



Tony Proctor

December 20, 1938 - January 7, 2025

Tony LaGrant Proctor December 20, 1938-January 7, 2025.

It's with much sadness but rejoicing that he is with God, that we announce the passing of Tony Proctor on January 7, 2025 at the age of 86. He peacefully passed in the early morning hours at the Albertville Nursing Home (Rehab Select) after 15 days in hospice. Tony battled Parkinson's Disease and Lewy Body Dementia but fought very hard to keep his physical strength and exercise his mind to the very end. As you might imagine he greeted everyone he saw and spent the days going to therapy and visiting around the facility staff, guests and residents alike. He visited one special resident everyday, his wife Nona Proctor on 61 years.

Tony was born at home in Crossville, Alabama to his late parents, E.P. Proctor and (Stella) Winona Upton Proctor. He was a country boy through and through yet strived in his live to acquire an education and later become a successful teacher and realtor. Those roots that he embodied never left him and he always treasured connections with his immediately and extended family members. Many of which reside anywhere from California to Alaska. Tony was extremely close with his siblings Randy Proctor and Emily Proctor Hill. He is preceded in death by his older sister Sunny Charlotte Proctor who passed at a very young age. It wasn't unusual to see Randy and Tony out visiting folks, attending milestone events or going fishing. They had a mutual love of

westerns in particular and enthusiastically discussed this topic. His sister Emily and he would sit and play music together. Tony would play trumpet and Emily would play piano and sing. They also loved traveling out west and going on trips as a family. So many fun memories together over the years.

Tony was a renaissance man. He loved to be outdoors fishing, working in the yard, loved listening to and playing music (piano, trumpet, harmonica & singing) reading and poetry, movies, playing baseball, basketball, watching boxing, studying ancestry, participating in church activities and spending time with family.

Tony graduated from Crossville High School then went on to graduate from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa with a degree in education while at the same time playing baseball and basketball for The Tide. He attended UA Baseball team reunions and formed a tight knit bond with teammates. There is a story that his parents didn't know that he was playing a second sport until they heard his name then spotted him during a state tournament while watching tv one afternoon. He forgot to tell them. Needless to say they were very proud.

After graduating from the University of Alabama, he obtained his Master's degree from Alabama A & M University in Special Education. He worked in the field for many years and just adored all his students. He had a real passion for helping kids with special needs. He had a way of reaching each child exactly where they were. Helping them reach their greatest potential. He was patient and steady.

In addition, Tony was also a successful basketball coach, taking teams from relative obscurity to state tournaments in almost no time at all. He was gaining attention for his efforts. Ultimately, he decided to move into teaching special education full time.

In later years, he added real estate to his résumé while still teaching full-time. He eventually retired from teaching and worked in real estate where he really shined. He genuinely loved meeting people and helping them find their next home. Ultimately, his last stop was at Spurlin & Company. Don Spurlin and he formed not only an amazing working relationship but more importantly, a life long friendship. Don, Sherry & their daughter Emma became family.

Tony was an amazing father and grandfather. He took such great joy in the accomplishments of his daughter, Jennifer and his granddaughters Scarlett and Regan. He often visited no matter where the military took them and quickly integrated himself into every community. Tony and Nona both were always there to assist during deployment and times of extended work commitments. They attended to piano recitals, soccer games, band competitions, church programs and assisted in everyday tasks like making meals, helping get ready for school and helping with homework. Consequently, when they would visit Albertville, they would help in the garden, run errands and attend church. As they got older, they would often message Tony for advice. They shared a very special bond. In his last few months, both got to visit with him and had many meaningful discussions about life.

Tony always had a smile, a warm handshake, a hug, a good story and/or a joke to share. Every person he met made an indelible mark upon him. He always strived to be better in everything he did. He was humble, hard-working and the first to give a compliment for anyone else that had success. If you won, then Tony won too.

Tony always said that he wasn't afraid of dying. It was the living that was hard. In the end, he reported to everyone he was at peace and he had a good life. Tony believed in his Lord and savior, Jesus Christ, and that he would have

eternal life through him. Today is the day that the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Tony is survived by beloved wife of 61 years, Nona Proctor, his sister Emily Proctor Hill (Richard Hill), his nieces Sara Hill and Amanda Hill, his beloved sister-in-law, Janice Proctor, (late Randy Proctor), his nephew John Proctor (Fannie Proctor), his daughter Jennifer Proctor Southerland, his granddaughters Regan Southerland and Scarlett Southerland and their father Dolph Southerland.

Tony was always one to pay it forward. He would love nothing more to help find a cure for Parkinson's Disease. A tribute page (https://tribute.michaeljfox.org/tribute-page.php?id=3079&np=true&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR3tNjdvrU6Qde5ZoAyjMijo3zUV-3ZxDNRES2tdWLXy2Qs1N45Sm4mQnA4_aem_36dGK5nbpep-ScP7r975ww) had been established in his honor on the Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Research Foundation website for this purpose.

If you feel so moved you can simply leave a hopeful comment or donate for research. (https://tribute.michaeljfox.org/tribute-page.php?id=3079&np=true&fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR3tNjdvrU6Qde5ZoAyjMijo3zUV-3ZxDNRES2tdWLXy2Qs1N45Sm4mQnA4_aem_36dGK5nbpep-ScP7r975ww)

Funeral services for Mr. Proctor will be held Friday, January 17, 2025 at 2:00 pm in the chapel of Adams Brown Service Funeral Home. The family will receive friends and loved ones at 1:00 pm till the time of service, and burial will follow at Liberty Cemetery of the Painter Community.

Cemetery Details

Liberty Cemetery-Painter

808 County Road 9
Crossville, AL 35962

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Adams Brown Service Funeral Home
6906 US Highway 431 South
P.O. Box 488
Albertville, AL 35950
(256) 878-0231

Funeral Service

JAN 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Adams Brown Service Funeral Home
6906 US Highway 431 South
P.O. Box 488
Albertville, AL 35950
(256) 878-0231

Burial

JAN 17 (CT)

Liberty Cemetery-Painter
808 County Road 9
Crossville, AL 35962

Tribute Wall

SL

“ Thank you for you friendship Mr Proctor love always Sean linnihan

Sean P Linnihan - March 27 at 10:19 PM

DH

“ Please accept the heartfelt sympathy from The Class of 1968-Sylvania High School. Coach Tony Proctor had a huge positive impact on each of us his students. We are holding you in our thoughts and prayers.

Deborah Harville - January 18, 2025 at 01:09 PM

JP

I can't thank you enough for leaving this note about dad. He reminisced about his time at Sylvania. I've heard so many stories over the years. And it was amazing that some of the members of basketball team that went to the state tournament came to pay their respects. It was very special to see them there. Thank you again for your kindness.

Jennifer Proctor-Southerland - February 01, 2025 at 06:33 PM

GH

“ Mr. Tony Proctor was my Driver's Ed teacher at Arab High School. He was always kind and a great teacher. Fifty- one years after high school I still remember things he taught me. Thank you, Mr. Proctor

Gayla Haven Hayes - January 16, 2025 at 11:32 PM

JP

Gayla,
Thank you so much for taking the time to leave such a sweet note. I got the benefits of being taught how to drive by a former driver's ed teacher/dad. To this day, I still hear him say never go immediately on a green light. That has saved me more than once. He so enjoyed teaching and that means so much that you remember him. Much love.
Jennifer Proctor Southerland

Jennifer Proctor-Southerland - February 01, 2025 at 06:36 PM

BJ

“ I was the office manager for Spurlin and Company the first years they were open. I used to just love to go sit in his office and soak up his words of wisdom. The one that will always stay with me is “ If you don't write it down it never happened.” It was a privilege to know him!
Brad Jones Office Mgr

Brad Jones - January 15, 2025 at 09:11 AM

DF

“ Dalana Moore and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tony Proctor.

Dalana Moore and Family - January 15, 2025 at 12:29 AM

DF

“ Dalana Moore and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Tony Proctor.



Dalana Moore and Family - January 15, 2025 at 12:29 AM

BF

“ *Buddy Hairston and Family. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Tony Proctor.*



Buddy Hairston and Family. - January 14, 2025 at 04:49 PM

BB

“ *If methodist had saints , he would be one*

Brent breland - January 14, 2025 at 03:46 PM