



## Raymond David Weaver

March 14, 1947 - October 9, 2020

Raymond David Weaver, age 73 of Guntersville, Alabama, died unexpectedly Friday, October 9, 2020.

Born March 14, 1947, as the youngest of seven children, he grew up in the East Lake neighborhood. He graduated from Marshall County High School, where he was an outstanding football player, earning many county, area, and state awards.

He studied at Auburn University for one year before serving three years in the U.S. Army, including one year in Vietnam. He then attended the University of North Alabama in Florence, where he played on the football team, was a recruiting coach, and graduated in 1975.

While he loved playing football, his passion was coaching and helping players and students. After one season as assistant coach at Shelby County High School in Columbiana, Coach Weaver and his family moved to Collinsville, Alabama, where he taught and coached football, baseball and girls basketball at Collinsville High School. As head football coach from 1976 to 1995, he was twice selected to be head coach of the North team for the Alabama High School All-Star Game (in which he had played in 1966). He next taught and coached at Geraldine High School from 1995 to 1999.

After retiring from education, Raymond and his wife, Peggy, returned to the Guntersville area in 2000, where they attended Guntersville First United Methodist Church and he continued a construction business. He enjoyed vigorous discussion of football and current events with friends and family, in

person and on the phone. He was kind-hearted, compassionate, and generous in helping others.

Coach Weaver stayed connected to high school athletics as a color commentator for several seasons with the legendary Bill Yancy, his friend of almost 60 years, broadcasting GHS games and leading an after-game scoreboard program on station WTWX. In 2002 Raymond was honored to be inducted into the charter class of the Marshall County Sports Hall of Fame, later serving on its board. He also served on the Collinsville Public Library board and on the Marshall County Tax Equalization Board.

Raymond loved his family deeply and is survived by his wife, Peggy Coplin Weaver, daughter Mary Lyn LaRussa (David) of Birmingham, son Dodd Weaver of Guntersville, daughter Susan Morgan (John) of Americus, Georgia, grandchildren, Coplin, Mary Beck, and Luke Weaver of Guntersville, Addison Walker of, Helena, sister-in-law Katy Glidewell (Jim) of Greenville SC, sister-in-law Carolyn Adams, (David) of Orange Beach, and many loved nieces, nephews, and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Grover and Ethel Weaver, brothers, G.C., Frank, and Ernest Weaver, sisters Marie Elder, Edna Weaver, and Betty Alldredge Upton.

Though no public visitation or memorial service will happen at this time, the family would treasure your memories and stories of Raymond. Guntersville Memorial Chapel is assisting the family, and you can share your video, audio, and written messages at their website: <https://www.guntersvillememorialchapel.com/obituaries/Raymond-Weaver-5/>

In his memory, contributions may be made to:

- The Collinsville Historical Association, PO Box 849, Collinsville AL 35961
- Guntersville First United Methodist Church: <https://www.gfumc.net/give/> or 539 Gunter Ave, Guntersville AL 35976

# Tribute Wall

CK

“ MB, Luke, Coplin and crew,  
First, I love each and every one of you. Through the years we have developed a friendship that surpasses time and decades thanks to my father and your grandfather. There are so many similarities in the two- many East Lake living did that. One being LOVE. Your grandfather loved each of you with such passion and disregard- he didn't care if you were right, wrong or indifferent. Coach was going to battle for you- much like my father. Set in his ways, yes. That was the generation. Not always on the right side- again, my father was the same way; however, everything he did, he did it for the live of family. Family first-always. He would go to war for his family and never hesitate. That type of love is hard to find. I hope we both are able to give that gift to our children- to where they know we would go to war for them any day without hesitation nor many details. I love you all and am here for any of you- day or night.

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**Calley Kutner** - January 10, 2021 at 06:47 PM

JM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**John Morgan** - November 02, 2020 at 02:44 PM

JM

“ 50 files added to the album *Memories Album*



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**John Morgan** - October 23, 2020 at 08:29 AM

DB

“ I met Coach Weaver about ten years ago when he helped me with some work on our lake house. I quickly appreciated his straight talk, “can-do” approach to tackling problems and the thoroughness he brought to his contracting business. Over the years I came to depend on him whenever something came up at the lake and at my office and home. My family heard it so often that they came to rib me about saying “I’ll call Coach” whenever something came, up but I knew C.D. Weaver would either solve the issue, he would give me good advice or point me to someone who could. Most significantly, I came to appreciate him as a friend to talk football or basketball, bemoan politics and politicians, share stories about family and life, or just chew the fat. He reminded me in many ways of my Dad, and that is highest praise from me. Coach did the things that I believe are what Great Americans are all about: he served and loved his country, worked hard, influenced the lives of young people, helped those around him, and loved his family. I will hold his family in my thoughts and prayers. He blessed me in many ways and I will miss meeting with him to discuss my latest issue at the lake or calling him on the phone, chatting up the day and then hearing him sign of with his cheerful “See ya!” . Thanks, Coach and yes I will!  
Doug Booth

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**Doug Booth** - October 20, 2020 at 12:45 PM

ML

*This was so thoughtful of you to share. We feel less isolated in our grief to hear these sweet memories and stories. Thank you for reaching out- or let's just say, "See ya!"*

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**Mary Lyn LaRussa** - October 22, 2020 at 01:05 PM

JM

“ 29 files added to the album Memories Album



John Morgan - October 19, 2020 at 10:32 AM

JP

“ I tried to send something earlier but it must have gotten lost. Hopefully this is not the same message again. Raymond was a great player, coach, and person who was kind enough to call Coach Bill Oliver at UTC on my behalf. Raymond played for Coach Oliver at Gunter'sville and it was Raymond's commitment to Auburn that allowed Coach Oliver to secure a coaching position there. Many people don't remember that Coach Oliver was at Auburn before Coach Bryant hired him in 1971. Thanks to Raymond's call I got the job. My prayers are with his family.

Jerry Pullen

Jerry Pullen - October 15, 2020 at 11:46 AM

ML

Coach Pullen, this was so kind of you. We are very moved to hear from you and know Dad would appreciate your reaching out to us. It is difficult to not have the connection with friends and family with a service or visitation. So, your message is especially helpful to us now. Thank you.

Mary Lyn LaRussa - October 23, 2020 at 06:46 PM

SM

“ Raymond was one of the most kind and generous persons I knew. When my husband passed away, he was there for me. My lake house is 2 doors from his and he helped me in so many ways, giving me advice, building a boathouse, build a fire pit, etc. My family will miss him. Keeping all the family in my prayers.

*Sue Mauldin*

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**Sue Mauldin** - October 14, 2020 at 10:05 PM

ML

*Sue, thank you so much for these kind words and for all the comfort and support you have given us this past week. We did not know how to navigate these days, and you helped with your guidance and presence. You are such a kind friend and neighbor and we are entirely grateful.*

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**Mary Lyn LaRussa** - October 19, 2020 at 03:59 PM

JM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**John Morgan** - October 14, 2020 at 03:09 PM

JM

“ 17 files added to the album Memories Album



John Morgan - October 14, 2020 at 03:04 PM

BY

“ <https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fsoundcloud.com%2Fuser-374822041%2Fa-tribute-to-raymond-weaver>

BILL YANCY - October 14, 2020 at 09:19 AM

BY

“ [https://soundcloud.com/user-374822041/a-tribute-to-raymond-weaver?fbclid=IwAR2Vw6sCLljt6IDFyj1YIyo5VkuwmVMkaWkhR-zsJG6ydfp-rBQMYvU\\_kng](https://soundcloud.com/user-374822041/a-tribute-to-raymond-weaver?fbclid=IwAR2Vw6sCLljt6IDFyj1YIyo5VkuwmVMkaWkhR-zsJG6ydfp-rBQMYvU_kng)

WTWX RADIO TRIBUTE

BILL YANCY - October 14, 2020 at 08:47 AM

BY

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Bill Yancy** - October 14, 2020 at 06:41 AM

JE

“ Tried to send a memory earlier lost it somehow. He was a great educator family man and coach. I learned so much football from him. I will be praying for family in the days ahead. May God grant you peace and comfort in the days to come.

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**Johnnie edwards** - October 14, 2020 at 01:15 AM

ML

Thank you, Coach Edwards. We are so glad to hear from you and are praying for your health. You and John are so kind to get in touch. There are some good pictures of you posted here, too. We were moved to tears by the Collinsville Homecoming field and helmet stickers. We don't know how to thank everyone enough. Dad was firm on not wanting to risk other people's health during this pandemic, or we would love to see and talk to you. Thank you again so much.

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**Mary Lyn LaRussa** - October 19, 2020 at 03:55 PM

SM

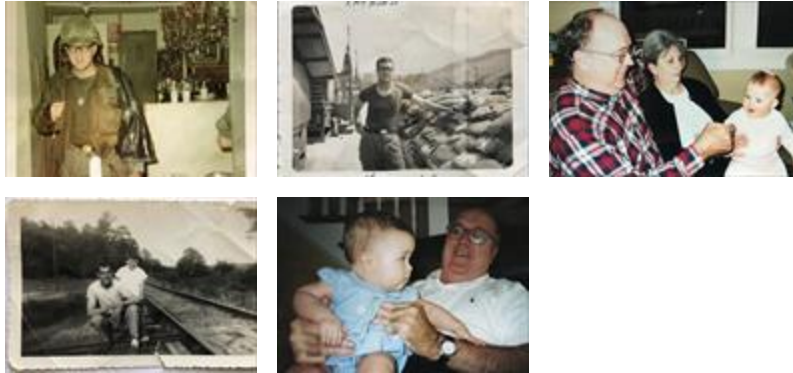
“ [https://soundcloud.com/user-374822041/a-tribute-to-raymond-weaver?fbclid=IwAR23DWux2cjRHwn3cFwY39IFFTHdyvKM3RM3aT87wrMbg1fnuwhL\\_cFbvzUQ](https://soundcloud.com/user-374822041/a-tribute-to-raymond-weaver?fbclid=IwAR23DWux2cjRHwn3cFwY39IFFTHdyvKM3RM3aT87wrMbg1fnuwhL_cFbvzUQ)

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**Susan Morgan** - October 13, 2020 at 10:43 PM

JM

“ 11 files added to the album Memories Album



John Morgan - October 13, 2020 at 09:26 PM

PW

“ <https://soundcloud.com/user-374822041/a-tribute-to-raymond-weaver?fbclid=IwAR1dYPIF8E3YveqreJxXinLJsbDjQoRodeibk7DfnVytH68CgFErRYCSOg>

Peggy Weaver - October 13, 2020 at 08:01 PM

BD

“ Coach, when we all meet in heaven you are going to be amazed how many of your former students and players are going to be lined waiting to see you!!!🏀🏈🏹

Blake Dees - October 12, 2020 at 09:03 PM

SM

Thanks Blake Dees or should I say Jonathan!

Susan Morgan - October 13, 2020 at 09:28 PM

TM

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**TRAVIS MYERS** - October 12, 2020 at 08:34 PM

TM

*Travis Myers and Raymond Weaver East Lake Friends*

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**TRAVIS MYERS** - October 13, 2020 at 12:24 PM

SS

“ 10-12-20 Sheila A. Smith Class of '83

*Coach Weaver was "old school" tough. That's the way he coached, and that's the way he taught. Nobody's allowed to do that anymore, you might "offend" somebody! Coach Weaver never worried about that, and here's a story to prove it-pull up a chair and listen.*

*Coach always conducted class at the field house-you don't think he'd put on a suit and tie and go down the hill, do you? Anyway, these two young men were fussing at each other, this had been going on for weeks, over who knows what-and as we're sitting in class, he slams down his hands on his desk and says. "That it, I've had it, you're gonna settle this RIGHT NOW!" With that, he scoops up two pairs of boxing gloves and gives a pair to each young man, and ordered the entire class outside to sit on the bleachers and the young men on the football field. "Don't stop", he tells them, "until one of you wins!"*

*When I say everyone's chin hit the ground I'm not joking. Fists were flying—sweat and a little blood was shed-all that was missing was the popcorn!!!! Having worn each other out, Coach said, "That's enough!" Now, I don't want to hear another word about it." And we all went back to class.*

*Today, in these times, he would probably lose his job over it and be sued by the parents.*

*Coach had more guts than a slaughterhouse! Up there in Beulah Land, Shug Jordan and Pat Dye are clapping him on the back, and even Bear Bryant is shaking his hand. Coach Weaver, rest in peace.*

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**Sheila Smith** - October 12, 2020 at 06:00 PM

SM

*Thanks for the story Sheila, you brought us a good laugh this morning.*

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**Susan Morgan** - October 13, 2020 at 11:50 AM



“ *America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Raymond David Weaver.*



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October 12, 2020 at 11:30 AM



“ *We had a lot of heated games during his time as Coach at Collinsville and my time as Coach at Sand Rock but we always remained friends. His teams were some of the hardest to scheme against because he was such a sharp Coach.*

*I always appreciate him for what he taught me. I didn't play for Coach Weaver (Having already graduated when he came to Collinsville) but he let me hang around the program, be on the sidelines on Friday nights while I was in College and taught me so much. My affinity for the passing game which served me throughout my career begin with Coach Weavers influence. We often spent endless time on the phone talking football which I miss.*

*Thank you Coach for everything you did for me and my family. You will be missed.*

*Coach Russell Jacoway  
Head Football Coach Sand Rock 1983 through 2015  
Collinsville Alumnus.*

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**Russell Jacoway** - October 11, 2020 at 11:18 PM



*Thanks for those kind words Rusty, he had great respect for you and your coaching skills. As iron sharpens iron, you sharpened each other.*

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**Susan Morgan** - October 13, 2020 at 12:55 PM

JB

“ As a young and scared 7th grader, newly in high school, Coach Weaver often pulled me to the side to give guidance and direction. Despite that I was somewhat different than other young men my age, he always made a point to speak to my strengths, teaching me to use them as my true North. I was saddened to see him leave the school in '95. My thoughts often wonder his way, in appreciation for the kindness he made a point to show me on a regular basis. My most sincere condolences and all of my love to his family; Mrs. Weaver, Dodd & Susan, I love you all dearly, and you're all in my prayers.  
Love always,  
James (Jimmy) Barrett



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**James Barrett** - October 11, 2020 at 11:05 PM

SM

*Jimmy, this was so touching to read. Daddy recognized talent and certainly saw something special in you. We are so grateful that you shared this with us.*

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**Susan Morgan** - October 13, 2020 at 03:22 PM

JE

“ There isn't enough room or time to share everything, but I guess I can start by saying that I first walked as a baby in his living room. My dad coached with Coach Weaver for 14 seasons. I was a manager/boy boy/water boy from the time I was old enough to stand around at practice until Coach Weaver left to go to Geraldine. I never had the honor of playing for him, but I did get to play against me. Having spent so much time with him at his home, at the field house, on road trips, etc...he was like a family member to me, and the thought of losing to him or beating him didn't sit well with me, so I tried to avoid him during the post game handshakes. He finally said something to me about that, so my senior year, we gave each other a big hug after the game. He always gave me great advice, from the time I was a Dixie Youth baseball player until I graduated high school. Obviously, not all of my memories are sports-related, but as I stated earlier, there's not enough room to post everything. Coach Weaver and Mrs. Weaver have no idea what an impact they made on my life. I'm thankful to God for both of them and their children, whom also mean a lot to me.

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**John Edwards** - October 11, 2020 at 10:30 PM

ML

John, we've been reading the posts here as a family. Reading your post has encouraged and comforted us. We were all smiles and sniffles reading your memories. We have so much gratitude and love for Johnny Mack & Patricia and you three boys. This was so kind of you- please know how much it helps!

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**Mary Lyn LaRussa** - October 13, 2020 at 01:10 PM

RS

“ Enjoyed having Coach Weaver as my high school football coach. Was glad to get to see him and Mrs. Weaver last year at Collinsville’s Homecoming. The Weaver family will be in my prayers.



Roger Smith - October 11, 2020 at 10:13 PM

ML

Roger, Mom & Dad were so grateful and overwhelmed by the 100 year anniversary. Everyone was so kind to them. We knew in our house that Roger Smith was a kind of gold standard- as a student and athlete. You had their high esteem- and they were so proud of you as a person and for your career.

Mary Lyn LaRussa - October 15, 2020 at 05:22 PM

DB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Dan Buchanan - October 11, 2020 at 07:36 PM



“ Goodbye old friend I will see you again at the Lords side

Ronald Brazier - October 11, 2020 at 04:13 PM

SM

“ <https://soundcloud.com/user-374822041/guntersvilles-bill-yancy-198-3-salute-to-coach-raymond-weaver>

Susan Morgan - October 10, 2020 at 06:56 PM

EA

*Peggy I know coach Allen loved the times he and Raymond solved the problem of the world. He thought so highly of Raymond and the man he became.*

*Our family has all of you in our thoughts.Eleanor Allen and family.*

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**Eleanor Allen** - October 11, 2020 at 06:45 PM

SF

*A few years ago I wrote up best I could the play from 1982 that ended the playoffs that year . I will link that blog soon when I go over the facts one more time, as just yesterday I was reminded 82 was not the fall the Collinsville Panthers went 12 and One. but it was the next year, the fall of 83, the class of 84. Todd Roberts got his britches held the previous year when his brother Scott played with Darryl Brown. While here wanted to give notice. Coach Weaver and I had a few dustups but for the most part they were reconciled 20 years but he continued to remind me everytime something about football came up I never played a down in my life and he was suspicious of my fable about the time I tried out for the Atlanta falcons. So I was always at a disadvantaged when that football came up but most times he was gracious to entertain my questions or conjecture. I will share this from last year when he and Peg came over for the 100 year celebration of Collinsville HS football on homecoming weekend in 95 degree weather. There is a picture somewhere. oNCE he hit the lunchroom for the chicken and dressing it was non stop people coming around to talk to him. One fellow came up and near tears glad to see his old coach talked for about ten minutes. He wondered off. I was nearby and Coach Weaver said Fox who the Hell was that? I said I have no idea Coach you were here 15 years before I showed up. Mrs Weaver named the fellow who had gone into good works in Virginia best I remember. Coach immediately kinda trotted off calling the fellow's name and telling him how proud of his noble vocation. Blog link to follow soon.*

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**Stephen Fox** - October 13, 2020 at 04:19 PM

SF

*I just submitted a set up for this blog. So here is the "desperation play" so named by Coach Weaver himself that lives on in the lore of the Collinsville Panthers as related to me:  
<http://foxofbama.blogspot.com/2019/11/collinsvilles-desperation-play-1982.html>*

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**Stephen Fox** - October 13, 2020 at 04:27 PM