



## Winston Pickens

June 7, 1949 - December 11, 2025

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch

Winston Vernon Pickens, age 76, of Byhalia, Mississippi, went to be with the Lord on December 11, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family and the promise of eternal peace.

Winston was born on June 7, 1949, to the late Vernon Estes Pickens and Jamie Lois Wigington Pickens of Dumas, Mississippi. When Winston was around five years old, his family moved to Whitehaven, Tennessee, where he spent much of his childhood and formed lifelong values rooted in faith, service, and integrity. He graduated from Whitehaven High School in 1967 and soon after answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Air Force.

During his distinguished military career, Winston became a Special Agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, a role that reflected his deep sense of duty and commitment to protecting others. After retiring from military service, he continued his professional career as an investigator with Lockheed Martin in Marietta, GA, where he was respected for his dedication, honesty, and attention to detail.

Winston was a man of strong faith and a devoted family man. He is survived

by his loving wife, Judy Merritt Delaney Pickens of Byhalia; daughter, Dawn Ashworth (Brian) of Tallahassee, FL; son, Dustin Pickens (Heather) of Flowery Branch, GA; and stepson, Kevin Delaney, of Olive Branch, MS. He leaves behind grandchildren who were the joy of his life: granddaughters, Hayden and Sophie Ashworth of Tallahassee, FL, Makenzie Pickens of Flowery Branch, GA, Brooke Delaney of Olive Branch, MS; and grandsons Cody Delaney (Emilee) of Olive Branch, MS, and Zachery Delaney of Byron, MI.

Winston dearly loved his church, Meadow Brook Baptist Church in Byhalia, where he faithfully served and found great purpose. The pride of his life was helping to secure the church and its members, making sure everyone felt safe and comfortable. He had a special place in his heart for the children and teenagers of the church, who loved him just as deeply in return.

When Judy and Winston got married in 2012, Winston became a member of the church, and Winston had shared that the pastor, Bro. Oscar Geeslin, was the pastor he had been looking for all his life—a sentiment that spoke volumes about Winston's heart for faith, fellowship, and spiritual guidance.

Winston will be remembered for his unwavering faith, quiet strength, servant's heart, and deep love for his family and church community. Throughout his life, he faithfully served as a protector—first in service to his country, and later as a guardian of his church family. His legacy of protection, kindness, and devotion will live on in the lives of all who were blessed to know him.

Online condolences may be left on his tribute wall at [www.colemanfuneralhomeob.com](http://www.colemanfuneralhomeob.com).

In honor of his service to our country, the flag of the United States Air Force will be flown at Coleman Funeral Home the day of the service.



# Cemetery Details

## Forest Hill Memorial Park South

2545 E Holmes Rd  
Memphis, TN 38118

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 19. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Meadow Brook Baptist Church  
3115 Old Pigeon Roost Rd.  
Byhalia, MS 38611

## Funeral Service

DEC 19. 12:00 PM (CT)

Meadow Brook Baptist Church  
3115 Old Pigeon Roost Rd.  
Byhalia, MS 38611

# Tribute Wall



“ Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch created a Tribute Video in memory of Winston Pickens



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**Coleman Funeral Home (Olive Branch)** - December 16, 2025 at 04:30 PM

MR

“ Winston was a very memorable part of “growing up on Lochinvar” in Whitehaven. Winston, his cousins, Larry and David, the Berry and Howell families, my sisters and brother all experienced a precious childhood playing outside at night during summer months. There were fireflies, twinkling stars, bats swooping down from beautiful trees attracted to baseballs, games, fireworks and cookouts in his backyard combined with his cousins. Seasons changed with trick or treating among the beautiful trees with their glorious fall colors. Snowy winters brought snow forts, snowballs and sled rides down the hill. Winston was an important part of this childhood which almost feels mystical now. Many of us have been touched by immeasurable heartaches as we have steadily aged. But these memories help sustain us. We thank you Winston for being an important person in our childhood memories. Mary Jo Hatcher Russell

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**Mary Jo Hatcher Russell** - February 13 at 10:55 PM



“ *Winston and I met through work in Atlanta in the late 80’s or early 90’s. He and his family became very good friends. Though we didn’t talk often, we could pick up the conversation like we had just talked the day before. I was privileged to attend Winston and Judy’s wedding and have very fond memories.*

*My deepest sympathies to Winston’s family in Mississippi, Georgia, Florida and wherever the Pickens family may reside. Rest easy my friend.*

Dennis Miller - January 29 at 01:17 PM



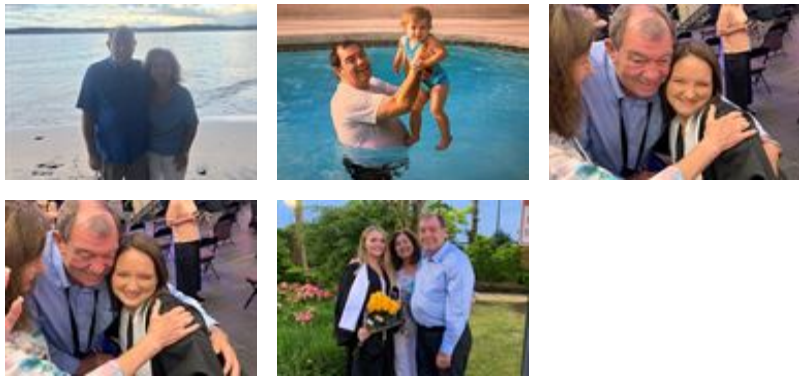
“ *3 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Coleman Funeral Home (Olive Branch) - December 18, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ *108 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Coleman Funeral Home (Olive Branch) - December 16, 2025 at 04:24 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Winston Pickens.*



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December 16, 2025 at 01:57 PM



“ *ROZ AND I WERE BLESSED TO BE ABLE TO GO TO THE WEDDING OF JUDY AND WINSTON (SUCH A GOOD MEMORY)*  
❤️

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**DANNY SCOTT** - December 15, 2025 at 06:42 PM



“ *Winston and I were friends through Meadow Brook Baptist Church. He shared details of his life with me and he was an amazing follower of Jesus. He loved his Lord supremely and was a wonderful husband to Judy. His desire each Sunday was to see the church building full of worshippers listening to the Holy Spirit speak through his pastor, Oscar Geeslin.*

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**Roger Hagan** - December 15, 2025 at 12:39 PM