thus will miss the service as Erik said he was a d good dog.  
Dennard Robison. Moultrie ga*

---

**dennard robison** - November 14, 2016 at 12:19 PM

HD

“ *It was an honour and privilege to get to play football with Bill at UGA as the strong side linebacker lining up behind him. Most of the opponent teams put their emphasis on blocking Bill which gave me the opportunity to help stop the offenses with Bill's outstanding performances. In our 4 years of play we beat Auburn 4 times, Florida 3 times and Ga Tech 4 times. He deserved the honor not only as an All American but as the the 1968 recipient of the Outland Trophy signifying he was the best lineman in the country.  
Happy Dicks, #57*

---

**Happy Dicks** - November 14, 2016 at 11:25 AM

KB

“ Gail, Kristen and Scott,  
My deepest heartfelt sympathy, Bill was a wonderful person. I am so  
so sorry to hear this news. May God be with you in this difficult time.  
I will keep all of you in my prayers!  
He will be missed. Rest in peace Bill!

---

**Kristi Brooks** - November 14, 2016 at 06:49 AM

GL

“ Dear Gail,  
Just read in the Atlanta Constitution that Bill  
had passed away. It has been many years  
since I have seen him and did not realize all  
of the health problems that he was  
experiencing. I am so sorry! Please know that you and your family  
will be in our thoughts and prayers in the days ahead. I think you will  
remember me as my family was related to the Dozier family in  
Albany. Dick, Don, Spec.... I remember them all well. Had many great  
meals at the Merry Acres!!  
Gardelle Lewis Jr.  
Augusta, Georgia



---

**Gardelle Lewis, Jr.** - November 13, 2016 at 09:43 PM

SH

“ I am so sorry Gail. My thoughts and prayers  
are with you and your whole family. Sandy  
Barfield Holland



---

**Sandy Barfield Holland** - November 13, 2016 at 07:57 PM

SS

“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Praying for God's comfort during this time.

*LaRue & Stephanie Stanfill*

---

**Stephanie Stanfill** - November 13, 2016 at 07:54 PM

MC

“ Probably the greatest all around Syrupmaker athlete to excel at Cairo High.

*Mark Carr  
Cairo High alumnus*

---

**Mark Carr** - November 13, 2016 at 10:40 AM

MJ

“ To the Stanfill Family,  
Bill will always be remembered as a Big, Big man who was a friend and a GREAT football player for the University of Georgia and the Miami Dolphins. I can imagine he was smiling yesterday with the Dawgs big win over Auburn. We were all bless to know Bill.

*Mike & Sue Johnson, Hayesville, NC*

---

**Mike Johnson** - November 13, 2016 at 08:46 AM

TO

“ Wonderful competitor. Wonderful man.

---

**Terry O'Gorman** - November 12, 2016 at 07:49 PM

DW

“ Gail, we are so very sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Dimi & Thomas

---

**Dimi & Thomas Williams** - November 12, 2016 at 05:14 PM

TB

“ Bill coached his son, Scott in baseball when Scott was young. My wife, Laura Lee, was one of the coaches on a team they played. After the season was over, Bill reached down to shake Beau's hand and said, " Beau are going to play baseball next year?" Beau said, " Yes sir, Mr Stanfill". Bill said, Do you want to play for your mommy or play for me? I will never forget the look on Beau's face as he said, "For you! Bill will truly be missed by many.. My prayers go out to the family. Tom Borst

---

**Thomas F. Borst** - November 12, 2016 at 08:56 AM

PM

“ Thinking of all the Stanfills this morning. Much love and sympathy to you, Gail, Scott, Amber, Kristen and the rest of the family. Know your church and community are full of love for all of you as you move through these days ahead. Bill was a great guy! He accomplished more in those 69 years than most people do in 100.....Love to all!

---

**patsy martin** - November 12, 2016 at 08:52 AM

WS

“ We have lost a good friend. It was Bill who sold our family farm and my Father-in-Law's (Judge McMurray) family farm.

*We were blessed of God to have been introduced to Bill Stanfill. Our family greatly profited by his name recognition and star power, his ability to make everyone feel like his friend, his knowledge of farm values, and his untiring work ethic. Bill Stanfill was definitely a God send and a friend to the Standard and McMurray families. He was a true friend for life once you met him, and we will surely miss him...*

*Rest in Peace, Brother, no doubt, you are in a better place and we will see you again.*

*W.T. Standard & Family & Judge William L. & Rosemary McMurray Family*

---

**WT Standard** - November 12, 2016 at 08:46 AM

HA

“ God speed "Big Sissy" from "Little Sissy"!

---

**Hal** - November 11, 2016 at 06:55 PM

PC

“ Thoughts and prayers go out to my friend Gail and the Stanfill children. Bill will surely be missed! I love you all!



---

**Pam & Jimmy Clark** - November 11, 2016 at 05:20 PM

JM

*Bill was a great individual who never let his great ability as a football player get in the way of his being a great human being. Bill was always down to earth. Since i live in PA after leaving Georgia and going in the Army, I always enjoy telling people about Bill and I doing a tag team on Spurrier in the 66 game. Bill had his neck hurt bad before the game and really wasn't suppose to play. i was always determined to make a difference in every game(as a student trainer) so all game long every time build came out of the game and whi ile on the bench. I constantly worked on his neck. Then I would sic him on Spurrier each time that he went back into the game. Bill and I had a bunch of laughs about it through the years. We were joking about it when Stan was at the Lettermen barbeque and Bill gave us a couple of insights into the night before the game. My other story was about Bill when he was dating his first wife and she was as tall nearly as he was. Once at Daytona on Spring Break some guys got out of ine in a hotel room with some of the girls and she preceeded to toss a few out of the room. bill and her both were wonderful people then and now. Bill is to be much admired for keeping the fighting spirit through all of his injuries and problems due to football. He was always to much a gentleman to every complain when he was taken advantage of as a pro player. He is one of the all time greats and he will be missed by all who knew him. You will be in my ttoughts and prayers in the coming weeks.*

*Jim Massey*

---

**Jim Massey** - November 15, 2016 at 07:30 PM

HC

*Saddened to hear of Bill's passing, He was a friend & fellow Cairoite... Tommie was my classmate...in addition to admiring him as the greatest athlete ever from Cairo...he was always a class act with a great sense of humor. Never forget few years ago when UGA Grady School of Journalism celebrated Grady Co. Night & Bill present among so many notable UGA athletes from Cairo & conversation here in Elberton when he struggled to be here to see his grandson play football. Truly a man's man & great person who, despite so many health problems, didn't complain. A LIFE WELL LIVED!...Hudson "Huddie" Cone*

---

**Hudson "Huddie" Cone** - November 16, 2016 at 01:30 PM