



## Grady H Saunders Jr

October 17, 1948 - October 16, 2019

Grady Hobson Saunders, Jr., 70, passed away at Tennova Harton Hospital on October 16, 2019.

He was born in Auburn, AL in 1948 while his father was an instructor at the university. Later moving to Huntsville, AL, he graduated from Butler High School in 1966. He went on to earn a Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Aerospace Engineering from Auburn University.

After meeting his wife Coleen at Auburn University, they married and moved to Tullahoma where he worked as an engineer at Arnold Engineering Development Center from 1974 to 1985 at PWT where he specialized in Store Separation and Dynamic Facility Control Simulations. He moved to Sverdrup downtown from 1985 to 1997 and worked as a consultant until his retirement. He was a member of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Lifelong interests include music, old movies, and aviation. He was a member of the Auburn University Marching Band during his college years and loved Big Band music particular. Grady helped start the South Jackson Street Band with several friends and played with them from its inception until the mid-2000's, when he hung up his bass and supported them as a member of the audience.

Grady was interested in old movies, especially those made before 1945 and had a collection of his favorites.

As an aerospace engineer, his interest in airplanes and aviation never wavered. As a pilot, he enjoyed flying in his younger years and being a part of

the Tullahoma Bunch and Beechcraft Heritage Museum. He built dozens of models over the years and was a long-time member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

A lifelong Auburn University fan, Grady enjoyed watching football with his family and was excited when his granddaughter, Lila, decided to attend Auburn University like her grandparents.

His love of his family was very strong and he kept up with his grandchildren's sports activities even when he was unable to attend. He also spent many years as scorekeeper for his son's baseball teams.

He is predeceased in death by his parents, Della Nobles Saunders and Grady Hobson Saunders, Sr., and his sister, Susan Golden, all of Huntsville, AL.

Grady is survived by his wife of 49 years, Coleen, son and daughter-in-law, Pike and Sonia Toombs Saunders, and grandchildren, Lila (18), Emeri (13), and Beaux (10), all of Tullahoma.

Visitation with the family will be held Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Daves Culbertson from 11 am until 2 pm. This informal visitation is a celebration of memories with friends and coworkers.

Online condolences may be made at [www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com)  
Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **26**. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home  
401 N Jackson Street  
Tullahoma, TN 37388  
(931) 455-3481

# Tribute Wall



“ *Grady H Saunders Jr*

January 25, 2023 at 12:28 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Grady H Saunders Jr.*



October 25, 2019 at 11:17 AM

AM

“ *Pike and the Saunders Family -  
I have never been at a loss for words, but words seem inadequate to express the sadness I felt upon hearing of your father's passing. I pray your heart will be filled with cherished memories, and will give peace and comfort for a life well lived. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.*

*With our deepest sympathy,*

*Anthony McDuffie*

Anthony McDuffie - October 22, 2019 at 03:45 PM

SD

“ *Sending our condolences to all filled with hugs and love💕Ronnie and Shelia Dodson*

Shelia Dodson - October 21, 2019 at 07:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Grady H Saunders Jr.*



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October 21, 2019 at 09:50 AM



“ *Grady played Bass with the South Jackson Street and trumpet in musical productions I directed. He was great at doing something outrageous to make us laugh. One night as I took the podium to direct the Overture. There was Grady and the rest of the orchestra in Graucho Mark's glasses! Grady has a wonderful family and my condolences are sincere. He will be truly missed. Peggy Burton*

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**Peggy Burtin** - October 20, 2019 at 07:47 PM



*Our prayers & love to Colleen & all the rest of Grady's family. Grady was a dear friend & great neighbor for many years. We will miss him. Our deepest sympathies. Much love. Suzanne & Stuart Fulkerson & Rosalie Moore.*

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**Suzanne M. Oliver Fulkerson** - October 26, 2019 at 11:59 AM