

James Franklin Ledbetter

James Franklin Ledbetter entered the fullness of life on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. He was born June 3, 1939, in Gadsden, AL where he lived most of his 83 years. For the last three years, he resided in Birmingham, Shelby County, AL. Mr. Ledbetter attended Etowah High School where he was a talented football player. He served as team captain, All County, All State, and the teams most outstanding lineman. Upon graduation, he received a scholarship to the University of Georgia but an injury and surgery his first year prevented him from seeing varsity action. He was one of the first to join and play for the Gadsden Raiders semi-pro football team. Mr. Ledbetter spent his professional career at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and was a supervisor at Goodyear Warehouse. He is preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Joyce Ledbetter; brother, Lavonne Ledbetter; and sister, Faye Ledbetter Dooley. He leaves behind wife, Cherie Kerr Ledbetter; daughter, Dawn Ledbetter Ford (Mike Ford); grandsons Jared and Brantley Bush; great grandchildren, Braden, Brody, Arilyn, and Bristol Bush. He is also survived by sister, Evelyn Gowens and sister-in-law Cynthia Ledbetter. Mr. Ledbetter was blessed to have also had a large and loving extended family along with friends who will miss his kind and outgoing nature very much. Special thanks to the nurses and staff at Plantation Manor Nursing Home and Southeast Hospice including Reverend Ernie Willis. If desired, friends and family can make memorial contributions to Alzheimer Foundation of America (<https://alzfdn.org/>) A memorial service celebrating the life of Mr. Ledbetter will be held at Helena United Methodist Church on Saturday, June 25, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. with Reverend Rusty Tate officiating. The family will receive friends at a reception following the service in the Fellowship Hall.